

# PAPAYA PRESS

ISSUE 10 – NOVEMBER 2022

## Finding success in organic papaya production

### Grower case study: Ben Abbott, Innisfail

Innisfail based brothers, Matt and Ben Abbott, have diversified their banana business into papaya production to help enhance the sustainability and profitability of their organic farming enterprise.

Already renowned organic banana farmers in the Innisfail area, the Abbotts were heavily impacted by Cyclone Niran which wiped out a large portion of their banana crop in 2021. This led them to explore alternative options to mitigate risk.



Innisfail grower, Ben Abbott

Though papaya is a challenging crop to grow, Ben said he was looking for some fallow options that would potentially reduce the nematode numbers for his next banana crop.

“We weren’t sure whether we would be harvesting it, but so far, the papaya crop has been pretty good,” Ben said.

Growing papayas organically has similar challenges to conventional production, but Ben said the solutions have become far more creative and effective.

“Since we started papaya production, we’ve been able to keep the leaf disease at bay. We have a couple of foliar organic products which have been effective to date,” Ben said.

“Though we’ve been using some sulphur, mites have been a problem, and we had a pretty bad flare up about a month ago.

“Fertilising, however, has been okay. We have access to an organic liquid nitrogen, and plant our blocks at about a third of the density of conventional papaya. This has allowed crops to grow quite vigorously, so much so that I’ve had to cut back on the fertiliser. We’ve also been using some meat meal for phosphorus, but have now cut that back as well.”

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Marketing was one of the major barriers for the Abbotts in the beginning, with organic papaya being a relatively unfamiliar product in the major central markets.

“The markets were really slow to begin with, but they are starting to pick up a bit now,” Ben said.

“Over the last few weeks our production dropped, and our agents have been really pushing us for more produce.”

Ben said that there has been a lot of learning along the way, with post-harvest treatment being one aspect that has taken some working out for papayas.

“Running an organic enterprise, our only option is a hot-water dip. We’ve been in the market for a second-hand hot-water unit, but they’re relatively hard to find,” Ben said.

“We’ve had to get creative and find an alternative solution which currently seems to be working, but we are looking to improve. It’s definitely a learning journey.

“While there have been moments where I’ve questioned whether papaya was a suitable crop for our business, I’m happy with how our systems are working and I’m looking to plant more into the future.”



This edition has been developed by Cox Inall and the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries (Queensland).

This magazine is funded by Hort Innovation using the papaya R&D levy and contributions from the Australian Government.

Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.

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**Hort  
Innovation**  
Strategic levy investment

**PAPAYA  
FUND**

## See your levy at work!

Get an update on all new, current and recently completed levy funded activity on the Hort Innovation Papaya Fund page at [www.horticulture.com.au/papaya](http://www.horticulture.com.au/papaya).

You can access easy-to-read project updates, a snapshot of the Papaya Fund, research reports and resources, key industry contacts and more. Don't miss the Hort Innovation 'Growers' section to keep informed on your levy investments, upcoming events, scholarship opportunities and other handy info!

Stay in the loop with your levy by becoming a member of Hort Innovation, the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture. Paying a levy doesn't automatically make you a member but signing up is free at [www.horticulture.com.au/membership](http://www.horticulture.com.au/membership).

# From the Chair

GERARD KATH

**W**elcome all, to this edition of the Papaya Press.



Spring is well and truly here, and Christmas is just around the corner.

The year as always, is going far too fast.

Most growers will be very busy harvesting and setting up new blocks. The hot weather and early storms have created conditions for extreme plant growth and fruit ripening. As we all know, a lot can happen in a week at a papaya plantation, and the pest pressure, namely fruit spotting bugs and spider mites, are currently at their menacing best!

There is always constant change and challenges that growers must contend with. The latest is the increasing cost of production. Energy, in particular fuel, and labour are having an impact across the supply chain from freight, fertiliser, and chemicals to packaging and compliance. These are just some of the cost pressures that will affect growers' margins and ultimately be felt by consumers.

