

Mid-Year Performance Report

2009/2010



Plant Health
AUSTRALIA

Plant Health Australia (PHA) is the lead national coordinating body for plant biosecurity in Australia.

PHA works in partnership with industry, governments, researchers and others providing national coordination to improve biosecurity policy and practice across Australia's plant industries and to build capacity to respond to plant pest emergencies.

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2009/2010




**MID-YEAR
PERFORMANCE
REPORT**



About this Report

The *2009/2010 Mid-Year Performance Report* summarises PHA's progress and achievements against each of the key performance indicators identified in the *2009/2010 Annual Operational Plan* for the period from 31 June 2009 to 31 January 2010. The Performance Report is an important accountability tool, complementing the Annual Report as a means of informing Members and PHA's Board of the operations of the organisation.

Performance Key:

-  Original or modified Key Performance Indicator on track/met.
-  Original or modified Key Performance Indicator behind schedule.
-  Original or modified Key Performance Indicator not achievable.

More information on PHA's operations can be found on our website

www.planthealthaustralia.com.au.

Contents

Priority Area A	4
Biosecurity Planning & Implementation	
Priority Area B	10
Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed	
Priority Area C	18
National Strategies & Policy Coordination	
Priority Area D	24
Capacity & Capability Building	
Priority Area E	34
Member Engagement	
Priority Area F	44
Company Administration	
Glossary	48

A. Biosecurity Planning and Implementation

An effective preparedness and prevention system, endorsed by industry and government, enhances Australia's ability to minimise the impact of emergency and exotic pests on individual producers, plant industries and rural economies.

Mechanisms to identify and manage threats to plant health offer the best chance of preventing or minimising the entry or spread of exotic plant pests and the associated financial, production and trade impacts. These include:

- agreed, up-to-date and implemented biosecurity plans for every plant industry
- industry-targeted measures to raise awareness of plant pest risks and strategies for their mitigation, and
- internationally recognised surveillance systems for early detection of pests and for demonstrating pest area freedom to satisfy market access requirements.

This year the program includes a Farm Biosecurity Implementation stream that comprises the development of tools and communication activities to assist biosecurity practices relating to farm management to be delivered to the farm level. This is based around work completed in Industry Biosecurity Plans, and aims to fulfil a risk mitigation requirement for industries under the EPPRD.

To support promotion of biosecurity best practice, work will continue on the Farm Biosecurity communication and awareness project in conjunction with Animal Health Australia. In addition, PHA has commenced development of Farm Biosecurity Manuals for plant industries to provide generic guidelines for on-farm biosecurity activities.

More detailed on-farm biosecurity initiatives will be supported through several special (non-subscription) funded projects as part of the Member Specific Farm Biosecurity Implementation program. The largest of these is supporting the grains industry through a range of training, extension and awareness activities, although several industries across the horticulture sector are also beginning to move down this path.

PHA Program Manager responsible: Dr Sharyn Taylor

Indicative Performance Tracking

A. Biosecurity Planning and Review				Budget \$ 2009-2010
Estimated Annual Project Completion (%)	25	50	75	100
A.1 National Industry Biosecurity Plans				116,000
A.2 National Farm Biosecurity Implementation				299,000
A.3 Member Specific Farm Biosecurity Implementation				1,020,000
TOTAL				1,435,000



A.1 National Industry Biosecurity Plans

Status: On Track

Need

Industry Biosecurity Plans (IBPs) provide a framework for identifying high priority biosecurity risks and use the outcomes to enable prioritisation of risk mitigation strategies including development of diagnostic standards, surveillance activities, capability development, contingency plans and other on-farm initiatives. Regular updating of IBPs provides a mechanism to incorporate changes in risk mitigation or risk assessment activities such as improvements in biosecurity processes, impacts of new outbreaks of target pests or identification of new pest entry pathways. PHA is committed to ensuring IBPs are maintained, relevant and up-to-date.

Objectives

- Ensure each Industry Member has an Industry Biosecurity Plan in place.
- Ensure existing Industry Biosecurity Plans are updated every four years or as needs dictate.
- Facilitate effective implementation of IBPs to mitigate biosecurity risks and improve incursion preparedness.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry Biosecurity Plan developed within 12 months for any new PHA Industry Member (if requested). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Olive IBP (the only new IBP scheduled for this period) was released in October 2009.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update five (5) Industry Biosecurity Plans annually. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strawberry and Viticulture IBP reviews have been completed and endorsed and new versions released. • The Cotton and Nut IBP reviews have been completed and circulated to PHC (government) and industry for endorsement. • The Banana IBP review has been signed off by industry. It was provided to PHC for endorsement in January 2010. • Reviews of the Apple and Pear, and Vegetable IBPs are underway. • The review of the Cherry and Mango IBPs will be initiated in 2010. • Minor amendments have been completed to Version 2 of the Sugarcane and Grains IBPs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverage of communication and awareness activities supporting the release of each new and updated Industry Biosecurity Plan. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each new and revised IBP released was accompanied by a media release. • Launches for Version 2 of the Citrus, Nut and Banana IBP. • Each Farm/Orchard Biosecurity Manual released at industry conferences.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Risks/Issues:</i> Industries do not commit to keeping reviews up to date. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual program of IBP reviews scheduled in consultation with industries. PHA contributes substantial resources to ease the burden on industries.



A.2 National Farm Biosecurity Implementation

Status: On Track

Need

In 2009/10 PHA will introduce the development of basic Farm Biosecurity Manuals for Industry Members to assist with promotion of farm biosecurity best practice. For industries that have already developed Farm Biosecurity Manuals and/or that have more detailed biosecurity requirements for implementation and delivery of information, specific activities will be assisted through external funding.

Objectives

- To identify and implement R&D needs to assist industries manage incursions through development of risk mitigation measures and on farm biosecurity strategies.
- To promote biosecurity best-practice among producers, industry representatives and jurisdictional officers through provision of basic biosecurity guidelines and tools at the farm level.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic best practice guidelines for Farm Biosecurity developed and endorsed by Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice guidelines for farm biosecurity developed for each industry as Farm Biosecurity Manuals are produced.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a minimum of four industry-specific Farm Biosecurity Manuals. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchard Biosecurity Manuals for Almond and Citrus Industries produced and released. • Farm Biosecurity Manual for Vegetable growers in the Northern Adelaide Plains region currently under development by Schofield Robinson Horticultural Services in partnership with PHA. • Biosecurity training manual for induction of new farm workers under development for Vegetable growers in the Bundaberg region. • Farm Biosecurity Manual for the Cotton Industry initiated in conjunction with Biosecurity Queensland and Cotton Australia.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness and adoption of national biosecurity practices for PHA Members and at the producer level (<i>evaluated as part of the Farm Biosecurity program at the end of 2010</i>). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four plant industry biosecurity articles distributed to rural press as part of the Farm Biosecurity media program. • Three PHA media releases developed to promote the release of new and reviewed IBPs and Farm Biosecurity Manuals. • Benchmarking of grower awareness will be conducted before the end of the 2009/2010 financial year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doubling of web traffic to the www.farmbiosecurity.com.au website by 30 June 2010 (measured as both unique visits and repeat visits). <i>An average of 182 unique and repeat visitors a month during 2008/2009.</i> 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An average of 321 visits were recorded per month from June 2009 to January 2010 of which 168 were unique visits.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doubling of subscribers numbers to the Farm Biosecurity e-newsletter – target 800 subscribers by 30 June 2010. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subscribers increased from 391 to 407 from June to December 2009.
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Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<p><i>Risks/Issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producers do not see the value of investing in improved farm biosecurity. • Failure to meet KPI of double subscribers to the farm Biosecurity e-newsletter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA is considering economic analysis to demonstrate the return on investment with farm biosecurity investments. • Promotional activity will be undertaken at the Global Biosecurity 2010 conference in February 2010 to raise subscription levels. • To increase biosecurity awareness, a communications consultant, has been engaged to promote the Farm biosecurity media program. This program is also cross-promoting the website and newsletter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.



A.3 Member Specific Farm Biosecurity Implementation

Status: On Track

Need

A special Member funded program to provide information, tools, expert assistance and training to improve on-farm biosecurity as requested by specific industries. This area supports the National Farm Biosecurity Implementation Program (A.2), through individual Member projects to develop and deliver specific biosecurity awareness initiatives as well as surveillance tools and activities.

