



MVCB Support

The MVCB would like to correct a statement made recently in the press. The article mentioned that ‘the Board only received 20 votes at the 2011 consultative meeting. The results from this vote were published in the Public Notices section of all newspapers within the Board’s region, including the Sunraysia Daily, as is required under the provisions of the Agricultural Industry Development Act (1990) of Victoria.

In fact the Board received over 80 votes of which 79 were valid. The majority of votes cast were strongly in favour of all the resolutions and programs proposed by the Board; with 82.2% being the lowest percentage of support for any one of the 13 programs that growers voted on. A copy of the 2011 voting results for each proposed programs and/or resolutions is available at the Board’s office.

Vital Ag Data at a Cost

Several Industries have complained they can no longer afford industry information or cannot or cannot afford to buy it every year.

Apple and Pear Australia (APAL) has confirmed it was asked to pay the ABS \$300,000 for figures including a breakdown of production by variety. It has been paying about \$50,000 until about 2008, when the ABS began to move to a ‘full cost recovery’ mode. APAL managing director John Durham said the data his industry could no longer afford was ‘critical really, strategically very important. No doubt we’ve been handicapped. A significant tool has been lost to us because of its (lack of) affordability,’ Mr Durham said.

It’s good for industry to understand what production is, where and what the trends are, so growers can make decisions about what they put in the ground.’

The wine industry has been asked to fork out \$600,000 for statistics. Murray Valley ‘Winegrowers chief Mark McKenzie said the industry would now collect data only every second year. ‘It was going to cost too much.’ Mr McKenzie said. ‘It makes it difficult to give good market information to growers. ‘Eventually I think the industry will have to invest in our own resources to drive in the survey.’ The Weekly Times understands peak vegetable body AusVeg has also stopped buying detailed ABS information.
Source: Weekly Times May16, 2012

Citrus growers in the Murray Valley have production and plantings information for this region at their fingertips as it is collected by your State Statutory Board at approximately one tenth of the cost quoted above. These statistics are published in the Board’s crop forecast booklet and Annual report and are freely available to all growers in aggregate form.

New Citrus Varieties at Mildura Field Days

MVCB will again have a presence at the upcoming Mildura Field Days on 29 and 30 May. Growers are encouraged to come and taste the new citrus varieties on display and discuss industry issues with the CEO, Hugh Flett and/or Industry Development Officer, Mary Cannard.

New varieties on display will be Sidi Aissa clementine, Etna mandarin, Bintangcheng and Jincheng processing oranges. Old favourites such as Cara Cara navel, Atwood navel (overseas selections), Hockney navel, Ryan navel (Australian selections), Daisy, Nova and Afourer mandarin will also be on display.

Qfly Detections for Week Ending 18 May

Area	#Qfly	Action
Kerang	1	Supplementary traps remain deployed
Cabarita Nth	1	Extends Outbreak
Murrabit	1	Extends Outbreak
Murrabit East	1	Supplementary traps remain deployed
Speewa	Larvae	Extends Outbreak
Piangil	1	No Action
Boundary Bend	1	Extends Outbreak
Vinifera	3	Extends Outbreak
Beverford	2	Extends Outbreak
Boundary Bend W	2	Extends Outbreak
Goodnight Nth	6	Extends Outbreak

Cittgroup Reminder

MVCB has engaged Steve Lorimer, Knowledge Broker from the Victorian DPI’s Horticultural Industry Network, to run a session for growers to learn about the new technology and its use in horticulture.

This session will be held at the MVCB Boardroom on Wednesday, 6th June, 2012 starting at 3:00pm. Steve will be presenting information in an easy to understand format that does not require any pre-knowledge of smart phones and other tablet devices.

To register for this Cittgroup please ring the Board’s office on (03) 5051 0504.

On-Farm Field Trials Farm Walk

MVCB in conjunction with NSW DPI will be holding a BBQ breakfast and farm walk to examine the on-farm field trials in the Iraak district on 31st May. More details will be provided in the next newsletter.

31 May – On Farm Field Trials Farm Walk, Iraak district, 8:00am start

6 June – Smart Phone Use in Horticulture, 3:00pm, MVCB Boardroom, 58 Pine Av, Mildura