Growers are continually having to adapt to additional compliance such as increasing quality assurance audits, and ethical and environmental standards. All this change and uncertainty will be impacting grower confidence, which may lead to a consolidation of our industry. Time will tell.

I hear constantly that consumers feel that we're heading into uncertain times which can have an impact on purchasing habits. This is a result of domestic and global economics, political power tussles, and certain trends and agendas that seem unrelated to daily life.

Our most challenging time of year is just around the corner – the wet season. It has now been several years since we've had a major climatic issue, but the obvious concerns are cyclones which can devastate either the Coast or the Tablelands, as well as storm and hail damage.

I wish everyone all the best for the upcoming weather season, as life and business are challenging enough without Mother Nature throwing any curveballs our way.

Until the next edition.

Best Regards,  
**Gerard Kath**

## REGIONAL ROUND-UP

### What's happening in Tully and the west?



#### CARNARVON GROWERS ASSOCIATION, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

As we lead up into the warmer months, we are expecting above average rain this summer due to the return of La Niña. The growing season has gone well and we are looking forward to harvest.

#### TULLY, QUEENSLAND – NICHOLAS MACKAY

Papaya production held up well through the first months of winter with a late drop off in production through August.

The recent change in weather has seen production start to increase with the expected spring flush incoming.

Phytophthora disease had an impact this year with the extended wet weather through winter and remains the Coastal growing region's main disease concern.

Plantings this year have gone in earlier than usual and continued to the end of October as planned. We're expecting an increase in production area and improved yields through the use of virgin papaya ground for next year's crop.

# Skybury develops test to detect Papaya Sticky Disease

**S**kybury Farms has been collaborating with Associate Professor Nitin Mantri from RMIT University in Melbourne to develop a simple and easy test to perform Lateral Flow Device (LFD) to aid in the detection of Papaya Sticky Disease (PSD).

This test will enable papaya growers to detect Papaya Meleira Virus (PMeV) both in tissue cultures, and in the field.

Though field demonstrations of the LFD method were delayed due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions, trials have been recently completed with excellent results.

Ian MacLaughlin, Chairman of Skybury Farms, said this novel, simple and reliable PSD detection technology will help to further accelerate the in vitro breeding of papaya.

“Skybury has an on-farm research and development facility and is currently undertaking research in papaya, passionfruit, avocado and other crops,” Ian said.

In 2017, Skybury turned to clonal (tissue culture) plantings due to a shortage of suitable seed materials.

The shift to Tissue Culture and in vitro breeding improved productivity and accelerated selection of superior lines,



Skybury Lab demonstrating the LFD test (13 September 2022)

improving fruit qualities such as flesh colour, flavour, and sugar content.

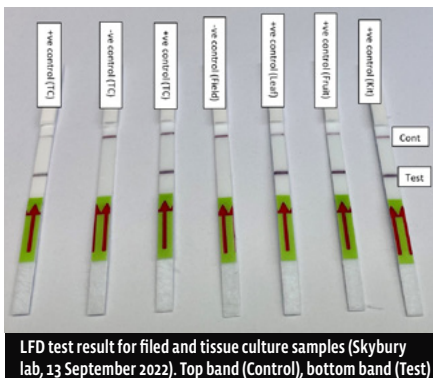
“Around 2015-16, PSD caused by PMeV became a serious problem in Australia,” Ian said.

“Co-funded by the Innovations Connection Grant from the Australian Government with a matching contribution from Skybury, Skybury Farms’ R&D team decided to use a two-pronged approach to tackle this disease which included the development of a quick and easy to use assay to detect the pathogen from the field samples and production of disease-free planting material using in vitro technology.”

In 2018, Skybury R&D Manager, Dr Puthiyaparambil Josekutty, in collaboration with Assoc. Professor Mantri developed an ultra-sensitive RT-PCR method to detect PSD in tissue culture, nursery, leaf, and fruit samples that enabled accurate testing for PSD and helped Skybury achieve PSD-free, clean papaya plant materials using in vitro breeding.

