

# PLANT BIOSECURITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

## Cross sectoral RD&E Strategy 2018–2023



CRDC



Forest & Wood  
Products Australia



Hort  
Innovation



ruralR&D  
CORPORATIONS

sra  
Sugar Research  
Australia

Wine  
Australia

# PLANT BIOSECURITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

## Who we are

A collaboration between the nation's plant Research and Development Corporations, Plant Health Australia and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

## Our purpose

To drive efficiency and impact in plant biosecurity RD&E across industries, through coordinated and targeted investment.

## Our vision

Recognised as the leading source of RD&E excellence in biosecurity across plant industry sectors with benefits to the environment.

## Our outcome statement

Australia has long term capability for high impact RD&E to safeguard and minimise the impact of plant biosecurity threats to our plant production industries.

## Strategic goals

1. Coordinate investment in plant biosecurity RD&E to support Australia's plant production system.
2. Promote and facilitate collaboration for better plant biosecurity outcomes.
3. Build and retain RD&E capability in plant biosecurity based on a strong culture of innovation and science.



## Six key drivers recognised in establishing the PBRI model

### Advances in technology

Increasing acceptance and availability of digital technology provides opportunities to upscale on-farm biosecurity.

### Increased international scrutiny

As trading partners strengthen their biosecurity requirements, Australia's market access negotiations will require stronger evidence to demonstrate pest freedom.

### Increasing risk at the border

Increased trade and passenger volumes across Australia will drive the need for RD&E to support and strengthen our national biosecurity and plant production systems.

### Economic environment

Greater efficiencies are needed in investing in biosecurity RD&E which can be achieved through collaboration across plant RDCs.

### Future workforce

To support a robust biosecurity system for plant industries into the future, there must be national support for the next generation of plant biosecurity experts.

### Improved coordination of plant biosecurity RD&E delivery

Better connectivity of researchers to end-users throughout the priority setting process and in the delivery of RD&E is required.

## Key focus areas

## Outcomes

Preparedness



Industry is better prepared for the arrival of a biosecurity threat

Diagnostics



Rapid, accurate and cost effective detection of high priority pests and diseases at the border and in-field

Surveillance



Cost effective and coordinated surveillance for biosecurity threats

Management



Management of pests and diseases with minimal impact to plant production, trade and the environment

Capability building



Developing capability in plant biosecurity to support our plant industries into the future

Industry resilience



Greater participation of industry in biosecurity decision making to reduce economic and social consequences

## Examples of cross sectoral plant biosecurity RD&E activities

- Understand the likelihood of entry and establishment
  - Develop tools for prevention and response
  - Improve understanding of the impact of pests
- Develop effective methods of detection
  - Develop nationally endorsed diagnostic protocols
  - Develop high-throughput diagnostic tools
- More efficient surveillance protocols
  - Improved on farm surveillance tools
  - Coordinated data capture to support market access and trade negotiations
- More cost effective responses to biosecurity threats
  - More targeted chemical use and residues that comply with market requirements
  - Biocontrol options and novel tools for targeted control
- Upskilling in plant biosecurity expertise across plant production sectors
  - Competitive industry supported PhD scholarships and industry internships in plant biosecurity research
  - Professional development including leadership and career development
- Building stronger industry and government partnerships for better decision making in preparation for incursions
  - Development of industry protocols to assist business continuity during incursions
  - Tools to engage the broader community

## Principles of the PBRI

### Leadership

The PBRI will provide leadership and coordination to ensure research is well targeted and innovative.

### Collaboration

Strategic collaboration will be established with national and international organisations to avoid duplication of research and to share biosecurity knowledge for the benefit of Australian agriculture and the environment.

### Governance

The PBRI will operate under best practice governance, including focusing on purpose, transparency of process and responsiveness.

### Fit-for-purpose, innovative and high quality science

The PBRI science programme will support innovative, relevant and valuable outputs in a timely and cost effective way.

### Impact and uptake

The PBRI will demonstrate value-for-money to investors and other stakeholders, and will create value for Australia's biosecurity and plant production systems.

### Capability

The PBRI will encourage its partners to attract, train and retain outstanding talent to ensure there is relevant expertise for the future.

### Financial effectiveness

PBRI members will provide investment in good faith in accordance with the PBRI Collaboration Agreement, to ensure a coherent, planned and well balanced research programme.

**For more information  
visit [pbri.com.au](http://pbri.com.au)**