

PBRI 2024 Symposium Program

Biosecurity RD&E collaboration and celebration of the International Day of Plant Health

8 - 9 May 2024

Cairns Convention Centre

8 May – Plenary Room, Cairns Convention Centre

Time	Session and Topic	Presenter
8:30 am	Registration and check-in	
9:00	Welcome	Dr Jo Luck, Program Director, PBRI
	Welcome to Country	Maria Minjil
	Opening Address	Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), Minister for Emergency Management
	The Symposium	Dr Jo Luck, Program Director PBRI
9:30	KEYNOTE 1 Varroa - honey bee industry recovery Keynote Speaker: Danny le Feuvre, CEO Australian Honeybee Industry Council and Director, AgriFutures.	Chair: Dr Gabrielle Vivian-Smith, Australia's Chief Plant Protection Officer, DAFF. Sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
SESSION 1: Early Warning and Risk Chair: Jodie Mason, Forest, and Wood Products Australia Time-keeper: Salome Wilson, ANU		
10:00	Indigenous Ranger Biosecurity Program	Renaë Todd, Director Indigenous Rangers & Business Management Section and Ranger TBC, DAFF
10:15	Biosecurity Commons – Online, Open-Access & Sharable Biosecurity Risk Analytics at your fingertips	Dr James Camac, Chief Investigator - Biosecurity, Ecology and Climate Change Impacts CEBRA
10:25	Biosecurity Preparedness and Response Program	Dr Jo Lee, Assistant Director Preparedness and Response, DAFF
10:35	Q&A	
10:45	International Day of Plant Health Morning tea – Sponsored by Plant Health Australia	
11:15	From collaboration to readiness: Australia's preparedness for Xylella spp	Dr Toni Chapman, Senior Research Scientist, Plant Biosecurity Research and Diagnostics, DPI NSW
11:25	Developing risk-based approaches to support domestic and international trade	Jane Muller, Stakeholder Engagement – Agricultural Exports, Market Access & Digital Agriculture, CSIRO
11:35	Pre-emptive variety development for sugarcane	Jason Eglington, General Manager, Variety Development, SRA
11:45	Catalysing Australia's Biosecurity – The CAB initiative	Dr Andy Sheppard, Chief Research Scientist CSIRO, Co-Executive Director

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		DAFF-CSIRO Catalysing Australia's Biosecurity Initiative CSIRO and Richard Keane, Principal Director Biosecurity Innovation, Research and Education Branch, DAFF
11:55	Q&A	

SESSION 2: Diagnostics and Surveillance

Chair: Callum Fletcher, GRDC

Time - keeper: Fable Eenjes, DAFF

12:05	National Grains Diagnostic and Surveillance Initiative (NGDSI)	Dr Will Cuddy, Manager, Plant Biosecurity Research and Diagnostics, DPI NSW
12:15	Post Entry Quarantine screening - practice change	Dr Candace Elliott, Acting Assistant Director, Plant Pathology and Botany Section, DAFF
12:25	Boosting Diagnostics, standards, and data sharing	Dr Brendan Rodoni, Research Director - Microbial Sciences, Pests & Diseases, Agriculture Research Victoria
12:35	Q&A	
12:45	<i>Lunch</i>	
1:45	Novel dual use sensors – in-field applications	Dr Nick Fitzgerald, Science, Technology & Innovation Lead - OCE STaR Shot Defence Science & Technology Group.
1:55	Boosting diagnostics - Sugarcane	Hank Xu, PhD Student, University of Southern Queensland

SESSION 3: Diagnostics and Surveillance

Chair: Susan Maas CRDC

Time – keeper: Bianca Rodrigues-Jardim, PHA

2:05	Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy – plant biosecurity initiatives	Dr Bernie Witwer, Acting Director – NABS/Animal Surveillance - Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy DAFF
2:15	Q&A	
2:25	iMapPESTS 1.0 and next phase regional surveillance concept	Shakira Johnson, Biosecurity Coordinator for Farm Biosecurity, AUSVEG
2:35	50 years of the APLC: locust surveillance, control and research	Heath McRae, Deputy Director, Australian Plague Locust Commission DAFF
2:45	The Forest Watch program	Rohan Burgess, Surveillance Manger, Plant Health Australia
2:55	Multi-pest surveillance and grower education	Dr Rosie Godwin, R&D Manager, Australian Banana Growers' Council
3:05	Q&A	
3:15 – 3:40	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	

SESSION 4: Capability Building

Chair: Dr Stephen Mudge, Sugar Research Australia

Time - keeper:



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3:40	Behavioural Economics & Biosecurity: Nudgeathon 2024	Dr Stephen Whyte, Senior Research Fellow, School of Economics & Finance Faculty of Business & Law and Deputy Director, Centre for Behavioural Economics, Society and Technology (BEST).
3:50	The Northern Australian People Capacity and Response Network	Dr Anne Walters, Director of the Northern Australian People Capacity and Response Network (NAPCaRN) Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade.
4:00	ARC Plant Biosecurity Training Centre	Prof. Peter Solomon, Director, ARC Training Centre in Plant Biosecurity, ANU.
4: 10	Q&A	
4:15	Tackling myrtle rust outbreaks and uncovering rust fungi biology using dsRNA	Rebecca Degnan, Ritman Scholar, PhD Student, University of Queensland.
4:25	Identification of thrips (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) from sticky traps using short-read metabarcoding	Eyal Zeira PhD Student La Trobe University.
4:30 - 4:45	The Plant Health TV Contest – ‘People’s choice’ voting	Dr Baldissera Giovani, Program Coordinator, Euphresco and Euphresco III & Jo Luck, Program Director, PBRI.
5:30	Drinks and Poster session sponsored by Euphresco	
6:30 pm	Symposium Dinner Dinner address – A history of Myrtle Rust impact in Australia Dr Angus Carnegie Senior Principal Research Scientist, Forest Science NSW DPI - Sponsored by CSIRO Chair Jo Luck	