## KEY INSIGHTS FROM THIS PROJECT INCLUDED:

- Firstly, the project team screened for PSD using real-time PCR based primers reported from Brazil and Mexico. These primers were not able to detect the Australian strain of PMeV so the genome of the virus was sequenced and probes specific for detection of Australian PMeV were developed.
- Over 500 tissue culture and 100 field samples were screened to determine the effectiveness of the real-time PCR based screening method.
- This test was also used to identify PSD-free papaya clones before they were planted at Skybury. The PMeV-free plants remained symptom free and productive for their life cycle and there was little evidence of cross infection from those plantings that had PSD symptoms.
- Then, a Recombinant Polymerase Amplification (RPA) LFD based test was developed to allow detection of PSD at room temperature, and with little laboratory facilities.
- The test was validated using over 100 field and tissue culture samples.



LFD test result for field and tissue culture samples (Skybury lab, 13 September 2022). Top band (Control), bottom band (Test)

To build on these findings, the Skybury team is currently working on developing a more simplistic method, similar to the COVID-19 virus Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) where a drop of plant leaf extract can be directly mixed with the right probes to detect the presence of PMeV.

The take home message from Skybury is that industry-led R&D achieves results in a relatively short time and on a limited budget.



# LEVY FUNDED PROJECT UPDATES

## PAPAYA PRODUCTION FIGURES PROJECT UNDERWAY

The ‘Papaya market supply data capture and analysis’ (PP20003) project, led by Papaya Australia, has been collecting papaya industry production figures in the main growing areas of North Queensland.

This project aims to support papaya growers in making more informed decisions regarding their in-season and longer-term production and marketing.

Production figures are tallied to give a total number of both red papaya and yellow paw paw pallets sent from the Tablelands and coastal areas, and their destination.

To obtain the data, transport companies report the data which is then circulated on a weekly basis to all stakeholders, and a summary is given to transport companies who are involved in providing the data.

Papaya Australia Chair and project lead, Gerard Kath, said those who have been involved in the industry a long time will notice that these types of figures were collected around 25 years

ago, and that it’s the same template the banana industry has used to collect data.

“We’re not inventing the wheel here, but it provides very good insight into where the industry is at, and what the peak consumption is in a week,” Gerard said.

“To date, the peak production has been 591 pallets for the week at end of June. This fruit was all sold and consumed, and it was in the cold time of year so it provides a good example of what can be done more regularly, particularly at this time of year.

“I would also suggest that over time, growers from different areas would be able to see production trends and thereby tailor their production systems to better align with market opportunities.

“This project is being delivered with the kind cooperation of the four transport companies who transport fruit from Far North Queensland. I would like to greatly thank Lindsay Transport, Bradco Transport, Followmont Transport and Exodus Transport, without whose efforts in providing figures, the project wouldn’t be possible.”

From July to September 2022, the total number of papaya and paw paw consignment pallets sent from North Queensland was 5,799, with 4,904 (84.6%) of these being of the red variety and 895 (14.4%) yellow. The majority of pallets were sent across Queensland (2,735), followed by New South Wales (1,967), Victoria (912), and South Australia (185).

*The ‘Papaya market supply data capture and analysis’ (PP20003) project is funded by Hort Innovation using papaya industry levies and funds from the Australian Government.*

## BREEDING PROGRAM UPDATE

The ‘National papaya breeding and evaluation program’ (PP18000), led by Griffith University and funded through the Hort Innovation Papaya Fund, has now concluded the semi-commercial trials of the advanced generation red and yellow papaya breeding lines.

Included in the semi-commercial trials are the seed of the elite genotypes of F7 red papaya and F6 yellow papaya inbred lines across the two distinct agroecological climates – the Tablelands and Coastal regions in Tropical North Queensland, which contribute almost 85% of the papaya production in Australia.