Objectives

- To identify and implement projects that enable industries to manage an incursion should it occur through development of contingency planning, risk mitigation measures and on-farm biosecurity strategies.
- To provide information, tools, expert assistance and training to improve on-farm biosecurity.
- Undertake economic analyses for specific Members as special (non-subscription) funded projects that are consistent with PHA's mission and Annual Operational Plan including:
 - Investment analysis (e.g. cost benefit analysis) for biosecurity strategies, plans and activities.
 - Economic analysis of industry/jurisdiction specific biosecurity scenarios or risks.
- To assist specific industries implement other biosecurity projects on commission.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific projects identified, developed, funded and implemented upon request by individual Members or groups of Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for the development of Farm Biosecurity Manuals for the Cotton and Vegetable industries submitted. • Proposals for the development of Contingency Plans and assessment of biosecurity within QA systems in the Vegetable industry submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milestones met for commissioned projects. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosecurity awareness information presented at over 30 industry meetings with more than 20 fact sheets and media releases produced within the Grains On-farm Biosecurity Program and targets for media coverage exceeded. • Knowledge exchange program to improve uptake of messages to limit the development of phosphine resistance in stored grain insects commenced. • Contingency Plans finalised for 10 high priority grains pests and a surveillance model for Russian wheat aphid initiated. • 2 Contingency Plans finalised and a poster on high priority pest threats prepared for the Nursery and Garden industry.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project outputs developed as requested and utilised by industry decision makers for justification of biosecurity investment. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A final report on planning tools to assist with calculating benefit:cost for biosecurity investment in the mango, avocado and onion industries submitted to HAL. A planning tool to assess the benefit:cost of improved grain storage practices for the control of phosphine resistance in pests of stored grain finalised.
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Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues:</i> Peak body arrangements for the grains industry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A business plan is under development by GCA and stakeholders with potential for transition to a new funding model expected in 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Risks:</i> Members do not invest in implementing their IBPs or choose to use other service providers who apply different methodologies and standards thereby potentially devaluing the Intellectual Property developed by PHA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA maintains communication with Members that encourages investment in implementing IBPs – especially through the IBP Review process. PHA submits project applications through relevant research funding bodies to support IBP implementation work.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

B. Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed Program

In recent years biosecurity has become a more prominent issue, with increasing global trade and tourism, impacts of climate change beginning to be observed, as well as the ongoing potential for pests to enter via natural routes. Australia's relative geographic isolation, along with a sound science-based quarantine system, has helped prevent the introduction of many harmful exotic and emergency plant pests.

However, a comprehensive biosecurity system cannot rely on border quarantine or other preventative measures alone. The risk of an EPP incursion will never be zero (this is reflected in Australia's 'Appropriate Level of Protection' being set above zero), and incursions of significant pests can damage the economic viability of Australia's plant industries.

PHA brokers a comprehensive and innovative approach to managing incursions and to minimise the potential impacts to Australian agriculture and environment. Agreed, rapid and comprehensive responses to EPP incursions provide the best potential for minimising the impacts of plant pest incursions and enhancing the probability of a successful eradication program.

The ratification of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) in 2005 significantly increased Australia's capacity to efficiently respond to EPP incursions. The key advantage of the EPPRD is the impetus it provides for more timely, effective and efficient responses to plant pest incursions including clearly defining roles and responsibilities and outlining owner reimbursement cost guidelines for affected growers. The EPPRD program works toward this outcome by allowing PHA and Members to achieve the following overall objectives:

- Enhance the capacity of signatories to meet their EPPRD responsibilities (see Sections B.1, B.3 and B.4 below);
- Assist Affected Parties in the event of an EPP Incident (Section B.2);
- Perform EPPRD administrative functions (Sections B.5).

Most PHA activities under this program are legal obligations under the EPPRD. Those that are not aim to assist signatories meet their legal obligations.

PHA Program Manager responsible: Dr Sophie Peterson

Indicative Performance Tracking

B. Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed Program				Budget \$ 2009/2010
Estimated Annual Project Completion (%)	25	50	75	100
B.1 Facilitating New Emergency Response Policy				142,000
B.2 Incursion Management				54,000
B.3 PLANTPLAN Maintenance				15,000
B.4 EPP Categorisation				87,000
B.5 EPPRD Administration and Compliance				104,000
TOTAL				402,000¹

¹ A contingency of \$100,000 has been budgeted in 2009/2010 to supplement allocations to B.2 and enable PHA involvement in large-scale or extended incursion responses, if they occur.



B.1 Facilitating New Emergency Response Policy

Status: On Track

Need

Every experience implementing the EPPRD in emergency responses raises questions about how situations are, and should be, handled under subsequent responses where the EPPRD is used. This project allows PHA to assist signatories by:

- identifying these issues
- coordinating Issues Resolution Group processes to clarify the issue and develop solutions, and
- presenting the outcomes of these processes to EPPRD signatories meetings for decision.

This ensures the EPPRD arrangements continue to meet the needs of signatories and aims to ensure that the EPPRD operates more effectively and efficiently in each future EPP Incident.

Objective

- To enhance the functionality of the EPPRD by identifying and brokering agreed resolutions to significant issues and promote compliance with signatories' obligations.

Key Performance Indicator	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action and/or resolution on emerging EPPRD policy issues identified by PHA or following requests by signatories. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variations to the EPPRD to include Pests of Bees and clarification of other Pests approved by Parties at the October EPPRD Parties Meeting. Official process to ratify variations now in train. At the time of reporting only 3 Parties were to complete their EPPRD Variation forms. • Continued participation by PHA in the responses to European House Borer, Asian Honeybees and the consideration of a Deed-like agreement to cover Pests and Diseases of Aquatics.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports and recommendations provided to all EPPRD signatories at meetings for information or decision. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions regarding changes to the EPPRD to accommodate Bees completed and options put to Parties for decision. Other issues that have been brought to Parties include those around Categorisation and Training.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ORC Guidelines developed for approval by relevant signatories for an additional four industries (builds on the 2 already completed and approved by relevant signatories and the PHA Board and a further 10 in train). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ORCs for Honeybees and Viticulture approved by the PHA Board and available on the PHA website. • Other industries are collecting further data for inclusion in their ORC guidelines before approval.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of finalised 'Normal Commitments' model to state and territory government signatories for agreement. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA's work on this project ceased when the issue became the topic of a National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) working group developing the model for the National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA). PHA provided documentation and participated on the working group and emphasised the

		importance of having alignment between definitions, principles and supporting frameworks under the EPPRD and NEBRA. PHA understands that governments are still to agree to the revised normal commitment principles proposed by the NBC working group. Pending this endorsement, PHA will refer the model agreed by governments to all EPPRD signatories for their consideration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence development of Normal Commitments models for PHA and the Australian Government. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has not yet commenced as the NBC model is also developing Normal Commitments for the Australian Government. When this is clarified, PHA will use the same framework to define PHA's Normal Commitments. Once details of these revised principles have been agreed by governments and advised to PHA, consideration will be given to implications for the normal commitments principles and frameworks previously agreed by Industry Parties. PHA will work with signatories and AHA to ensure there is alignment of principles and agreement to supporting frameworks.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunities for inclusion of honeybee pests into the EPPRD. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. Parties agreed in-principle to the inclusion of Honeybee pests in the EPPRD. Approval from 3 Parties is required before these variations are formally ratified.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five year review of the EPPRD commenced (for completion in 2010/2011). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This review will commence by October 2010. An internal audit has commenced to assist in the planning for this Review. A running list of matters previously identified by signatories and PHA has been compiled. Consultation has been undertaken with AHA concerning processes followed and lessons learnt with the corresponding Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) 5 year review. Members will be initially engaged in this process at the May 2010 EPPRD meeting.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Drawing on PHA's expertise on the EPPRD and supporting processes, PHA is being called upon by EPPRD Parties, particularly those from government to contribute to the development of processes and agreements in other sectors. Resourcing this work, however, is placing a strain on other core activities. With workloads likely to increase coinciding with the 5 year review of the EPPRD, there is a risk that objectives in the Program will not be met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA has deferred some activities with the agreement of Members, such as with Categorisation. Steps have been taken to broaden expertise on the EPPRD across the Programs Team. This will assist in managing peak loads, manage loss of expertise with staff turnover, and facilitate succession planning.

- *Variations: As above.*

- None.



B.2 Incursion Management

Status: On Track

Need

PHA has a number of specified roles under the EPPRD in the event of an EPP Incident, including participation in committees and national coordination of financial management arrangements for a National Management Group (NMG) approved Response Plan. PHA also has roles arising from its EPPRD custodianship, such as assisting with legal interpretation of the agreement, and a commitment to provide resource assistance to Affected Parties during a response.

