Australia’s Plant Health System
Collaboration between Industry, Government and Regulators

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Presentation Overview:

• Australian Nursery Industry Statistics
• Government Arrangements – Why Australia is different?
• Greenlife Industry Australia’s BioSecure HACCP Program
  • Co-regulated by Industry and Government
  • National Nursery Industry Biosecurity Program
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Australian Nursery Industry Statistics:

- Annual survey of production nurseries
- July 2019 to June 2020 – financial year in Australia
- Nursery gate sales - $2.6 billion
- Number of plants sold - 2.2 billion
- Turnover per hectare - $440,000
- Key issues facing industry – Maintaining Demand, Productive Workforce, Water Security, Plant Biosecurity
- Grower confidence in future of industry – 90%
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Australian Nursery Industry Statistics:

Plant Sales – Value and Number

Plant Sales – by product category

- Perennials, trees and shrubs: 42%
- Propagation: 13%
- Indoor: 13%
- Bedding/potted colour: 13%
- Other: 9%
- Fruit & nuts: 7%
- Herb & Vegetables: 7%
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Government Arrangement:

• Two levels of Government across the international and national biosecurity continuum

• Nationally – Australian Government
  • Pre-border and border responsibility
  • Import and Export

• Domestically – 6 State and 2 Territory Governments
  • Post border
  • Intra and interstate market access
  • Usually, the lead Government agency in any emergency plant pest eradication
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Government Arrangements:

• Australia a signatory to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) – Pacific Plant Protection Organisation
• Australian Government negotiates all import and export phytosanitary requirements/obligations – aligned to adopted standards (ISPMs)
• Domestically the State and Territory Governments are signatories to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB) – sets the domestic structure:
  • National Biosecurity Committee (NBC)
  • Plant Health Committee (PHC)
  • Sub-committees e.g. market access, diagnostics, etc.
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Government Arrangements:

Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD)

- Plant Industry and Government Parties Signatories
  - Voluntary agreement for decision making and cost sharing
  - Specifically established to manage stakeholder investment in decision making and funding for emergency plant pests

- **Plant Health Australia** (PHA) specifically established to coordinate this government-industry partnership
  - Custodian of the EPPRD and PlantPlan (Eradication Guide)
  - Review eradication responses and resolve EPPRD issues
  - Facilitate EPPRD changes/improvements
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Greenlife Industry Australia – BioSecure HACCP

A Plant Protection and Biosecurity Systems Approach

Co-regulation (Government/Industry Partnership)

• National Approval – Plant Health Committee (PHC) November 2015
• State Approval – Sub-committee on Domestic Quarantine & Market Access (SDQMA) October 2014 – April 2015
  • Recognition of ‘high health’ status of certified growers
  • Harmonised approach to intra and interstate market access
• State Government Biosecurity Agencies provide oversight – biennial audits
• Initiating Federal Government recognition (import/export)
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Greenlife Industry Australia – BioSecure HACCP

• BioSecure HACCP Guidelines
  • HACCP Tables (Hazards & Control Points)
  • Biosecurity Procedures - describe processes
  • Records and templates - recording processes
  • Entry Condition Compliance Procedures (ECCP’s)
• Governance & Administration Framework
• BioSecure HACCP Terms & Conditions
• AMS (web-based Data and Audit Management System)
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Greenlife Industry Australia – BioSecure HACCP

Domestic Market Access:

• A business must be accredited under GIA Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme (NIASA) for best management practice (BMP) to apply for BioSecure HACCP

• Implement Relevant BioSecure HACCP Procedures and Records

• Upload completed records to the Audit Management System (AMS)

• BioSecure HACCP Certification awarded upon compliance with the manual

• Implement pest specific Entry Condition Compliance Procedures (ECCP’s)
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Thank You

Peter Vaughan - Chief Executive Officer