



Australian Government

**Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment**

Australian Biosecurity Awards 2020

Award Recipients
March 2020





The David Banks Biosecurity Lifetime Achievement Award

Recognises an individual that has made an outstanding contribution to biosecurity integrity in Australia over a number of years.



Australian Biosecurity Award – *Farm Biosecurity Producer of the Year category*

Recognises Australian primary producers, including individuals and organisations, that have demonstrated outstanding on-farm biosecurity practices



Australian Biosecurity Award – *Industry category*

Recognises individuals, groups or organisations in industry that have demonstrated a significant contribution to maintaining Australia's biosecurity integrity



Australian Biosecurity Award – *Government category*

Recognises individuals, groups or organisations within government that have demonstrated a significant contribution to maintaining Australia's biosecurity integrity

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FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY



Welcome to the 2020 Australian Biosecurity Awards.

For many years, these awards have provided important recognition for Australians who contribute significantly to our world-leading biosecurity status.

This year's winners demonstrate the crucial role that individuals, businesses, government and non-government organisations play in supporting Australia's biosecurity.

Their stories highlight that biosecurity is a shared responsibility and that we all must do our part to safeguard our industries, environment, plant, animal and human health from pests and diseases.

Our country continues to face significant and growing biosecurity threats, with ever more incoming passengers, international mail and cargo arriving in Australia and with significant pests and diseases spreading around the world.

Collaboration between industry, government, organisations and individuals will continue to be crucial in managing these and other biosecurity threats.

African swine fever (ASF) is now on our doorstep in Indonesia and brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) has continued to establish in new regions overseas.

To address the growing threat of ASF, we now have a 3D X-ray machine in place at Melbourne Airport that automatically detects meat items, including pork. This is a world-first for biosecurity and 3D X-ray machines will soon be rolled out to other international airports and mail centres.

To further increase our passenger and mail screening capacity, we will also be deploying more detector dogs and biosecurity officers on the ground.

Every year we have stepped up our measures to keep BMSB out of Australia. The heightened measures put in place for the 2018–19 season have proven effective, allowing us to manage more than 130 detections of BMSB at the border.

It is important to recognise the efforts of those who help us keep biosecurity threats, such as ASF and BMSB, out of Australia. The Australian Biosecurity Awards provides that acknowledgement and ensures that those who go above and beyond receive the recognition they deserve.

Thank you to Animal Health Australia and Plant Health Australia for their continued support of the Farm Biosecurity Producer of the Year Award.

Congratulations to this year's winners and thank you for your valuable contributions to Australia's biosecurity.

Lyn O'Connell PSM

Deputy Secretary

Department of Agriculture, Water and
the Environment



Dr Ron Glanville

Dr Ron Glanville has dedicated more than 40 years to supporting valuable biosecurity outcomes for industries, government, the environment and communities.

Ron has helped shape the national biosecurity system through his contributions to key pest and disease programs and advocating the principles of shared responsibility and industry involvement in biosecurity responses.

Ron started his career as a veterinary officer with the then Queensland Department of Primary Industries in 1978, before becoming Divisional Veterinary Officer in Mount Isa where the focus was on tuberculosis eradication.

In 1990, he accepted a role leading the Queensland campaign to eradicate bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis. He was subsequently appointed Chief Inspector of Stock and manager of all animal health programs in 1992. His professional contributions, integrity and leadership were vital in ensuring tuberculosis eradication was achieved by 1997. Other important contributions included leading implementation of the National Livestock Identification System in Queensland and leadership roles in over 30 biosecurity emergency responses.

In 2007, Ron was appointed Queensland's Chief Veterinary Officer and Chief Biosecurity Officer. In this role he oversaw the eradication of equine influenza and led several Hendra virus responses.



This role provided an opportunity to influence the Queensland biosecurity system as a whole and allowed Ron to help restructure how biosecurity was managed in Queensland.

He was instrumental in establishing the Biosecurity Queensland agency within the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Biosecurity Queensland now has responsibility for managing all biosecurity issues in Queensland.

Since retiring from the public service at the end of 2010, Ron has continued contributing to Australia's biosecurity system, consulting for government and industry.

In 2016, Ron undertook a review of biosecurity capability in Torres Strait and part of Cape York Peninsula. This led to development of the groundbreaking *Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Biosecurity Strategy*, which was the catalyst for this award nomination.

Ron was nominated by Malcolm Letts, Chief Biosecurity Officer, Biosecurity Queensland.

The Biosecurity Lifetime Achievement Award is dedicated to the memory of Dr David Banks







FARM BIOSECURITY PRODUCER OF THE YEAR CATEGORY

Seafarms Group Ltd

Seafarms Group has made significant and sustained investments in all aspects of biosecurity in its east coast operations. This has seen the company become an industry leader in biosecurity preparedness and prevention.

