Plant Health AUSTRALIA

Fact sheet

Industry Biosecurity Plan
for the Viticulture Industry

Australia's geographic isolation and quarantine systems have meant that we have remained relatively free of many pests that cause significant issues for grape production overseas. Freedom from exotic pests provides both a yield advantage as well as real trade benefits for the Australian viticulture industry.

Biosecurity planning provides a mechanism for the viticulture industry, government and other relevant stakeholders to assess current biosecurity practices and future biosecurity needs. This is achieved through determining pests not currently present in Australia and analysing the risks they pose. Biosecurity planning also identifies procedures that can be put in place to reduce the chance of pests reaching our borders or minimise the impact if a pest incursion occurs.

Plant Health Australia (PHA) works with the viticulture industry, represented by the Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA), Wine Grape Growers of Australia (WGGA), Australian Table Grape Association (ATGA) and Australian Dried Fruit Association (ADFA), and Government Members to identify, prioritise, and manage key plant health risks. An important step in this process is the development and implementation of the Viticulture Industry Biosecurity Plan (IBP).

The Viticulture IBP was first developed in 2006 and has been recently reviewed by PHA in collaboration with industry and government stakeholders.

The Industry Biosecurity Plan – an industry's blueprint

Industry Biosecurity Plans are an industry's blueprint for providing the best possible protection against exotic plant pests. IBPs cover:

- identification of the highest risk pests to the industry (threat identification and analysis)
- how an industry guards against exotic pests (risk mitigation activities)
- how an industry will know when an exotic pest has arrived (surveillance) and how to identify it (diagnostics)
- how an industry deals with exotic pests if they are found (contingency plans)

Development of an IBP involves significant consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. PHA would like to recognise all who have contributed financially and in-kind to the development of the Viticulture IBP, including:

- Winemakers' Federation of Australia
- Wine Grape Growers of Australia
- Australian Table Grape Association
- Australian Dried Fruit Association
- Viticulture Industry Nursery Association
- South Australian Research and Development Institute
- National Wine and Grape Industry Centre
- Fosters Group
- Schofield Robinson Horticultural Services
- National Vine Health Steering Committee
- The Australian Government and all state and territory governments

wfa Winemakers' Federation of Australia
WGGA Wine Grape Growers Australia
ATGA Australian Table Grape Association Inc.
ADFA

The Viticulture IBP provides:

- a more rigorous basis for strategic planning, with a structured consideration of key risks
- assistance in setting priorities for further industry action and investment in biosecurity
- reduced costs, as a result of early detection and management of biosecurity risks
- effective and efficient biosecurity programs
- greater transparency and inclusiveness in decision-making and ongoing management processes
- optimisation of resources
- reduced loss and damage from pest incursions
- combined industry and government ownership of decisions, and a commitment to delivering real outcomes
- the capacity to examine arrangements for key pest threats across other plant industries affected

Identifying key pest threats for the viticulture industry

The development of the Viticulture IBP began with the production of Threat Summary Tables, which contain the pest threats identified for the viticulture industry. Through expert consultation these pests were ranked for their potential threat based on entry, establishment, spread and economic criteria and, from this information, the high priority plant pests were determined. These high priority pests provide a focus for further risk mitigation activities such as surveillance, contingency planning, and on-farm biosecurity and awareness activities.

High priority plant pest threats for the viticulture industry include:

Invertebrates	Pathogens
• Consperse stink bug • Glassy-winged sharpshooter • Grape mealybug • Grape phylloxera (exotic strains) • Omnivorous leafroller • Orange tortrix • Vine mealybug • Yellow vine mite	• Angular leaf scorch • Bacterial blight • Black rot • Flavescence dorée • Grapevine leaf rust • Pierce's disease • Rotbrenner

Implementation of the Industry Biosecurity Plan

The Viticulture IBP provides a framework for the implementation of biosecurity risk mitigation measures in the industry. Through WFA, WGGA, ATGA and ADFA the viticulture industry is implementing biosecurity preparedness through activities such as:

- development of pest threat-specific documents
- the National Vine Health Steering Committee
- implementation of active disease management zones through surveillance and/or exclusion activities

Want more info?

If you would like more information, or to download a copy of the Viticulture IBP, visit www.planthealthaustralia.com.au, email admin@phau.com.au or phone (02) 6260 4322.

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