Objective

- To participate in EPP Incidents as required under the EPPRD, and provide assistance to signatories in accordance with PHA's EPPRD custodianship role.

Key Performance Indicator	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in EPP Incidents conducted according to the specified terms and timeframes within the EPPRD. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA has participated in all CCEPP meetings considering Pests under the EPPRD and verified they are conducted under the terms and timeframes of the EPPRD. PHA reported to Parties at the October EPPRD Parties Meeting on the number of Pests dealt with by CCEPP.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and timeliness of assistance provided to Affected Parties during EPP Incidents as appropriate. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA has provided assistance as required. This includes the holding and Chairing of Scientific Advisory Panels as requested by the CCEPP (refer to project E2).

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues/Risks:</i> As with project B1, PHA is seen as having expertise in this area and is being called upon to contribute to and participate in incidents that are not strictly covered by the EPPRD. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This does provide PHA the opportunity to improve skills and road test processes outside the bounds of the EPPRD. These activities will be closely monitored to ensure they do not grow too large and impact on core activities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None



B.3 PLANTPLAN Maintenance

Status: On Track

Need

PLANTPLAN is the agreed technical response plan used by jurisdictions and industry in responding to an EPP Incident, and provides nationally consistent guidelines for responses under the EPPRD.

This program allows PHA to ensure PLANTPLAN is up to date and available to all EPPRD signatory organisations and interested parties on the PHA website, and incorporates best practice in EPP responses as agreed by signatories. Outcomes of EPP Incident reviews are used to continually improve PLANTPLAN, and regular updates are made as new systems are developed or gaps identified.

Objective

- To ensure the currency of PLANTPLAN through regular review and amendment, and incorporation of lessons learned from EPP Incident responses.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All substantiated requests by EPPRD signatories for updates to PLANTPLAN provided to all signatories for endorsement. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PLANTPLAN was last updated in May 2009 with the majority of changes to correct references to update Plant Health Legislation and Departmental names. PHA has received two requests to make changes to PLANTPLAN and these will be processed at the next EPPRD Parties meeting in May 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed revisions to PLANTPLAN are formally notified to signatories within two working days of endorsement, and published on the PHA website 30 days thereafter (provided no objection is lodged). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA notified Parties and made PLANTPLAN available on the PHA website within AOP specified timeframes.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues/Risks:</i> None identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> None identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None



B.4 EPP Categorisation

Status: On Track

Need

Agreement to funding proportions (particularly EPP categories) prior to an incursion provides for more objective decision making, clarity and certainty for Affected Parties about their potential commitments up front, and promotes rapid emergency responses. The pest categorisation project enables PHA to administer its formal categorisation responsibilities under the EPPRD, and allows signatories to prepare for potential incursions of high priority pests through preliminary categorisation.

Objectives

- To improve preparedness for incursions by categorising high priority EPPs identified in Biosecurity Plans as requested by signatories.
- To administer PHA's categorisation responsibilities in accordance with EPPRD terms.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA roles in Categorisation Group meetings discharged in accordance with EPPRD requirements. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA, as required under the EPPRD, has provided the Chair and Standing Industry Representative as well as Secretariat support to the Categorisation Group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Categories determined for high priority pests in accordance with guidelines (when requested by relevant signatories). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has requested that Industry Parties prioritise the Pests they want to Categorise and inform PHA so that a more coordinated approach to Categorisation can be facilitated. PHA is yet to receive these lists from all industries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest specific information provided by Affected Parties circulated in advance of each Categorisation Group meeting. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This information was circulated as required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Categorisation, re-categorisation, removal, and/or review of funding weights for EPPs completed upon request and according to EPPRD terms. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has received one request to recategorise an EPP listed in Schedule 13. This was processed as required under the EPPRD. The recommendation from the Categorisation Group was not endorsed by all Relevant Parties. This request has highlighted an issue that PHA needs to address in the Categorisation process (<i>see issues/risks below</i>).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress EPPs preliminarily categorised through the formal EPPRD process if requested by relevant signatories. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has requested that Industry Parties prioritise the Pests they want to Categorise and inform PHA so that a more coordinated approach to Categorisation can be facilitated. PHA is yet to receive these lists from all industries.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues/Risks:</i> The categorisation questionnaire as it stands is not meeting Party requirements with a risk that integrity of the categorisation process is compromised. • The categorisation process does not accommodate pest complexes (pathogen and vector combinations). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA intends to conduct a full review of the categorisation questionnaire. • PHA will conduct a broader review in 2010/11 of the categorisation process to determine signatory positions on categorisation where pest complexes are involved (e.g. <i>Asian citrus psyllid</i> and <i>huanglongbing</i>).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.



B.5 EPPRD Administration & Compliance

Status: On Track

Need

As the custodian of the EPPRD, PHA has a number of legal responsibilities to administer the agreement on behalf of signatories. The EPPRD also specifies a number of legal obligations on signatories for various elements of EPP response and preparedness. Ensuring processes are completed by PHA in a timely and sound way will ensure currency and credibility of the agreement and minimise the possibility of legal challenge to the arrangements. Through Member surveys, signatories have indicated a desire for PHA to assist more actively in their compliance with EPPRD requirements. Although PHA has no authority to enforce reporting of compliance, one of this project's aims is to assist all signatories meet their legal obligations under the EPPRD.

Objectives

- To maintain and administer the EPPRD to ensure currency, credibility and effectiveness.
- To develop specific tools and processes to assist the EPPRD signatories to meet their legal obligations.
- To monitor and report on PHA compliance with EPPRD requirements (*through the PHA Annual Report and interim Performance Reports*) and implement remedial action as needed.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPPRD management and administration performed according to the specified terms and timeframes within the EPPRD. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specified administration requirements of the EPPRD have been fulfilled within the necessary timeframes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA EPPRD compliance reported to the PHA Board at each Board Meeting and to Members at least biannually (<i>through the PHA Annual Report and Mid-Year Performance Report</i>). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed EPPRD Compliance Report were provided to the PHA Finance and Audit Committee and Board as scheduled.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specified legal requirements of PHA under the EPPRD met. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA is not aware of any instance that the specified legal requirements have not been met and has SOP's and conducts regular audits to ensure compliance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance checklists developed and practical assistance provided as requested by EPPRD signatories in implementing compliance programs. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has developed an internal checklist for compliance. Members have not requested specific assistance in this area. The potential for checklists and other tool reporting to better promote compliance will be considered in the Five Year EPPRD Review.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Risks:</i> Non-compliance by signatories will have the effect of undermining integrity of the EPPRD and jeopardise effective responses/decision making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no legal basis for PHA to enforce compliance of EPPRD signatories. • PHA communicates the importance of compliance to signatories through provision of EPPRD training and presentations, biosecurity statements and awareness material.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

C. National Strategies & Policy Coordination

An important reason for PHA's creation in 2000 was to facilitate governments and industries working together to share responsibility for plant biosecurity in Australia. This led to establishment of the EPPRD as well as a range of measures to mitigate the risks posed by Emergency Plant Pests. In more recent times PHA has been asked to lead and coordinate action on a range of strategic policy issues and programs of national significance. Under the auspices of the Inter-Government Agreement on Biosecurity, (IGAB), PHA is facilitating development of Australia's National Plant Health Strategy and a range of underpinning strategies for surveillance, diagnostics, training and communication. Increasingly, Members are seeking to extend PHA's role into areas where PHA's technical expertise, impartiality and track record make it suited to coordinating partnership approaches and a national perspective to plant biosecurity and the future of Australia's plant health system. The National Strategies and Policy Coordination Priority Area is also concerned with securing stakeholder commitment to the implementation of these strategies.

Some national strategies developed in this program involve all Members (e.g. the National Plant Health Strategy) while others only involve a sub set of Members plus non-Member stakeholders (e.g. National Fruit Fly Strategy).

PHA Program Manager responsible: Nicholas Woods

Indicative Performance Tracking

C. Strategy Development				Budget \$
	25	50	75	100
Estimated Annual Project Completion (%)				
C.1 National Plant Health Strategy				
C1.1 Implementation of the National Plant Health Strategy				219,000
C1.2 National Diagnostic Strategy				
C1.3 National Surveillance Strategy				
C.2 National Fruit Fly Strategy				
C.2.1 Implementation of National Fruit Fly Strategy				133,000
C.3 National Plant Health Status Report				107,000
TOTAL				459,000



C.1 National Plant Health Strategy

Status: On Track

Need

While most state and territory jurisdictions have biosecurity strategies in place, Australia has not had an overarching national strategy for plant health. In 2007 PHA commenced development of a National Plant Health Strategy (NPHS) to provide plant biosecurity practitioners with a blueprint for protecting the economy, the natural environment and the built environment from the negative impacts associated with plant pests, diseases and weeds.