2024 PBRI Symposium

9 May – Plenary Room, Cairns Convention Centre

8:30 am Tea and Coffee		
9:00 KEYNOTE	Biosecurity investments for Australian horticulture industry Brett Fifield CEO, Hort Innovation.	Chair Gabrielle Vivian-Smith, Australia’s Chief Plant Protection Officer, DAFF. Sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) <<LOGO>>
SESSION 5 Industry perspective on Biosecurity		Chair: Dr Mila Bristow Time - keeper: Dr Stephen Mudge
9:30 Industry panel session	Industry panel session – biosecurity - pest challenges and opportunities, an industry perspective	Johnathon Davey, CEO Melons Australia Greg Shannon, Cane Productivity and Development Manager, Tully Sugar Limited. Belinda Chase, Northern Australia Ag Consultant Angus Carnegie, Forest Science. DPI NSW Forestry
10:10-10:40 Morning Tea		
10:40 SESSION 6: Trans -Tasman Biosecurity Research Chair: Dr Desi Ramoo, Co-Director, B3 New Zealand Time – keeper:		
10:50	B3 Māori Strategy	Alby Marsh, Co-Director B3 New Zealand
11:00	Putative <i>Austropuccinia psidii</i> pathogenicity targets for control of myrtle rust	Dr Grant Smith, Plant and Food Research New Zealand
11:10	Assessing the risk of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> : Movement of spittlebugs between productive and natural areas in New Zealand	Dr Jessica Vereijssen, Science Team Leader Insect Dynamics, Ecology and Sustainability B3 Theme Leader Surveillance and Response Plant and Food Research New Zealand
11:20	B3 – Better, Border, Biosecurity Aotearoa New Zealand– Integrating Indigenous Perspectives in Biosecurity Initiatives	Waipaina Awarau-Morris, AgResearch, New Zealand
11:30	Pre-emptive biological control: a new tool to maximise preparedness against high-risk biosecurity threats.	Dr Gonzalo Avila, Senior Scientist, Team Leader – Biological Control & Insect rearing Plant and Food Research, New Zealand
11:40	Q&A SLIDO or Roving mic	

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SESSION 7: Resilience Crop Protection Systems

Chair: Ellen Buckle, AgriFutures

Time - keeper:

11:45	Regional pheromone analysis for FAW control.	Vivian Mendez, Research Group Leader Insect Behaviour and Reproduction, Macquarie University
11:55	RNAi based strategies for addressing biosecurity risks	Prof. Neena Mitter, Director, Centre for Horticultural Science, Director, ARC Research Hub for Sustainable Crop Protection, QAAFI
12:05	Endemic insect pathogens as biopesticides for Fall armyworm	Donna Chambers, Entomologist, DAF
12:15	Grains pests' biocontrol	Dr Paul Umina, Entomologist and ecologist, University of Melbourne and cesar
12:25	Giant Pine Scale biocontrol	Dr Umar Lubanga, Entomologist, Agriculture Research Victoria
12:35	Q&A SLIDO or Roving mic	
12:45	Lunch	

SESSION 8: Readiness and Recovery

Chair: Dr Greg Chandler, Hort Innovation

Time – keeper:

1:45	Secretary's address	Adam Fennessy, PSM Secretary Department of Department Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
2:00	Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer Response in Western Australia: A Case Study in Communications, Community Engagement and Social License.	Dr Vincent Lanoiselet, Chief Plant protection Officer, DPIRD WA
2;10	Biosecurity risks for the wine industry	Suzanne McLoughlin, Acting CEO, Vine Health Australia
2:20	Managing impacts - early learnings for biosecurity from the response to <i>Varroa destructor</i> in Australia	Dr Chris Anderson, Deputy Chief Plant Protection Officer, NSW DPI
2:30	Fire ant eradication program	Ashley Bacon, Executive Program Director for The National Fire Ant Eradication Program TBC
2:40	Vegetable industry preparedness response and recovery	Rosalie Daniel, Program Manager, AUSVEG
2:50	Forest Biosecurity Southeast Asia	Dr Russell Warman, Research Fellow in Social Science, TIA - Research Institute UTAS
3:00	Q&A SLIDO or Roving mic	
3:05	Announcement of the global Plant Health TV Contest winner and the People's Choice Award.	Baldissera Giovani, Euphresco and Jo Luck, PBRI
3:10	The 2024 Ritman Scholarship Awards	Current Ritman Scholars: Dr Bianca Rodrigues-Jardim, PHA Rebecca Degnan, UQ



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		Salome Wilson, ANU Fable Eenjes, DAFF
3:25	Symposium wrap-up	Jo Luck, PBRI
3:30 Close		

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Seven RDCs (logos below)

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