

Horticulture Export Industry Consultative Committee – Meeting Update

Updates on key projects and issues are summarised following each committee meeting.

Meeting 33 held on 4 October 2023 - Summary

The committee met on 4 October 2023 in person and via teleconference to discuss Horticulture Export Operations, market access activities, trade reform and trade practices and the Horticulture Exports Cost Recovery Arrangements. Routine operational updates covering audit and assurance activities, horticulture inspections, the Authorised Officer program and Request for Permit volumes were provided for information out-of-session.

Horticulture Exports Program

The committee received updates on the work of the Horticulture Exports Program, including the following.

- The department will be commencing Commonwealth liability checks on all new Accredited Property applications from October 2023. The *Guideline: Management of horticulture export accredited properties* has been updated to reflect this policy change. Further information is available in [Industry Advice Notice 2023-58, Horticulture – Commonwealth liabilities \(debt\) checks for accredited properties](#) of 18 September 2023.
- The *Australian phytosanitary treatment application standard for cold disinfestation treatment* has been updated. Further information is available in [Industry Advice Notice 2023-53, Horticulture – Amendments to the Australian phytosanitary treatment application standard for cold disinfestation treatment](#) of 28 August 2023.
- Provision of the in-house crop monitoring training courses, consisting of seven modules, commenced on 1 July 2023. All crop monitors are required to complete the Core Crop Monitoring module, as well as at least one of the six commodity specific modules (depending on the commodity being monitored). Further information is available in [Industry Advice Notice 2023-34, Horticulture – Changes to access crop monitor training for protocol markets](#) of 28 June 2023.
- Changes to the export of fresh produce from Australia to New Zealand came into effect from 19 September 2023 following the introduction of New Zealand's new Import Health Standards. Further information is available in [Industry Advice Notice 2023-59, Horticulture – Updates to the New Zealand Export Plan](#) of 19 September 2023, and in the revised Export Plan available in Micor.

Plant Export Reform

The Busting Congestion for Plant Exports program will simplify processes for plant exporters and industry participants involved in the production, treatment and logistics of exporting plant and plant products. The committee noted the progress of the one remaining project relevant to horticulture products:

- Packhouse Grower Supply Model – The citrus pilot is now coming to completion with all participants undergoing audits throughout August and September. The Model is on track to be implemented to the broader citrus industry in time for the upcoming growing season. Information sessions are to be held in October to advise industry of the new model and the application process, ahead of applications opening in November.

Further information is available from the department's [Busting Congestion for Plant Exports](#) webpage.

For additional information on the above summary please contact your industry HEICC representative.