The NPHS will set the strategic direction for the plant health sector over the next ten years. It will incorporate high level strategies for the key functional areas of emergency response, diagnostics, surveillance and communications, and involve all stakeholders that have a shared responsibility and commitment to the plant health status of Australia. The NPHS is part of a wider process to establish nationally agreed strategies under the Australian Biosecurity System for Primary Production and Inter-Governmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB).

Objectives

- To finalise the development of a NPHS, National Plant Health Diagnostic Strategy and National Surveillance Strategy and gain agreement to roles and responsibilities and implementation for each from stakeholders.
- To define PHA's ongoing role in implementation of the strategies.
- To establish a National Diagnostic Network with linkages to the Australian Biosecurity Intelligence Network.
- To coordinate the adoption and implementation of the National Surveillance Strategy that demonstrates Australia's country or regional freedom from plant pests, which underpins market access and provides for early detection of emergency plant pests.
- To facilitate the utilisation of the National Plant Surveillance Reporting Tool to assist in demonstrating Australia's country or regional freedom from plant pests and early detection of emergency plant pests.
- To facilitate plant industries to establish and implement structured surveillance activities consistent with the National Surveillance Strategy and Industry Biosecurity Plans.
- To contribute to a nationally coordinated, cross-continuum communications effort for plant biosecurity.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPHS finalised, presented to Members for endorsement and used as an input to PHA and Member planning processes. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive consultation by stakeholder groups with Version 3 of the NPHS. Revision of the NPHS to take account of national biosecurity reforms in response to the Beale Review. • Version 4 of the NPHS compiled for planned release by May 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Plant Health Diagnostic Strategy finalised and presented to Members for endorsement. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary responsibility for the Diagnostic Strategy currently resides with SPHDS. PHA has provided significant support to SPHDS to ensure appropriate linkage with the NPHS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Diagnostic Network framework defined and presented to Members. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The framework will be presented to all PHA Members when the draft Diagnostic Strategy is complete.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Plant Health Surveillance Strategy finalised and presented to Members for endorsement. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft Surveillance Strategy has been prepared by PHA. The SRG is undertaking a review of the draft and will prepare a revised version that takes account of the NPHS and other reforms of the national biosecurity system as a result of the Beale Review.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the amount of surveillance data contributed to NPSRT by Industry and Government Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 new surveillance programs added this financial year, 18 of which are associated with the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Surveillance Strategies completed according to agreed schedules and budgets. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No industry surveillance strategies were scheduled for completion in this reporting period.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<p><i>Risks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders fail to adopt the NPHS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA is facilitating development of the NPHS and additionally has sought direction and input from all stakeholders.
<p><i>Issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
<p><i>Variations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic Strategy development now being coordinated through SPHDS. Surveillance Strategy development now being coordinated through SRG. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA is a member of SPHDS. PHA is co-chair of SRG.



C.2 National Fruit Fly Strategy

Status: On Track

Need

Government and industry have significant investment in fruit fly activities, predominantly at the state and industry level. There are increasing pressures on the sustainability of the current management approach of fruit fly across Australia. Currently activities are not fully communicated, co-ordinated, or cost shared between the relevant (or appropriate) stakeholders. Doubt over the sustainability of current activities is exacerbated by changing domestic and international trading requirements driven by phytosanitary issues, resulting in the loss of key international markets and more stringent import requirements being imposed on our exporting producers.

In 2007/08 PHA was commissioned by affected Members to facilitate a nationally co-ordinated fruit fly strategy and to establish a set of priority projects for Australia. While it is still to be formally adopted, the focus has moved on from development of the draft National Fruit Fly Strategy (NFFS) to preparing an action plan for its implementation and a determination of the benefits in doing so.

Objective

- To provide effective secretariat and technical support to the NFFS Implementation Committee in its development and possible future implementation of a NFFS Action Plan.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality and timeliness of secretariat support for NFFS Implementation Committee. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support provided to the NFFS Implementation Committee (comprising representatives from industry and government) from July-December 2009. • Draft NFFS Implementation Action Plan finalised, reviewed by NBC and PISC, and released for public consultation October 2009.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit cost analysis (Part 1) completed and presented to stakeholders for consideration and endorsement by Spring PISC meeting. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCA Part 1 completed and findings included in draft NFFS Implementation Action Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government and industry (fruit fly affected) support for the development and implementation the National Fruit Fly Strategy Action Plan. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft NFFS Implementation Action Plan reviewed by NBC, PISC and PHC. Stakeholder consultation closed 4 January 2010. Comments received to-date indicate substantial support for the Implementation Action Plan from both industry and government stakeholders. Projects and initiatives described in the Implementation Action Plan have been cross referenced to, and adopted as part of national dimethoate/fenthion response plan activities.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Final adoption of the NFFS AP will depend upon future (industry & government) stakeholder investment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A high level of consultation continues to be undertaken and the NFFS Implementation Action Plan has been designed to fit with existing government / industry funding mechanisms. An investment plan is proposed that will demonstrate the specific benefits (and costs) associated with the adoption of the NFFS AP.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.



C.3 National Plant Health Status Report

Status: On Track

Need

As well as describing the function and structure of Australia's biosecurity system, the National Plant Health Status Report (NPHSR) highlights Australia's comprehensive and unique emergency response arrangements aimed at dealing with exotic pests should they arrive in Australia. The report also demonstrates country and area freedom by tabulating three categories of pest:

1. high priority plant pests - pest identified as significant threats to Australia's plant industries identified through the industry planning process
2. regionalised plant pests - pest that are under active management and regulation in a specific area of Australia, and
3. emergency plant pests (EPP's) - pests that are currently being eradicated or contained with the intention of eradication.

This NPHSR initiative aims to collate data and information on a regular basis and provide an annual report at a national level. This project intends to publish a second report covering the 2008/09 period in late 2009. The report will provide an opportunity to document changes and improvements in Australia's biosecurity system made during the reporting period and results from the implementation of recommendations from the Beale review (2008) '*One Biosecurity: a working Partnership*'.

Objective

- To produce an annual National Plant Health Status Report that describes Australia's pest status, ongoing programs and new developments that took place in the national plant health system.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a National Plant Health Status Report (2008/09) that engages stakeholders in its preparation and is endorsed by PHA Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2008/09 NPHSR has been developed for launch at the Global Biosecurity 2010 conference on 1 March 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Plant Health Status Report (2008/09) distributed to Members and made publicly available by May 2010. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard and electronic copies will be made available at the Conference and following the event.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Risks:</i> Information in the NPHSR jeopardises trade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearance of the NPHSR is required by relevant stakeholders before finalisation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues:</i> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> A decision was made to bring forward the launch and coincide it with Global Biosecurity 2010 international conference being held in Brisbane in March 2010. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

D. Capacity and Capability Program

In the event of emergency plant pest incursion the success of any response will depend in large part upon whether the capability exists to do this effectively and efficiently. Capability includes infrastructure, technology and systems as well as the people required to perform essential roles.

Maintaining the capability needed to mount responses to the many pest threats that exist is a significant challenge at jurisdictional, regional and industry levels. Taking a national perspective on capability enables the best use to be made of finite resources during peacetime and to build the resource base when large scale and enduring responses occur.

The EPPRD places the onus on governments and industries to maintain a baseline resourcing level and standard of performance in emergency responses. This can only be achieved through a program of ongoing training that ensures adequate personnel are available and that these personnel are accredited to perform the roles that are expected of them.

Along with training, PHA is working to establish information frameworks so that accurate and reliable plant health data is readily available to plant health practitioners, policy makers, industry and the wider Australian community.

An efficient, reliable and accessible system of plant health information will help develop and enhance our interstate and international plant health status by promoting accurate, rapid and widespread identification and reporting of notifiable plant pests.

PHA will continue to work to develop agreed, consistent standards and methods for recording and storing plant health information, and to develop online systems that ensure the widest possible availability of information to all stakeholders.

