

## Horticulture Export Industry Consultative Committee – Meeting Update

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

### Meeting 24 held on 3 March 2021 - Summary

The committee met on 3 March 2021 via teleconference and received operational updates from the department on the Horticulture Exports and Authorised Officer programs, the Horticulture Exports Cost Recovery Arrangements, biosecurity operations, market access activities, and relevant information technology projects.

#### Agri-Business Expansion Initiative

The Australian Government is investing \$72.7 million to help Australian agribusinesses expand their export markets in 2021 as part of the Agri-Business Expansion Initiative. Key elements of the initiative include new one-on-one support services, greater access to market intelligence, and matched grants for government and industry associations to work together on market expansion. Further information on the Agri-Business Expansion Initiative can be found [here](#).

#### Manual of Importing Country Requirements (Micor)

After successful completion of the external user testing phase, the new version of the Manual of Importing Country Requirements (Micor) was released into production in December 2020. Users can now [subscribe](#) to weekly commodity specific Micor updates to help keep abreast of changes to importing country requirements.

#### Export Cost Recovery Implementation Statements

The export cost recovery implementation statements (CRIS) for 2020-21, including the Horticulture CRIS, have now been published on the [department's website](#). Each CRIS describes the impact of the 2020-21 Federal Budget package *Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters* on exports cost recovery, including how the freezing of fees and charges in 2020-21 will be implemented. Further information on the 2021-22 CRIS will be made available shortly, with consultation to be undertaken through teleconferences and the departmental 'Have Your Say' platform. The new charging framework is effective 1 July 2021.

#### Agricultural export legislation

The new export legislation commenced on 28 March 2021 and consists of the *Export Control Act 2020* as the central pillar of the new legislative framework and the Export Control Rules setting out the operational requirements for exporting specific goods from Australia (including plants and plant products).

#### Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters

The committee was briefed on a number of specific reform projects being conducted under the Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters program, including projects to:

- deliver enhanced processes to support plant and plant product exports from Australia (Plant Export Management System (PEMS) 4).
- map and implement harmonised regulatory approaches between Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments
- map and implement harmonised regulatory approaches between Commonwealth and industry arrangements
- design and implement third party auditing regimes (alternate assurance pathways)
- trial and adopt real-time monitoring and reporting technology for assurance.

Further information on the Busting Congestion package can be found [here](#).

## NEXDOC

Commodities are being moved from the Export Documentation System (EXDOC) to the new system, Next Export Documentation System (NEXDOC) in phases, with the transition happening from 2021. The project build for plant commodities has been brought forward to March 2021 with the immediate focus to develop an ePhyto functionality by the end of 2021.

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