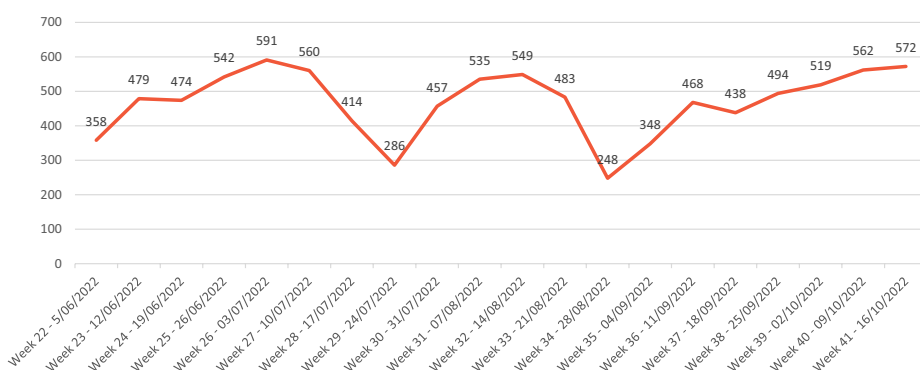
Papaya breeder and Research Fellow from Griffith University, Dr Fawad Ali, said the advanced generation inbred lines of red papaya (F7 generation) are more cylindrical in fruit shape than commercial ‘RB1’.

“The fruit of yellow papaya (F6 generation) breeding lines is pear-shaped than commercial ‘1B’,” Dr Ali said.

“Interestingly, we’re seeing that the selected F7 red and F6 yellow breeding lines taste sweeter with higher Brix levels than commercial ‘RB1’ and ‘1B’ and are easier to pick, pack and transport.

“The newly developed red papaya hybrids (F1 generation) belonging to PP18000, developed through sib-crossing, were included in the semi-commercial trials across the Tablelands and Coast, for evaluation to be completed next year in November 2023.”

## PAPAYA/PAW PAW PRODUCTION FIGURES 2022-2023



## PAPAYA/PAW PAW CONSIGNMENTS – PALLET SENT FROM NORTH QUEENSLAND PERIOD: JULY 2022 TO SEPTEMBER 2022

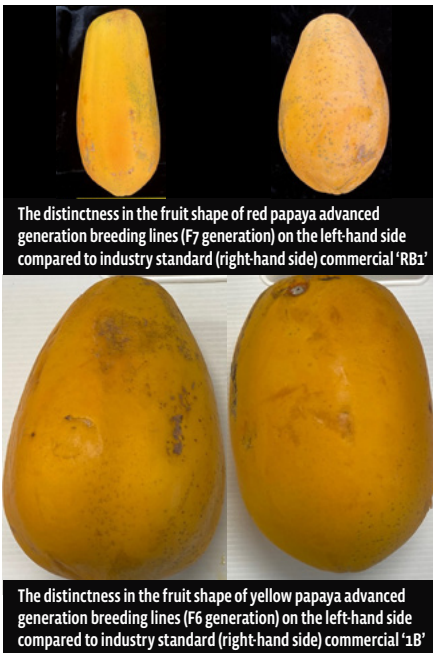
	Red Coast	Red Tablelands	REDS TOTAL	Yellow Coast	Yellow Tablelands	YELLOWS TOTAL	OVERALL TOTAL
QLD	345	1970	2315	154	266	420	2735
NSW	680	913	1593	129	245	374	1967
VIC	451	363	814	25	73	98	912
SA	13	169	182	3	0	3	185
TOTALS	1489	3415	4904	311	584	895	5799

Fruit of semi-commercial trials will be harvested from November 2023 onwards. The program is expected to be completed by mid-2024.

For more information on the 'National Papaya Breeding and Evaluation Program' (PP18000), don't hesitate to contact Dr Fawad Ali at:

[fawad.ali@griffith.edu.au](mailto:fawad.ali@griffith.edu.au)

*The 'National Papaya Breeding and Evaluation Program' (PP18000) project is funded by Hort Innovation using papaya industry levies and funds from the Australian Government.*



The distinctness in the fruit shape of red papaya advanced generation breeding lines (F7 generation) on the left-hand side compared to industry standard (right-hand side) commercial 'RB1'

The distinctness in the fruit shape of yellow papaya advanced generation breeding lines (F6 generation) on the left-hand side compared to industry standard (right-hand side) commercial '1B'

## NEW PROJECT TRACKING CONSUMER USAGE AND ATTITUDES

Hort Innovation has made a foundational investment in the newly contracted 'Consumer usage and attitude tracking 2022/23' (MT21202) project.