PHA Program Manager responsible: Rod Turner

Indicative Performance Tracking

D. Capability Program					Budget \$ 2009-2010
Estimated Annual Project Completion (%)	25	50	75	100	
D.1 National Training Program					195,000
D.2 National Information Support Systems					23,000
D.3 CRC for National Plant Biosecurity					131,000
D.4 Australian Biosecurity Intelligence Network (ABIN)					86,000 ¹
D.5 ABIN Fruit Fly Pilot					11,000 ²
Total					446,000

¹ Costs incurred by PHA in supporting ABIN are fully recovered. A final ABIN budget is yet to be submitted to DIISR. As a result there may be variance in the recovery figure for PHA from this figure.

² Additional funding for D.5 ABIN Fruit Fly Pilot is subject to approval of phase 2 of the project by the ABIN Advisory Board and the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR). It is expected that the budget will increase substantially from the level indicated.



D.1 National Training Program

Status: On Track

Need

Nationally there is a need for sufficient competent, trained personnel to perform all the roles required of industry and government in an emergency response for its duration. These roles are defined in the EPPRD or PLANTPLAN and the requirement for trained personnel is stated in Clause 8.2 of EPPRD.

In addition there is a role for PHA to enhance Member understanding of the EPPRD, at all levels, and its operation to ensure signatories understand their obligations and rights under the EPPRD. Specifically, EPPRD training is aimed at equipping emergency response committee representatives and other designated personnel with the knowledge needed to carry out decision making functions and supporting accredited training offered by Registered Training Organisations. Increasingly PHA is working in partnership with Animal Health Australia in the design and delivery of training, reflecting the cross-sectoral approaches to response management taken by agencies and overlapping competencies required by response personnel.

Objectives

- To coordinate activities through the Biosecurity Emergency Preparedness Working Group (BEPWG) of National Biosecurity Committee to facilitate national agreement on consistent training needs and priorities across plant and animal industry sectors, provide for consistency in training approaches and accreditation of learning for all areas of government and industry, and to reduce duplication of effort.
- To facilitate delivery of competency based EPP training that is nationally consistent, nationally accredited and nationally recognised.
- To provide industry Members with training specific to their requirements and needs.
- To ensure industry Members are aware of their obligations under the EPPRD and PLANTPLAN.
- To ensure sufficiently trained personnel are available to assist with the management of a plant pest incursion.
- To undertake a review of the Plant Health Australia Training Program in conjunction with Animal Health Australia and the National Training Committee to ensure it remains relevant and adopts the most contemporary methods of delivery and remains in line with National Competency based learning requirements.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of industry and government Members trained for respective roles and responsibilities under PLANTPLAN and the EPPRD. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training has been delivered to participants in New South Wales (Tamworth, Wagga Wagga and EMAI Menangle); Queensland (Brisbane, Toowoomba and Cairns); Western Australia (South Perth) and GROWCOM (Pineapple Growers Meeting). A total of 246 participants attended these sessions (58 attended in 2008/09). • Content and interface developed for an Online EPPRD Foundation Training Tool. Consultant engaged to develop a suitable add on to the PHA website to deliver and track basic biosecurity awareness training to our Members remotely.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the number of trained industry and government personnel able to perform specialist roles in the management of an EPP incursion. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA has liaised with AHA and jurisdictions to gain access to training materials used to train personnel in these areas and will continue to work to develop plant based examples and content for inclusion in these training packages.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA Training Program reviewed in consultation with AHA, BEPWG and Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Training Program has been reviewed in conjunction with AHA over the course of 3 face to face meetings. These meetings have provided information that has been used to assess the Program and the content of various components. PHA Members were informed at the October EPPRD Meeting of training progress. A special presentation was delivered at the 8th Industry Forum to encourage Industry Members to attend and request training as well as offer suggestions for what types of training they may require. PHA attended the BEPWG Training Steering Committee's inaugural meeting. PHA and AHA have agreed to reconstitute the National Animal Health Training Steering Committee to include plants.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up-to-date register of trained personnel. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A training register has been maintained and is up to date with all participants trained since 1 July.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of contractual milestones for specially funded training projects. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been no specially funded training projects this period.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues:</i> Low industry participation rates at PHA training sessions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA has made multiple approaches to Industry Members to determine priorities and better understand obstacles to greater participation. Most recently this was done through the Member survey. Results will be used to better tailor and schedule industry training.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Risks:</i> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.



D.2 National Information Support Systems

Status: On Track

Need

Nationally there is a need for relevant and user-friendly technology support systems to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of plant health system operations. Currently PHA supports the following information systems:

- APPD (Australia Plant Pest Database)
- NPSRT (National Plant Surveillance Reporting Tool)
- BIOSIRT (Biosecurity, Surveillance, Incident Response and Tracing)
- PHER (Plant Health Experience Register).

Objectives

- To assist in providing a fully functioning on-line system enabling simultaneous interrogation for people with specialised plant health experience, information on plant pests from multiple reference collections around Australia and surveillance programs and activities.
- To maintain effective contribution to NPSRT, PHER and APPD management and administration committees and maintain their relevance for use in Biosecurity activities.
- To facilitate linkage of the APPD/PHER/BIOSIRT and NPSRT with ABIN.
- To promote the value and use of these databases to the wider biosecurity community.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectiveness of promotion to prospective registrants and users of PHA managed databases and registers. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyer developed and distributed to 350 people at the Australian Plant Pathology Society conference and 200 at the Australian Entomological Society conference both in September 2009.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of registered users with relevant expertise on the PHER. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of promotional activities, 32 new users have been added this financial year, bringing the total number of users to 288.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the number of technical errors and unavailability of data for users searching the APPD. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One outage of the APPD was experienced in late 2009 lasting several hours. The contracted provider has resolved this issue. • Re-deployment of the APPD to VPAC servers completed. The APPD is currently updating regularly from all contributing databases except one (see below). Work is currently underway to develop new software to address this issue. • APPD is currently able to receive information from all but one database. New software is being developed to provide connectivity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of surveillance programs incorporated in the NPSRT. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 new surveillance programs added this financial year.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<p><i>Issues/Risks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VPAC (new IT support providers) require substantial familiarisation with the APPD system before they can efficiently undertake further enhancements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSIRO ICT (previous APPD IT support providers) have agreed to provide ad hoc advice when necessary to assist VPAC with familiarisation.
<p><i>Variations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.



D.3 CRC for National Plant Biosecurity

Status: On Track

Need

PHA is a core participant of the Cooperative Research Centre for National Plant Biosecurity (CRCNPB) and its original proposer. PHA contributes to management arrangements through representation on Participants and Management Committees, input on project priorities, and as a research provider and adoption facilitator. As a Core Participant, PHA makes a significant in-kind contribution to management and project activities of the CRC.

Objectives

- To make an active contribution through the management structure of the CRCNPB and the communication and adoption of research outcomes.
- To ensure research directions of the CRCNPB meet needs identified by PHA, enhance the national plant health system and advance the interests of PHA Members.
- To assist the uptake of CRC outputs by PHA Members.
- To ensure PHA commitments to the CRCNPB are met.
- To successfully assist to manage the "Global Biosecurity 2010: safeguarding agriculture and the environment" conference in collaboration with CRCNPB, Invasive Animals CRC and Australian Biosecurity CRC for Emerging and Infectious Diseases in March 2010.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual average 0.7FTE personnel commitment to the CRCNPB met for 2009/10. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA is meeting its obligations in 2009/10 through involvement in various activities including contributions on organisation of the Global Biosecurity Conference, CRC rebid process and specific project activities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All milestone and reporting commitments for CRCNPB projects met. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All milestone and reporting commitments have been met according to agreed deadlines.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA input provided into the CRCNPB's Annual Operational Plan. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has contributed to this process when the CRC has sought information from participants.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs of CRCNPB activity communicated to Members at PHA consultation meetings, via <i>Tendrils</i> and where appropriate to specific Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported to Members on PHA contribution to CRC activities at Member meetings and via regular reporting in <i>Tendrils</i>. PHA Board to meet with the CRC Board for an annual joint meeting on 3 March 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive evaluation results from the <i>Global Biosecurity 2010: safeguarding agriculture and the environment</i> conference. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference being held from 28 February to 3 March 2010. Evaluation outcomes will be reported next period.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Risks:</i> PHA fails to meet its in-kind commitment to the CRC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include provision for a range of support activities in the AOP.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.



D.4 Australian Biosecurity Intelligence Network (ABIN)

Status: On Track

Need

The National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) aims to provide a strategic and collaborative approach to investment in world class facilities, networks, infrastructure and technologies for biosecurity management and research. The ABIN initiative brings together the areas of human, plant, animal, wildlife and aquatic biosecurity for the first time. PHA's role is as host agency for the project, which requires PHA to submit plans and reports, employ core ABIN staff, assist with a range of specialist functions on request, and oversee all contractual matters and financial transactions. The project commenced in July 2008 with an initial 3 year funding commitment from the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) of \$16.5 million. Within the parameters of the funding agreement between PHA and DIISR, ABIN operations are guided by an Advisory Board that is independent of the PHA Board.

