



MVCB Weekly News

14 August, 2012

www.mvcitrus.org.au

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Valley
Citrus
Board**

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International Citrus Congress and Study Tour

The 12th International Citrus Congress will be held on 18-23 November in Valencia, Spain. Congress delegates will also have the opportunity to participate in pre and post congress technical tours to Murcia and Andalucia on 12-18 November and Valencia on 24-26 November.

Up to 15 delegates representing a cross section of the Australian citrus industry including growers, packers, exporters, researchers and other industry representatives will be provided with the opportunity to participate in this HAL Voluntary Contribution funded Study Tour.

The Congress occurs every four years and offers the industry a great opportunity to network with researchers and industry members on an international scale, gauge future outlooks and witness firsthand how the Spanish industry influences citrus on a global scale.

Citrus Australia is calling for expressions of interest from interested industry representatives who would like to participate in this tour. Successful applicants will be eligible for funding assistance for travel costs associated with attendance of the Congress and participation in the pre and/or post congress tours.

Applicants will need to complete an Expression of Interest form, available by ringing the Board's office on 03 5051 0500, and return it via email to admin@citrusaustralia.com.au or fax 03 5023 3877 no later than **COB Friday 17 August 2012**.

Please note that funding assistance is only available to one family, business or entity member.

For further information on the Congress including program, tour and registration details please visit www.citruscongress2012.org

Anyone who is interested in attending is urged to complete their Congress registration asap as tour places are limited and are filling fast.

Angas Travel has been engaged to co-ordinate and assist with travel arrangements and delegates are encouraged to contact them to assist with their travel requirements including the Congress registration if preferred. A draft itinerary including approximate costings has been prepared by Angas Travel and is attached for information. Contact Kate Collins on (08) 8228 3684 or katec@angastravel.com.au

QFly Fight Continues

Several months ago the MVCB was alerted to the presence of significant QFly numbers in Balranald. Hugh Flett CEO and Mary Cannard IDO met with the Balranald Council during one of the council meetings to explain some of the options available to eradicate the pest.

The Council is very keen to be seen as a good neighbour to the Sunraysia region and is prepared to undertake measures to assist in eradicating the QFly problem in the surrounding area. The MVCB has had discussions with the Victorian DPI about whether they would be able to assist Balranald in some form to protect the significant investment that DPI and industry have made in Sunraysia towards eradicating the QFly outbreaks here. MVCB will keep growers posted about future activities.

Only one Qfly was detected within the Sunraysia PFA last week. One male Qfly was trapped at Kerang.

Diary Dates:

**21 August
3:00pm –
Mildura Qfly
Meeting
– MVCB
Boardroom, 58
Pine Av, Mildura.**

**22 August
10:30am –
Boundary Bend
Qfly Meeting
– Boundary Bend
Hall, Murray Valley
H'way, Boundary
Bend.**



MVCB Supports National Orange Week

The MVCB has supported Citrus Australia in their National Orange Week campaign by supplying citrus peelers to be handed out with the oranges.

Last year, IDO, Mary Cannard was able to attend the Melbourne event by helping to hand out oranges at Flinders Street Station, but was unavailable to do so this year due to a prior commitment.

The citrus peelers are very popular at promotional events run by the Board. The citrus peelers were included in sample bags handed out by Citrus Australia at recent National Orange week events.

Reminder Mildura and Boundary Bend Qfly Meetings

All growers are urged to attend one of two Qfly Information Sessions being held in Mildura and Boundary Bend. It is essential that growers within 1.5km of Qfly outbreak epicentre attend to **collect their allocation of chemical** and advise them of the best application method and timing. However, all growers are welcome to attend to learn about Qfly lifecycle and bait spraying techniques.

Growers within 1.5km of an epicentre would have received a written invitation to attend the meetings.

The first meeting will be held at the MVCB office, 58 Pine Ave, Mildura on **Tuesday 21st August at 3:00pm** for growers in the Gol Gol, Buronga, Dareton and Cabarita North outbreaks.

The second meeting will be held at the Boundary Bend Hall, Murray Valley Highway, Boundary Bend, on Wednesday **22nd August at 10:30am** for growers in the Boundary Bend, Kenley, Goodnight, Narrung, Beverford, Boundary Bend Township and Boundary Bend West outbreaks.

Victorian and NSW DPI staff will be in attendance on the day to answer all questions on application, equipment, compliance and Qfly Interstate Certification Agreements. It is imperative that all growers, especially those affected by these outbreaks attend the meetings. The onset of warmer weather means that Qfly will be active again shortly and a concerted effort by all affected growers to apply Naturalure as soon as possible is needed to ensure these outbreaks are eradicated as soon as possible.