Commencing mid-2022, this project is being led by market research company, Fifty-Five Five, and is expected to be completed by the end of July 2023.

The project will provide a category tracking service to allow various horticultural categories to understand better consumer usage and attitudes and the effectiveness of marketing campaigns.

The initial phase of the program is now underway, working to ensure that the continuous tracker runs effectively. This first phase Insights Report is set to be released in mid-December 2022.

The insights gained from this program will seek to answer:

- How do consumer trends and movements in behaviours, usage, and attitudes to fresh produce change over time?
- How do these trends and evolving expectations of consumers inform future demand opportunities for both the whole-of-horticulture, as well as individual industries?
- What perception metrics drive usage and purchase?
- What are the barriers to brand/category salience and purchase and how do we overcome these to drive future growth?

The project will also examine the effectiveness of Hort Innovation marketing campaigns to determine how salient they are in market, their impact on consumer usage, attitudes and future purchase intent, and how effective they are at driving messaging comprehension and enjoyment.

To keep up to date on the project, please visit: <https://www.horticulture.com.au/growers/help-your-business-grow/research-reports-publications-fact-sheets-and-more/mt21202/>

*The 'Consumer usage and attitude tracking 2022/23' (MT21202) project is funded by Hort Innovation using multi-industry strategic levies and contributions from the Australian Government.*

## FOODSERVICE FOUNDATIONAL MARKET INSIGHTS REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The 'Foodservice foundational market insights' (MT21011) project has now come to an end, with its final report released in August.

Funded by Hort Innovation, the MT21011 project aimed to provide industry members with foundational market insights on the key foodservice channels identified within the project scope and high-level strategic direction regarding how ambitions can be actioned across all of horticulture.

A phased approach was used to deliver this project which involved identifying industry objectives, conducting macro insights analysis, unpacking customer and channel preferences, producing

value chain maps, and seeking validation through stakeholder consultations.

Several reports were generated throughout this project. The key outputs are the Market Intelligence Report which includes a Category Snapshot Report that highlights key nuances and foodservice considerations for specific horticultural products, and a Market Insights Strategy that guides industry on how to engage with the foodservice sector, capitalise on identified opportunities and ultimately grow in prioritised commercial and institutional foodservice channels.

### CATEGORY SNAPSHOT: PAPAYA FOODSERVICE FOUNDATIONAL MARKET INSIGHTS:

- Despite aligning with several foodservice trends, papayas are less commonly used throughout foodservice channels due to general category unfamiliarity.
- Papayas have the potential to grow in demand across foodservice, however, there may be challenges with institutional channels as they are highly cost-conscious.
- Restaurants and cafés do not widely use papaya since consumers do not generally associate the fruit with typical menu options in these channels.
- Enhancing marketing and education for desirable papaya characteristics and meal options can help improve papaya familiarity amongst consumers and drive demand in foodservice.

Download the final report via: <https://www.horticulture.com.au/globalassets/laserfiche/assets/project-reports/mt21011/mt21011-final-report-complete.pdf>

*The 'Foodservice foundational market insights' (MT21011) project has been funded by Hort Innovation, using the avocado, melon, mushroom, onion, papaya, sweet potato and vegetable research and development levies and contributions from the Australian Government. Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.*

**Hort Innovation**  
Strategic levy investment

**PAPAYA FUND**

This project has been funded by Hort Innovation using the papaya research and development levy and funds from the Australian Government. For more information on the fund and strategic levy investment visit [horticulture.com.au](http://horticulture.com.au)

# INDUSTRY NEWS

## Papaya on display at Mareeba R&D Field Day

In July this year, Papaya Australia and members of papaya levy funded projects, participated in the inaugural Far North Queensland Growers R&D Field Day in Mareeba.

The event showcased a wide range of industries, bringing together peak industry bodies, growers, and broader industry stakeholders to network and share the latest in research, development, and extension.

Papaya Australia hosted a stand at the event, run by Sherri Soncin, who said the event was a great day, which provided a good opportunity to come together and share the latest resources and project updates direct with growers.