Objectives

- To discharge responsibilities of host agency for the ABIN project in accordance with the Funding Agreement between PHA and DIISR.
- To provide effective and timely support to ABIN across a range of specialist areas to supplement ABIN core capability.
- To oversee probity and compliance of ABIN with PHA operational, legal and financial policies and procedures.
- To effectively manage risks to PHA associated with its role as host agency.
- To maintain healthy working relationships with the ABIN Advisory Board, ABIN personnel employed by PHA, and with DIISR.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All legal, governance and compliance matters identified by PHA raised with the ABIN CEO and addressed. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has raised all such issues with the ABIN CEO.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full recovery of expenses incurred by PHA in supporting the ABIN project and ABIN employees of PHA. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has recovered all expenses incurred in supporting the ABIN project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial and operational reporting on ABIN to the PHA Board at each scheduled Board Meeting. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABIN reporting has occurred at each Board Meeting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval by DIISR of an Annual Business Plan and Annual Report, including audited financial statements. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2009 Annual Financial Statements were approved by DIISR. Other reports are yet to be approved. The approval status of ABIN's Annual Business Plan has been raised with the ABIN CEO and DIISR.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate performance against ABIN project milestones to Members and key stakeholders. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA has assisted ABIN with distribution of communiqué's and other performance reports through Tendrils. ABIN program management reports have been provided at Member meetings.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
• <i>Issues/Risks:</i> None identified.	• None.
• <i>Variations:</i> Negotiations have commenced with regard to the novation of the ABIN funding agreement to a third party.	• None.



D.5 ABIN Fruit Fly Pilot

Status: On Track

Need

Implement a key recommendation of the National Fruit Fly Strategy and demonstrate the concept of the Australian Biosecurity Intelligence Network in the plant sector by implementing a national pilot related to Fruit fly. This project is one of four to have received initial approval of the ABIN Advisory Board and DIISR to proceed.

Objectives

- To finalise project plan for the ABIN Fruit Fly Proof-of-concept Project.
- To secure approval of the ABIN Advisory Board to proceed with phase 2 of the project.
- To link to other proof-of-concept projects, as appropriate, e.g. Veterinary Pathology Project.
- To integrate outputs of the Australian Government funded Fruit Fly Body of Knowledge project.
- To link to ABIN core staff to ensure Plant Health issues taken into account in the development of "ABIN Central".
- To connect those working in Fruit Fly research, policy and operations to ensure adoption of the project outcomes.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalised Project Plan accepted by ABIN Advisory Board. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revised project plan has been approved by the ABIN Advisory Board.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABIN Advisory Board approval of phase 2 funding for project. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to ABIN's consideration of the Fruit Fly Project Plan the need for two separate projects was identified. The first relating to BioSIRT, the second the Fruit Fly Body of Knowledge project. • The ABIN Advisory Board determined that the DAFF BioSIRT co-ordinator was best placed to manage the BioSIRT project and, as the Body of Knowledge project involves generic IT solutions, which can be used by multiple projects, the project is being managed in house by ABIN. • PHA supported these initiatives and is providing ongoing assistance as required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links to other proof-of-concept projects and ABIN core established and plant biosecurity needs considered. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA is involved via its co-management of the Fruit Fly Body of Knowledge project and is ensuring plant biosecurity system needs and synergies are understood by other project leaders.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders informed and engaged in the project. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder engagement limited as ABIN yet to appoint a communications manager.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely communication of progress and results of the project to Members and other stakeholders. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA has assisted ABIN with distribution of communiqué's and other performance reports through Tendrils. ABIN program management reports have been provided at Member meetings.
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Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Member needs not adequately addressed with PHA no longer project leader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA involved in project manager meetings arranged by ABIN staff and continues to work with DAFF on ABIN Fruit Fly project considerations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

E. Member Engagement Program

Effectively engaging with Members is essential and requires a shared involvement and commitment in the setting, implementation and uptake of program objectives and outputs. This is achieved by running forums for all, or subsets of, Members, facilitating Member participation on project specific steering and management groups, and through PHA participation at Member meetings and through involvement in national plant health committees.

PHA's corporate communications program aims to ensure that reporting and accountability obligations of the Company are satisfied. Information from all parts of PHA's business is drawn together into publications, reports, articles, newsletters and presentations. Where it is appropriate, further customisation occurs to meet the specific communication needs of Members. The PHA website consolidates all of this information and makes it publicly available in electronic format.

PHA has a program that enables responses to emerging issues and business opportunities to be seized. Activity in this area may be the wellspring for new subscription-funded programs and projects, or may provide the initial capacity to secure support for non-subscription-funded activities.

Activities within the planning program focus on the development and implementation of a rigorous but flexible planning framework that has the capacity to maintain a focus on strategic goals in a dynamic operating environment.

PHA Program Manager responsible: Kyle Thoms

Indicative Performance Tracking

E. Member Engagement					Budget \$ 2009-2010
Estimated Annual Project Completion (%)	25	50	75	100	
E.1 Member Liaison					154,000
E.2 National Committees					100,000
E.3 Corporate Communications					175,000
E.4 Strategic Planning, Reporting and Evaluation					136,000
E.5 Business Opportunities and Emerging Issues					94,000
Total					659,000



E.1 Member Liaison

Status: On Track

Need

Members expect that PHA will be a consultative organisation providing them with adequate opportunity for input on important matters and that PHA will fulfil its legal and Constitutional obligations as a Company in holding meetings of Members.

Objectives

- Hold at least two General Meetings each year as per legal and Constitutional requirements.
- Facilitate attendance at PHA meetings by senior Member organisation representatives through the timing and synchronisation of these events, to enable discussion and resolution of issues affecting Members.
- Provide PHA Industry Members with an opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, views and issues and to consider plant health matters of mutual interest at Plant Industry Forum meetings.
- Maintain effective, timely, cost effective and adequate consultative processes for Members and stakeholders.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Company General Meetings held in 2009/2010 with all legal requirements for these meetings met. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9th Annual General Meeting held in October 2009. Attendance up on previous meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least two Plant Industry Forum meetings held in 2009/2010. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Industry Forum held October 2009. Attendance up on previous meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one consultative meeting for all Members held between the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings being organised in March/April 2010 in Canberra, Mildura and Brisbane to help facilitate attendance of all PHA Members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person to person consultation with every Member at least once in 2009/2010, including opportunities to provide input to operational priorities for 2010/2011. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face-to-face meetings with more than 75% of PHA's 45 Members to the end of January 2010. • Meetings with Members in March/April 2010 will have a focus on confirming priorities for the 2010/2011 Annual Operational Plan. PHA staff have met with the majority of Members in the first half of 2009/2010 and discussed needs and issues particularly in relation to specific core and special projects.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Members cannot afford to attend PHA meetings or do not see the business at these meetings as a high priority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold meetings in regional centres when practical and cost effective. • Meet with Members one-on-one at times and locations that are more suitable/affordable. • Provide timely reporting of Member meeting outcomes and subsequent opportunities for feedback.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.



E.2 National Committees

Status: On Track

Need

Involvement in recognised government and industry committees enables PHA to:

- ensure national plant health policy issues are raised and addressed
- promote national partnership approaches to solve these issues
- lead, coordinate, or participate in, projects initiated by these Committees where they fit with PHA's Corporate Plan, are appropriately funded, and will deliver a return to Members
- contribute technical expertise, strategic insight and independent views.

PHA also uses these opportunities to ensure industry considerations and requirements are taken into account in government committee processes, and government processes are considered in industry planning.

