



Wide Bay 19 April 2024

Total attendees: 32 (17 growers, 15 non-growers)

9 businesses representing 81% of total Wide Bay production

Welcome – DAF

- Thanks to Steemsons for hosting at short notice
- Guest Introductions
 - George Russell – HIA Industry Service and Delivery Manager
 - Gary Hopewell – DAF Business Manager
 - Michelle Haase & John Targett - Growcom
 - Theunis Smit, Gerco Van Zyl, Tim Odea – Multikraft
 - James Tattersall, Rory Keating – Golden Circle
 - Andrew Jakins – E.E Muir & Sons
 - Thanks for providing catering

AP update - Scott Maxwell

- Scott nominated as AP Vice Chair
 - Explain what this means for decision making process/endorsement of AP business
- Summer natural flowering event
 - Not really an issue for WB region (this was feedback from Atkinsons & Hawkens)
 - Will mention for wider industry notice/gather additional feedback
- Dimethoate update
 - PER94586
 - Original minor use permit is undergoing environmental assessment.
 - New application rate – reduced to 75mL of 400g/L dimethoate product per 100L water
 - Expiry 31st October 2024
- Strategic agrichemical review process (SARP)
 - Reinforce importance of grower input (lead into George Russell HIA update)

Project update – Sam Wakefield

- Present update on WB irrigation trials
 - Trial treatments, data collection, host, ag tech, benefits



Tech topics – Gary Hopewell, Renata Grunennvaldt, Sam Wakefield

- Breeding program – Renata Grunennvaldt on behalf of Garth Sanewski
 - Overview & update
- Commercialisation process overview – Gary Hopewell
 - Explanation of Favco commercialisation agreements
 - How new varieties in the pipeline will be rolled out
 - Tender process
- Import risk analysis – Sam Wakefield
 - History
 - Imports currently permitted from - Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand
 - Import Risk Analysis – Malaysia (develop import conditions stage)
 - Import Risk Analysis – India and Indonesia
 - Draft Report – for public consultation in second half of 2024
 - History & risk assessment process
 - Distribute import pathway and risk analysis process fact sheets and schematics.
 - Provide QR code to sign up to DAFF email updates on imports

PI17001 Agrisilica® pilot study – John Steemson

- Ratoon crop performance
 - Host - Littabella Pines
 - Established May 2021
 - Broadcast application, rotary hoe incorporation, beds formed
 - 0, 400, 800, 1200kg/ha rates
 - Nematode populations lower at 10 & 18 months post plant
 - Increased ratoon yield
 - Supply issues since August 2023 due to Charters Towers mine flooded

Field walk – John Steemson, Andrew Jakins

HIA update – George Russell

- SIAP topics - SARP, marketing

Growcom update – Michelle Haase, John Targett

- Hort360 BMP GBR – Michelle Haase
 - Benchmarking, certification, participation and engagement, commodities involved, total hectares benchmarked and reef certified
- Farm Business Resilience – John Targett
 - Explanation of project and support available

E.E. Muir & Sons fertiliser supply chain – Andrew Jakins



- Summary of national and international fertiliser logistics
- Potential impacts on pineapple growers

Future study group planning – Sam Wakefield

- Scott Maxwell's home farm at Tinana – 18th October 2024
- Call for tech topics
- Call for 2025 study group hosts
- Study group reflection
 - Practice change?
 - M&E

WB PFD 2026 – Sam Wakefield

- Raise awareness of opportunity for non-project grower trials for feature at 2026 PFD
- Advise collaborators to notify DAF so we are aware of what technical content will be available for feature

