

MEDIA RELEASE
23 November 2015

Fruit fly experts join Hort Innovation roadshow

A group of international and Australian fruit fly specialists, researchers and agronomists will embark on a roadshow to meet with Australian horticulture growers during November and December.

The roadshow, funded, organised and facilitated by Horticulture Innovation Australia (Hort Innovation), aims to assist growers with the management of fruit flies in today's environment, and build confidence amongst growers in combating fruit flies without the use of cover-sprays (organophosphates).

Special guest from the United States Department of Agriculture in Hawaii, Dr Roger Vargus, will present relevant overseas research in fruit fly and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) at some of the meetings. Dr Vargus has 33 years' experience in insect ecology, biological control, and IPM. He successfully coordinated the Hawaii Fruit Fly Area-Wide Management (AWM) program that received seven major awards for IPM excellence.

Dr Olivia Reynolds, Senior Research Scientist from the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and Adjunct Senior Lecturer at Charles Sturt University is an expert in AWM and Sterile Insect Technology (SIT), and will present at some of the roadshow locations.

Dan Papacek, Entomologist from Bugs for Bugs, will present on AWM of Qfly and IPM at some of the roadshow locations. Dan has 35 years' experience working with growers to manage fruit fly in sub-tropical Queensland and is Chairman of the Central Burnett AWM Committee (Fruit Fly Force).

Other presentations will also include the current Hort Innovation program for fruit fly, the SIT plus program, and the AWM program in the eastern states of Australia and Western Australia.

Hort Innovation CEO, Mr John Lloyd said a key focus of each event will be answering growers' questions and provide an update on the positive work that is being done to control fruit fly.

"The roadshow will provide an opportunity for fruit fly researchers to gain insight into the perspectives and needs of growers and hear growers' feedback on fruit fly management," Mr Lloyd said.

"Growers are our 'on-the-ground subject matter experts' and getting their feedback will help shape the direction of fruit fly research in the future."

For more information, visit www.horticulture.com.au/events or to RSVP, contact Dan Ryan on 02 8295 2385 or events@horticulture.com.au.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

Amy Braddon, Communications Manager

Tel. +61 2 8295 2333 | amy.braddon@horticulture.com.au

Roadshow schedule over page

Location	Venue	Date	Duration	Guest presenter/s
Perth Hills WA	Zig Zag Cultural Centre 50 Railway Road Kalamunda WA 6076	30/11/2015	11.00 am – 1.00 pm	Dr Roger Vargus
Bunbury WA	Quality Hotel Lord Forrest 20 Symmons Street Bunbury WA 6230	30/11/2015	4.30 pm – 6.30 pm	Dr Roger Vargus
Waikerie SA	Waikerie Hotel 2 McCoy Street Waikerie SA 5330	1/12/2015	5.30 pm – 7.30 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds
Mildura Vic	DPI Centre Mildura Corner Eleventh Street and Koorlong Avenue Irymple VIC 3498	2/12/2015	5.30 pm – 7.30 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds
Swan Hill Vic	IBIS Styles Swan Hill Resort 405–415 Campbell Street Swan Hill VIC 3585	3/12/2015	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds
Tatura Vic	DEDJTR Tatura 255 Ferguson Road Tatura VIC 3616	4/12/2015	11.00 am – 1.00 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds
Griffith NSW	Griffith Ex-Servicemen's Club Jondaryan Avenue Griffith NSW 2680	7/12/2015	12.00 pm – 2.00 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds
Young NSW	PCYC Young 45 Lachlan Street Young NSW 2594	8/12/2015	4.30 pm – 6.30 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds
Bundaberg Qld	Rowers on the River 2 Toonburra Street Bundaberg QLD 4670	9/12/2015	1.30 pm – 3.30 pm	Dr Roger Vargus Dr Olivia Reynolds Dan Papacek
Coffs Harbour NSW	Southern Cross University Horticultural Section P Block, Hogbin Drive Coffs Harbour NSW 2450	14/12/2015	11.00 am – 1.00 pm	Dr Olivia Reynolds Dan Papacek
Bowen Qld	PCYC Bowen Corner Queens Road and Hay Street Bowen QLD 4805	15/12/2015	5.30pm – 7.30pm	Dan Papacek
Mareeba Qld	Mareeba Leagues Club Doyle Street Mareeba QLD 4880	16/12/2015	6.00 pm – 8.00 pm	Dan Papacek