

FASTA Industry Advisory Committee Meeting held January 24, 2024

On January the 24th, the FASTA Industry Advisory Committee met for its second meeting, and to ensure there is clear and consistent understanding for the Horticulture industry present this Communique as an update. The outcomes are as follows.

The Committee heard from the FASTA Program Director and Deputy Director on the status of the program to date and reviewed the initial proposed two-year work program.

The Committee sought further:

- insight and strategic reform of the reporting mechanisms, and
- insight as to the methods of broader industry involvement in the FASTA program, and
- was delighted to hear that plans are being made for an industry prioritisation meeting, which is likely to be held mid-2024 – stay tuned!

It was also noted that the ongoing provision of advice and feedback from the Committee will be used to inform the design and development of FASTA work plans which will guide the program of work over the life of the program. So, we have provided a list of Committee Members below for your information.

The Committee appointed Johnathon Davey, Executive Officer of Melons Australia and NFF Hort Council representative, as Chair of the Industry Advisory Committee. The Chair will guide the meetings and will represent the Australian horticultural sector on the FASTA Governance Committee. Joseph Ekman of Fresh Produce Group was appointed Deputy Chair. The Committee is excited to get to work under their leadership.

The Committee also sends congratulations to Joe Saina, who was announced as the Chair of the FASTA Governance Committee.

The FASTA Industry Advisory Committee membership consists of Johnathon Davey and Trevor Ranford (nominated by National Farmers Federation), Joseph Ekman and Matt Sexton (nominated by Australian Horticulture Trade) and Jenny Van de Meeberg and Greg Murdoch (nominated by Australian Fresh Produce Alliance).