Objectives

- Achieve effective representation of Members' interests on national committees and to provide a valued contribution to plant health policy and program development outside of PHA.
- Actively contribute to the deliberations of the national committees on issues associated with the National Plant Health Strategy (NPHS) and underpinning systems.
- Ensure all Members are fully informed on relevant and important issues under consideration by the national committees and provide a mechanism for individual Members to have input to the deliberations of these committees.
- Effectively use PHA's independent status to broker and facilitate outcomes for projects of national significance.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in at least 80% of national committee meetings on which PHA has a standing representative. 	Green	PHA was represented at meetings of the following committees between July 2009-January 2010: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Australian Weeds Committee (for categorisation of weeds using EPPRD processes) ○ Biosecurity Emergency Preparedness Working Group (BEPWG) ○ BEPWG Training Steering Committee ○ BioSIRT Standards Committee ○ CRC for National Plant Biosecurity Participants Committee ○ Dimethoate and Fenthion Response Consultative Committee (DFNRPCC) (commenced December 2009) ○ Domestic Quarantine Market Access Working Group (PHA is independent Chair) ○ National Fruit Fly Implementation Committee ○ National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) (observer) and associated Inter-

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> governmental Agreement on Biosecurity Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National Communications Network (NCN) ○ PISC (observer) ○ Plant Health Committee (PHC) ○ Surveillance Reference Group (SRG) ○ Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostic Standards (SPHDS).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA presentation of priority Member issues to national committees and critical, non-confidential outcomes shared with Members. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities taken to present PHA reports/papers and deliver presentations at national committee meetings, with high standards maintained and prescribed timelines met. • Outcomes communicated through <i>Tendrils</i> to Members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA actively sought out by Committees for leadership/co-ordination roles. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaired Science Advisory Panel (SAP) for Potato Cyst Nematode • Chaired SAP for Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid • Chaired SAP for European House Borer • Chaired several meetings of the SAP for Asian Honeybees • Established two subgroups for the SRG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surveillance Technical Advisory Group (PHA Chair) and ○ Standards Working Group (PHA Member)

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Committee business can expand quickly and unpredictably consuming more resources than planned or budgeted. • PHA is requested to take on roles stemming from Committee decisions that are unfunded or regarded as core business but which have not been included in the Annual Operational Plan and/or do not meet PHA's criteria to be considered core business. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA maintains a capacity (albeit limited) to be able to respond to emerging issues and build these in to core activities. • Tasks that do not meet the criteria to be considered core business, are of longer duration, and more resource intensive, need to be funded by benefiting Members as a special project. • Where possible/appropriate PHA prepares business plans and budgets setting out service delivery costs to undertake tasks on behalf of governments and all PHA Members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> NBC requested PHA involvement on a number of working groups connected with development of the Inter-Governmental Agreement on Biosecurity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA drew on resources available in the Business Opportunities and Emerging Issues Program (E4) to provide input to NBC working group processes.



E.3 Corporate Communications

Status: On Track

Need

Communication of the purpose and outcomes of PHA activity is important in meeting accountability obligations, enabling the take-up of outputs from PHA project activity, and in achieving closer cooperation and national coordination between plant health stakeholders through a range of formal and informal mechanisms, including our Annual Reports and weekly e-newsletter *Tendrils*.

Objectives

- Raise awareness among internal and external stakeholders about the role, achievement and performance of PHA.
- Support the PHA Board and Management through identification and analysis of business risks associated with communications and media activity.
- Produce and distribute quality corporate communication materials that meet the needs of Members, support PHA business objectives and build the PHA brand.
- Comply with all corporate reporting responsibilities.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly e-newsletter '<i>Tendrils</i>' produced and distributed according to schedule and to an increased readership (target 10% annual increase in subscribers). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 editions of <i>Tendrils</i> sent to January 2010. • Subscriber numbers up from 530 to 567 as at January 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of increased Member and stakeholder awareness of PHA's role, achievements and performance (measured through a biannual Member and Stakeholder Survey). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research consultant commissioned and in-depth interviews conducted during December 2009, results due February 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful completion, analysis and reporting of 2009 Member and stakeholder survey. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research consultant commissioned and in-depth interviews conducted during December 2009, results to be reported to Members in March/April 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board, Management and Member satisfaction with the timeliness and quality of communications support (includes PHA's online presence, strategy development, issues management, publications and presentations). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board and Management provided positive feedback to the Communications Team about the timeliness and quality of support. • Member response to the re-developed PHA website and other websites developed and hosted by PHA was overwhelmingly positive. • Wide Member participation in the Farm Biosecurity Media program. • Satisfaction being assessed through the 2009 PHA Member Survey with results to be reported to Members in March/April 2010.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues/Risks:</i> PHA communications fails to achieve cut-through with Members and/or meet their information needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA's primary audience for corporate communications is Members. Within the limits of available resources some customising of

	<p>communications occurs in order to meet specific Member needs. Members' views about the quality of PHA information and communication channels used are gauged through the biennial PHA Member Survey with results used to adjust communication strategies. PHA also actively seeks feedback from those receiving corporate communications, including <i>Tendrils</i>, the PHA website and PHA publications.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.



E.4 Strategic Planning, Reporting and Evaluation

Status: On Track

Need

The Company requires sound and integrated planning and reporting systems to provide Members and the Board with the confidence that the Company is pursuing appropriate goals and is meeting these goals effectively and efficiently with minimised risk.

Objectives

- Produce integrated company strategic and operational plans that reflect collective Member needs and priorities, and deliver agreed outcomes in an effective and efficient manner.
- Enhance Member confidence in the financial standing of the Company and management of risks.
- Gather and productively apply market intelligence and market research information to PHA strategic and operational planning activities.
- Carry out internal and external performance reporting that is timely, accurate and informative and which meets legal requirements and stakeholder expectations for accountability.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008/2009 Annual Report presented to Members and end of year financial statements approved by Members at the 9th Annual General Meeting. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report presented to Members at 9th AGM in October 2009. • Annual Financial Statements approved by Members. • Costs of producing the Annual Report substantially reduced by designing and printing in-house.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2010/2011 AOP presented to Members and approved by the Board in May 2010. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft 2010/2011 AOP under development for presentation to Members in March 2010. • Environmental scanning incorporated as a rolling strategic activity with quarterly reporting to the PHA Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members consulted in determining operational priorities for 2010/2011. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of operational priorities presented to Members at the 9th Annual General Meeting. • Members views on operational priorities canvassing during one-to-one consultation. • Meetings with Members in March/April 2010 will have a focus on confirming priorities for the 2010/2011 Annual Operational Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board satisfaction with the timeliness, accuracy and quality of Management reporting. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the internal Board performance evaluation organisational reporting was rated highly and as having improved between 2008 and 2009.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member satisfaction with PHA's processes for accountability (measured through bi-annual Member and stakeholder survey). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research consultant commissioned and in-depth interviews conducted during December 2009, results to be reported to Members in March/April 2010.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Budgets are exceeded because of the quantum of unplanned and unbudgeted activity. • PHA misunderstands or is unaware of Member needs and expectations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain strong accountability processes for activity, performance to budget, and variation to program plans with the PHA Board and Members. • Members engaged at key stages in development of company strategy and operational plans. Assessments confirmed through presentations at Member meetings and through biennial Member Survey.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.



E.5 Business Opportunities and Emerging Issues

Status: On Track

Need

Increasingly, opportunities are arising for PHA to become involved in new areas of activity, which will help progress the overall objectives of plant biosecurity. Members are approaching PHA individually or as smaller groups to have tailored programs designed and management services provided. Wider consultation with stakeholders across the biosecurity continuum is identifying opportunities for new business development that will strengthen the national plant health system and/or better equip Members to respond to future biosecurity challenges.

PHA's dynamic operating environment throws up numerous unplanned and unforeseen opportunities and challenges during the course of each year. As an example, in 2008 the independent review of Australia's quarantine and biosecurity arrangements – '*One Biosecurity: a working partnership*' was a significant but unforeseen activity in which PHA became (and remains) heavily engaged. It is important that PHA maintains a capacity to respond directly to these emerging issues, through consultation with Members or through realignment of program activities.

