



Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access (SDQMA) Meeting 50 Communiqué

The Subcommittee on Domestic Quarantine and Market Access (SDQMA) met in Brisbane on the 16 – 17 May 2018. The key issues discussed are detailed below.

BIOSECURE HACCP

The SDQMA continue to support BioSecure HACCP as an industry driven market access assurance scheme. Successful implementation of the scheme requires a collaborative working partnership between the Nursery & Garden Industry Australia (NGIA) and the State and Territory governments. The SDQMA are considering a 'letter of intent' to formalise a collaborative approach, noting that any such collaboration will be subject to the overarching legislative and other requirements that apply in each jurisdiction.

ICA-04 REVIEW

The SDQMA noted Tasmania and Victoria are leading a review of the ICA-04 Protocol *Fumigating with Methyl Bromide*, in light of recent treatment failures. An expert reference group and consultant have been engaged to assist with the review. The SDQMA will assess the outcomes and recommendations from the review and implement conditions as required.

NATIONAL FRUIT FLY MANAGEMENT

The SDQMA noted the Australian Government, in conjunction with State and Territory governments, is leading a review of Australia's Fruit Fly management system. Following the review a national action plan will be produced which will incorporate the revised National Fruit Fly Protocols (formerly Code of Practice), Fruit Fly Assurance Framework and the review of ICA-04 by Tasmania and Victoria.

CITRUS CANKER MANAGEMENT

The SDQMA have convened twice this year via teleconference to assist with the response to the Citrus Canker outbreak, following detections of the disease in the Northern Territory and Western Australia. Discussions continued at the face-to-face meeting in May with a focus on facilitating the interstate movement of Citrus fruit from the affected jurisdictions. The SDQMA assisted with the development of an emergency protocol for the treatment and movement of Citrus fruit from properties located within Citrus Canker control areas. This Protocol is now in place across the NT and WA.

DOMESTIC TRADE REVIEW

The value and diversity of Australia's domestic trade in horticultural produce continues to increase with 60-70% of produce consumed domestically. Noting the importance of robust systems to facilitate this trade, all jurisdictions have agreed to fund a project to review domestic trade systems for plant and plant products. The SDQMA agreed the review should look at ways to further enhance our domestic systems and explore ways of harmonising domestic conditions with international trading requirements.



ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR CERTIFICATION

The SDQMA noted Biosecurity South Australia - Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) and New South Wales Department of Primary Industries (DPI) are developing systems to digitalise Plant Health Certificates (PHCs) and Plant Health Assurance Certificates (PHACs). The digitalisation of this certification will see streamlined processes, which enhance traceability and prevent fraudulent changes/duplications.

AUSTRALIAN INTERSTATE QUARANTINE WEBSITE

The Australian Interstate Quarantine website was viewed extensively over Christmas, with a large number of travellers seeking information via tablets and phones. The SDQMA emphasised the importance of having accurate information available to the public and agreed to provide relevant articles and zone maps (including full and partial freedom of pests) for publishing on the website.

NIAP COORDINATOR

The SDQMA appointed an individual from Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF) as the new National ICA Assurance Program (NIAP) coordinator. The coordinator is responsible for overseeing, coordinating and administering the NIAP, and ensuring each jurisdiction is audited under NIAP.

NEXT MEETING

SDQMA 51 is scheduled for 24-25 October 2018 in Western Australia.