The company has supported improvements in the understanding and management of significant aquatic pests in Australia.

As the nation's largest producer of farmed prawns, its approach has helped address many of the challenges associated with managing biosecurity in aquatic environments.

In all of its farm operations, Seafarms Group has actively developed a culture of biosecurity responsibility. Under its operational biosecurity plan, biosecurity controls are in place for all farm inputs, including stock, people, water, environment, feed and equipment.

All staff are trained in biosecurity and Seafarms Group has strict controls in place from the moment anyone enters a company site.

The company also conducts a number of activities not directly required to meet its on-farm biosecurity obligations, but that build capability of the industry to better manage biosecurity risks.



This includes the development of an on-farm laboratory to enable fast turnaround of microbiological pathogen surveillance. It also collects farm-generated data to support evidence-based decision-making for optimised stocking and production.

The company has supported and collaborated with various researchers on projects to support the Australian prawn farming industry and other stakeholders to improve farm biosecurity.

Its collaboration with the ARC Research Hub for Advanced Prawn Breeding, researchers at James Cook University (JCU), CSIRO and the University of Sydney targeted selective breeding for disease resistance and identified innovative ideas to manage prawn health.

Seafarms Group Pty Ltd was nominated by Kelly Condon, Senior Laboratory Officer, JCU AquaPATH Lab.







Templeton Farming Enterprises

The Templeton family has been growing ginger since the 1940s and Templeton Ginger is now Australia's largest ginger producer.

Given its long history, the company has experienced how detrimental pest and disease outbreaks can be for small businesses. Templeton Ginger is also aware of the importance of stringent on-farm biosecurity measures and plans.

Current directors John, Shane and Kylie Templeton have a strong focus on implementing biosecurity practices to ensure the longevity, economic viability and integrity of their business and the industry as a whole.

The company has an end-to-end biosecurity approach that helps manage biosecurity risks from purchasing farm inputs, through to processing and packaging of goods.

All staff at Templeton Ginger undertake biosecurity training and continually assess on-farm biosecurity risks, allowing the company to mitigate any new and emerging biosecurity threats.

All farm inputs are assessed for biosecurity risks before purchase and delivery. Strict biosecurity measures are also in place on the farm for the entry and movement of people, vehicles and equipment, as well as packaging, processing and storage of goods.



John, Shane and Kylie have implemented innovative production practices, such as a rotational cropping system. This involves rotating paddocks through different crops, spelling and grazing cattle to minimise the incidence of pests, weeds and diseases.

The farm also has safeguards in place to manage risks associated with feral animals and weeds, including regular monitoring, spot spraying and hand picking.

By leading the way in biosecurity practices, Templeton Ginger plays a significant role in maintaining the production and integrity of the Australian ginger industry.

Templeton Farming Enterprises was nominated by Laura Skipworth on behalf of AgriFutures Australia.





Andrew Crawford

With a career spanning almost 40 years, Andrew Crawford is a veteran of the customs broking and international freight forwarding industry.

Andrew lives and breathes biosecurity. His contributions to Australia's biosecurity have been instrumental in educating and raising awareness within the industry. He has also played a key role as a conduit between government and industry.

At 17 years old, Andrew joined Frank Cridland Pty Ltd and in the early '80s Andrew became one of the youngest licenced customs agents in NSW. During his time with Frank Cridland Pty Ltd, the company underwent a couple of name changes and ultimately morphed into BCR Australia Pty Ltd (BCR).

Andrew held numerous roles with BCR and Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA), before his recent move to Australian Container Freight Services (ACFS) Port Logistics to manage its Biosecurity and Border divisions.

Throughout his career, Andrew has served on many biosecurity-related industry and government biosecurity committees. He has also supported improved industry awareness and education on biosecurity compliance and operational matters.



His contributions throughout various brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) seasons have been invaluable. This has included educating and assisting industry on treatment options and mitigation strategies, as well as fielding and resolving thousands of industry inquiries over the past two challenging BMSB seasons.

Andrew steered significant BMSB reforms for less than container load cargo and supported the Department of Agriculture in reviewing safeguarding arrangements. He also participated in programs such as 2025 and beyond, along with other agricultural initiatives.

Andrew has been a long-time advocate for strong, fair and consistent biosecurity compliance and controls. Andrew believes this can be successfully facilitated, managed and achieved through a shared approach with industry.

Andrew Crawford was nominated by Paul Zalai, Director, FTA and Secretariat, Australian Peak Shippers Association (APSA).