Objectives

- To capitalise on opportunities to scope, negotiate and implement new Program/s and project activities that are consistent with PHA's Corporate Plan and in the interests of Members or a subset of Members, without unduly impacting on other core and special project work.
- To expand the Membership and funding base of the Company.
- To educate, involve and gain a financial contribution from non-Member stakeholders with vested interests in plant production, R&D and trade, in delivering better biosecurity outcomes for Australia and improvements to the national plant health system.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the income generated from Special (non-subscription funded) Programs as a proportion of total income. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special project income (government and industry) is forecast to rise to \$1.5 million in 2009/2010, or more than 50% higher than in 2008/2009.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of PHA Members. 	Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA Membership remained stable for the period to December 2009. Two Members, the Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA) and the Australian Passionfruit Industry Association (APIA) indicated their intention to resign Membership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In the case of the WFA the decision stemmed from a reassessment of peak body representation of the wine grape industry for biosecurity matters and will not impact on the coverage across the sector or proportion of total subscriptions met by the viticulture industries. ○ The APIA indicated that they could no longer afford their \$1,500 annual subscription.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members satisfied with PHA's recognition of, and responsiveness to, emerging opportunities and threats (measured every two years through PHA's Member and stakeholder survey). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Independent Review of Australia's Quarantine and Biosecurity Arrangements</i> (the Beale Review) has been the major emerging issue for PHA in the reporting period. PHA has been consulted extensively by the Australian Government in relation to the Review. Positive feedback received about PHA's contribution through submissions and involvement on NBC working groups supporting development of the draft Inter-Governmental Agreement on Biosecurity, National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement, and new national biosecurity legislation, including potential support/service roles to be played by PHA. PHA has responded proactively to a number of other important emerging issues, including APVMA reviews into important horticulture chemicals, interstate market access arrangements and input to programs for a number of nationally significant endemic pests. Research consultant commissioned and in-depth interviews conducted during December 2009, results to be reported to Members in March/April 2010.
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Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<p><i>Issues/Risks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHA will over or underestimate the scope of work involved in addressing Members' unforeseen support needs and emerging issues. Special project income declines and impacts on the Company's capacity to deliver and enhance core program delivery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A flexible approach to business and the breadth of capability and experience of staff enable short-term responses to emerging issues without needing to seek additional specific funding. Involvement in longer-term or more resource intensive activities that are not part of subscription-funded activities require separate funding by benefiting Members. PHA maintains the capacity needed to most efficiently and effectively delivery core and special projects. Where appropriate, staff are recruited on shorter term contracts to align with special project timelines. PHA works closely with Members to identify high priority projects and funding arrangements that will best deliver their biosecurity and response preparedness objectives and take account of available resources.
<p><i>Variations:</i> None identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

F. Company Management

As a Public Company, PHA is required to have a Board in place to oversee the affairs of the Company to provide strategic direction to management and to ensure good governance and performance management arrangements are in place and that these are operating. The 'Board Program' comprises costs associated with the Board's company duties, Board selection expenses, costs of Directors attending Member consultation meetings, and costs of operating the Board's Finance & Audit Committee and other ad hoc sub-committees.

'Company Management and Administration' encompasses activities that are devoted to managing and maintaining PHA's capabilities to meet the business objectives in the AOP which are not associated directly with the management of specific separately budgeted programs. Such activities include financial management and administration, audit fees, company performance reporting, human resource management, including the development of policies and procedures, staff development and training, information services and business development, as well as aspects of servicing and supporting the PHA Board. Other activities include consultancies on issues specific to corporate management, travel costs of staff representing PHA which are not attributable to specific programs, regulatory compliance, and legal and other professional advice on matters of corporate management.

PHA Manager responsible: Michael Milne

Indicative Performance Tracking

F. Company Management					Budget \$ 2009-2010
Estimated Annual Project Completion (%)	25	50	75	100	
F.1 Board Program					333,000
F.2 Company Management & Administration					402,000
Total					735,000



F.1 Board Program

Status: On Track

Need

The Board Program consists of expenses associated with the Board complying with its company duties (e.g. travel and accommodation, the Board selection process). It also includes the costs of operating the Finance & Audit Committee (F&AC) of the Board and the management and administration costs of arranging, supporting and attending both Board and F&AC meetings. The PHA Board is a skills-based Board comprised of nine Directors, eight of whom are selected by a formal selection process. The other Director is the Company Executive Director and CEO. The Board has one formal subcommittee, being the F&AC, although other sub-committees are established from time to time to undertake specific tasks.

Objectives

- Achieve continued Member support for the strategic and operational objectives of PHA.
- Maintain high standards of corporate governance and Member confidence in PHA's governance practices.
- Enhance relationships with Members and stakeholders through the activities of the Board.
- Effectively support Board decision making through timely, relevant and accurate advice from Management.
- Ensure financial affairs of PHA are structured, monitored and reported to the required legal standard and in accordance with accepted best practice.
- Monitor company risks and mitigation actions taken by Management.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of PHA meets Members' requirements (<i>as measured by the biannual PHA Member and Stakeholder Survey</i>). 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback from Members following operations progress report at the 9th Annual General Meeting. • PHA Member survey conducted with results due February 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal and Constitutional compliance requirements met. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All legal and Constitutional compliance requirements met, including those for ASIC and ATO.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board satisfaction with PHA secretariat support and follow up of Board Meetings, Finance and Audit Committee Meetings and other meetings attended by Directors. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Board meetings and F&A Committee meetings held according to schedule. • Joint Board meetings held with Animal Health Australia and the CRC for National Plant Biosecurity. • Positive feedback received from the Board on the quality of advice provided by Management, the logistical support provided for meetings and Management follow up on issues.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance of the PHA Board at over 80% of requested Member and stakeholder meetings. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairman attended numerous meetings of significance for Members (including a round-table held by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry). PHA Chairman chaired the EPPRD signatories meeting in October 2009. PHA Directors attended the 9th Annual General Meeting and were accountable to Members.
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Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Issues/Risks:</i> PHA may be unaware of performance concerns held by Members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational performance reports are provided formally twice each year to Members in conjunction with meetings. Additionally, PHA undertakes consultation with Members on operational performance and future priority matters in the lead up to preparing the Annual Operating Plan. Every two years PHA conducts a survey of Members and stakeholders that includes analysis of performance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Variations:</i> None identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.



F.2 Company Management & Administration

Status: On Track

Need

The Company is required to perform a range of functions including financial management, office and corporate administration, human resource development and management, and corporate policy and procedure activities that support the delivery of program objectives and governance responsibilities.

Objectives

- Ensure compliance with legal requirements by the Company and its personnel and to strive to attain best practice in budgeting, financial management and financial reporting.
- Ensure Company risks are regularly reviewed, identified and managed.
- Be regarded as an organisation committed to delivering quality, professional and prompt services to Members.
- Achieve Member support for annual subscriptions and ensure appropriate and accurate accounting for actual and forecast subscriptions.
- To have administrative resources, policies and procedures in place to provide the support required for the effective ongoing functioning of the Company.
- Provide a healthy, productive and rewarding workplace for PHA personnel.

Key Performance Indicators	Status	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All legal and Constitutional obligations met. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with all legal requirements. • Compliance with all governance requirements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company Risk Management Report reviewed monthly and a standing item for PHA Board and F&AC Meetings. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Risk Management Reports were reviewed at each Board and F&AC meeting held and requests made of Management for risk mitigation actions as appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company Human Resources Plan reviewed and updated annually and presented to the Board. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of the company Human Resources Plan progressed by staff committees. • PHA staff employment contracts reviewed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual financial statements externally audited and declared accurate and compliant. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An unqualified external Audit Report was received on 2008/09 financial statements and included in the 2008/09 Annual Report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHA's 2009/10 budget presented to Members and subscriptions agreed in May 2009. 	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2009/10 budget and subscriptions presented to Members in May 2009. • Preparation of budgets for 2010/11 commenced to be presented to Members with draft 2010/11 AOP.

Issues, Risks and Project Variations	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issues/Risks:</i> Members ability to pay subscriptions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation is occurring one to one with Members identified as at risk of not being able to meet subscription commitments.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Variations:</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

GLOSSARY

ABIN	Australian Biosecurity Intelligence Network
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AHA	Animal Health Australia
APPD	Australian Plant Pest Database
AOP	Annual Operational Plan
ASIC	Australian Securities and Investment Commission
AWC	Australian Weeds Committee
CCEPP	Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests
CRCNPB	Cooperative Research Centre for National Plant Biosecurity
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DQMAWG	Domestic Quarantine and Market Access Working Group
EPP	Emergency Plant Pest
EPPRD	Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed
F&A	Finance and Audit Committee (PHA internal committee)
GCA	Grains Council of Australia
HAL	Horticulture Australia Limited
IBP	Industry Biosecurity Plan
NBC	National Biosecurity Committee (formerly PIHC)
NFFS	National Fruit Fly Strategy
NMG	National Management Group
NPHS	National Plant Health Strategy
NPHSR	National Plant Health Status Report
NPSRT	National Plant Surveillance Reporting Tool
OCPPPO	Office of the Chief Plant Protection Officer
ORC	Owner Reimbursement Costs
PHA	Plant Health Australia
PHC	Plant Health Committee
PHER	Plant Health Expertise Register
PISC	Primary Industries Standing Committee
PIMC	Primary Industries Ministerial Council
PLANTPLAN	Technical response plan, agreed by government and industry, for emergency plant pest incursions affecting the Australian plant industries
SPHDS	Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostic Standards
VPAC	Victorian Partnership for Advanced Computing



Achieving national biosecurity outcomes
through partnerships

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