

Pomewest develops biosecurity strategic plan



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The purpose of Biosecurity Strategic Plan is to set the industry aligned priorities and strategies required to protect the West Australian pome fruit industry from the impact of invasive plant pests and disease and to maintain and improve market access.

Freedom from major pests as well as lower pest levels overall, combined with integrated production systems provides quality and some cost advantages to the WA industry over other Australian and international production areas.

Biosecurity planning provides a mechanism for the apple and pear industry, government and other relevant stakeholders to assess current biosecurity practices and future biosecurity needs. Planning identifies procedures that can be put in place to reduce the chance of pests reaching our borders or minimise the impact if a pest incursion occurs.

Pomewest's biosecurity initiative on behalf of the industry has two components. The Biosecurity Strategic Plan and the WA Pome Fruit Growers' Biosecurity Fund Rules.

The Plan will be the basis for more effective surveillance; improved control and management of regionally significant endemic pests and disease; and increasing awareness, preparedness and ability to protect pests or disease entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in key production areas within

the state. The Plan will guide Pomewest in ensuring adoption of a proactive approach in all the identified areas.

The Plan has been developed to work in conjunction with the APC Pome biosecurity Fee for Service (FFS) charge which commenced in 2015. The WA Pome Fruit Grower's Biosecurity Fund document defines the rules of expenditure for the biosecurity FFS and aligns with the Plan's four strategic investment areas.

- 1 Protect industry against exotic plant pests and disease (Exotic)
- 2 Address threats from established pests in Australia but not present in WA (Endemic)
- 3 Support industry management and control of established pests of trade concern (WA)
- 4 Strengthen orchard and property biosecurity.

The pest and disease lists were identified during the development of the *Biosecurity Plan for the Apple and Pear Industry* in consultation with industry, government and scientists. The exotic pest and diseases have been assessed as high priority based on their potential to enter, establish and spread in Australia due to environmental

factors, host range and vectors as well as the cost to industry of control measures.

There are a number plant pests and disease which are endemic to Australia and are absent in WA at present.

The pests and diseases listed in the Biosecurity Strategic Plan summary table have the potential to cause serious crop losses to the pome industry in WA. By using early detection and reporting systems we can protect our pome industry.

Found a pest or disease?

If you find any suspicious pests or diseases, or something you are unsure about, report it immediately to the Pest and Disease Information Service either by phone or through the MyPestGuide Reporter app on your phone. This is a free service and you will receive a timely response with identification information and management options. 🍏

There are a number plant pests and disease which are endemic to Australia and absent in WA.

MORE INFORMATION ►

Contact Susie Murphy White, Project Manager — Pomewest, on 0429 413 420 or susan.murphy-white@dpird.wa.gov.au.

Pest and Disease Information Service:
(08) 9368 3080



WA Pome Fruit Growers' Biosecurity Strategic Plan 2022–2025

VISION		MISSION	
To protect, prepare and respond to invasive pests and disease that threaten trade, profitability, sustainability and the environment of the Western Australian pome fruit industry.		Working in partnership with stakeholders to provide industry leadership, strategic direction and innovative solutions to support a profitable and sustainable Western Australian pome fruit industry.	
OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES			
1. Protect industry against exotic plant pests and disease	2. Address threats from established pests in Australia but not present in WA	3. Support industry management and control of established pests of trade concern	4. Strengthen property and orchard biosecurity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively engage with APAL as the peak national body for the apple and pear industry in Australia Actively engage with DPIRD as the peak state government body for agriculture in WA Actively engage with Plant Health Australia as the national Biosecurity body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness of biosecurity threats Preparedness to implement resources needed Response to the incident Recovery after the incident Surveillance to prevent the spread 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted surveillance and monitoring by growers Management of pests and diseases of quarantine concern by growers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of biosecurity threats Use pest-free propagation material Keep it clean Check the orchard and monitor trees frequently Report anything unusual
PESTS AND DISEASE THREATS			
Exotic	Endemic (Aus)	Established (WA)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oriental fruit fly Spotted wing drosophila Apple maggot Rosy apple aphid Brown marmorated stink bug Polyphagous shot-hole borer Asian gypsy moth Varroa mite Fire blight Brown rot Asiatic brown rot European canker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland fruit fly Citrophilus mealybug Chaff scale White peach scale Oystershell scale Black vine beetle Codling moth Oriental fruit moth Painted apple moth Pear leaf blister mite Bull's eye rot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mediterranean fruit fly Woolly apple aphid Apple dimpling bug Eucalyptus weevil Fuller's rose weevil Light brown apple moth Apple looper European earwig Two spotted mite European red mite Powdery mildew Apple scab 	
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> If an exotic pest incursion occurs, WA pome industry has been consulted and actively participated in response and/or mitigation. WA pome growers understand, are informed, aware and prepared to prevent and respond to the spread of pest and diseases that are not present in WA but are established in other states (endemic). WA Pome Industry is aware and prepared to control and manage pests of quarantine concern. WA pome growers are informed about and actively using, industry best standard biosecurity practices on their orchards. 			