Manildra Group

In 2018, as the severe drought continued, Manildra Group applied to import wheat. Its stringent approach ensured that significant biosecurity risks were effectively managed.

Imported bulk grain relies on the application of strict measures and collaboration between industry and government to manage any potential biosecurity risks.

Manildra Group's approach ensured the biosecurity risks were managed along the entire import supply chain, through the establishment of a discrete program of work.

In addition to adhering to strict import conditions, such as sourcing grain from a low-risk country, the organisation also used a range of innovative solutions including implementation of a secure, closed loop system.

This also included investing in a watertight container system to prevent any leakage while the grain was transported from the port to the storage facility. A tipping room was also built at Manildra Group's facility in Bomaderry to manage potential onshore biosecurity risks.

A comprehensive training program was developed for various roles within the organisation. The program articulated the potential risks and the requirements for managing them at various points in the supply chain.



A biosecurity specialist consultant was engaged to provide strategic advice and inform the organisation's import approach. Manildra Group also held an information day to provide assurance to local grain growers.

Their approach demonstrated a commitment to managing biosecurity risks across the entire import continuum, through innovative and strategic solutions. Today, the organisation continues to investigate new and improved ways to support the import process.

Manildra Group was nominated by Sarah Bruce, Biosecurity Plant Division, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.



MANILDRA GROUP
100% AUSTRALIAN OWNED





Zoran Kostadinovski

Zoran Kostadinovski has a passion for improving and modernising Australia's end-to-end biosecurity system. This has seen him contribute to a range of important biosecurity initiatives.

During his time at Scalzo Foods, Zoran worked with the Australian Industry Working Group on Biosecurity, enhancing biosecurity integrity and raising awareness within various businesses and industry groups.

For years he was a representative on the Imported Food Consultative Committee, where he helped improve the imported food program and supported the implementation of Food Import Compliance Agreements.

Zoran has led important work to build awareness of Australia's biosecurity requirements with offshore suppliers. This has included managing and training numerous Approved Arrangements on how to manage onshore biosecurity risks, as well as developing biosecurity management policies and checklists.

He has been heavily involved in developing key biosecurity import systems, such as BICON and the Cargo Online Lodgement System.

Throughout various brown marmorated stink bug seasons, Zoran assisted the then Department of Agriculture and industry by improving awareness of seasonal measure policies.



As the current Head of Border and Biosecurity at the Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia (CBFCA), he provides valuable support to the department, CBFCA and its members on biosecurity matters.

Zoran has made a significant contribution to Australian biosecurity, beyond his usual work practices. He continues to collaboratively work with the department on biosecurity policy and process, as well as demonstrate improved biosecurity integrity and awareness within the industry sector.

Zoran Kostadinovski was nominated by Brad Leonard, Director, CBFCA.



CBFCA

A U S T R A L I A
Communicate. Innovate





NSW Department of Primary Industries and North Coast Local Land Services

When yellow crazy ants (YCA) were detected on the NSW north coast, a well-executed and coordinated response plan led by the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and North Coast Local Land Services (LSS) helped control and eradicate this significant invasive pest.

YCA are highly destructive environmental pests that can impact on human amenity, agricultural production and the horticultural industry.

Following a report from a member of the public, established infestations were identified at Lismore and Terania Creek. The detection was especially significant, given Terania Creek is the location of a rainforest protection campaign that helped shape the modern Australian environmental movement.

Led by the NSW DPI and North Coast LSS, the response plan was implemented over 19 months.

The response involved the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Rous County Council, Lismore City Council, environmental consultants and NSW DPI Cattle Tick Inspection staff. Landcare, the NSW Rural Fire Service, the NSW State Emergency Service and other community volunteers also contributed through surveillance activities.



Various innovative approaches were used, including experimental water crystal baits and stochastic analysis to determine regional proof of freedom. NSW DPI also engaged a local consultant to retrain their koala odour detection dog, Jet, to detect YCA. Jet is the first YCA detection dog in Australia.

The response plan was a success, with proof of freedom confirmed at both sites and statistical modelling indicating that it is highly unlikely that other infestations remain undetected nearby.

The response also gained excellent and broad support from the people of Lismore.

NSW DPI and North Coast Local Land Services were nominated by Andrew Cox, CEO, Invasive Species Council.



**Department of
Primary Industries**



Australian Biosecurity Awards

Do you know someone, a business or an organisation that has contributed to our biosecurity outcomes?

The Australian Biosecurity Awards recognise individuals, groups and organisations in industry and government that show a commitment to working collaboratively with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to support and promote Australia's biosecurity and the systems that uphold it.

For more information, visit awe.gov.au/aba.

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