“I was joined by Phil Slocombe from Papaya Seeds Australia, Emily Pattison, horticulturalist and project coordinator of the ‘Papaya industry extension and communications program’ (PP20000) from the Queensland Department of Agriculture & Fisheries, as well as Fawad Ali, project lead of the ‘National Papaya Breeding and Evaluation Program’ (PP18000) from Griffith University,” Sherri said.

“Between us, we covered a broad range of areas from spray techniques and information on papaya sex determination to the new levy funded production figures and breeding programs, and much more.”

The Field Day started with the Hort Innovation Forum, where Papaya Australia Chair and Mareeba grower, Gerard Kath, had the opportunity to be a panellist alongside representatives from the mango, avocado and citrus industries.

During the session, current conditions and predicted outlook for the various production industries, as well as challenges and future opportunities facing the papaya industry were discussed.



Papaya Australia stand at the R&D Field Day



Gerard Kath speaking at the Hort Innovation Forum

## Review your post-harvest disease management

**A**nthraxnose and stem-end fruit rots are ongoing concerns for the Australian papaya industry, causing numerous fruit quality issues, particularly in the wet season.

To help control these issues across the supply chain, there are currently only two chemicals that are registered and permitted as post-harvest treatments which are Prochloraz (Tradename: Sportak) and Fludioxinil

(Tradename: Scholar). Sportak is registered for application to papaya fruit as a post-harvest flood-spray whereas Scholar is permitted for application to papaya as a post-harvest flood-spray or dip.

Before Scholar was permitted, a study was conducted in 2013 by Robert Henriod, Yan Diczbalis and Daniel Sole, Queensland Department of Agriculture & Fisheries (DAF), through the ‘Effect

of curative and protective pre-harvest fungicide and post-harvest hot water applications on decay of papaya’ (PP1300) project, a strategic levy investment under the Hort Innovation Papaya Fund.

This project sought to investigate alternative options for management of post-harvest diseases, including Sportak, Scholar and hot water, which resulted in Scholar being permitted.



## THE TRIAL

The trial conducted through PP1300 investigated the below treatments on 1B papaya fruit from Innisfail, Queensland in April 2013:

- Ambient distilled water for 5 minutes (control)
- Hot water for 20 minutes at 48°C
- Hot water for 5 minutes at 52°C
- Scholar (260 ml/100 L) for 5 minutes at ambient temperature
- Scholar (130 ml/100 L) for 20 minutes at 48°C
- Scholar (130 ml/100 L) for 5 minutes at 52°C
- Sportak (55 ml/100 L) for 1 minute spray (commercial control)

In the trial, fruit was ripened with ethylene at 26°C for two and a half days and then cooled to 14°C for three days following treatment, to simulate the post-chain to get fruit to market shelves. The fruit was then placed at 23°C to simulate the supermarket shelves and were observed daily for disease incidence, severity, and degreening.

Results found that ambient water provided very low protection against anthracnose and other diseases, while the best performing treatments were

the Fludioxonil at high temperatures (52°C and 48°C), followed by hot water dipping alone at 52°C for five minutes. The hot water dip at 52°C did result in some delays in degreening penalties, however test fruits did reach about 95% yellow skin coverage by day three.

## WRAP UP

DAF project coordinator, Emily Pattison, said the positive results of Fludioxonil dips and hot water dips show great potential for improved post-harvest papaya fruit quality and potentially savings in terms of post-harvest chemical usage.

“But industry is still facing ongoing challenges around how to utilise existing packshed infrastructure and the practical difficulties implementing hot water treatments into papaya packsheds,” Emily said.

“Hot water dipping is a standard practice in many other crops, such as mango. In these systems a half tonne picking bin is dipped in hot water for five minutes, usually in combination with Fludioxonil.

“With papaya, barriers to adopting a hot water dipping system exist largely due to the delicate nature of the fruit, and a need for minimal handling to

avoid too much force being exerted onto the fruit by packing too many layers on top of it.

“Hot water sprays, as opposed to dips have also been explored, but there are several issues with sprays including the loss in temperature between the emittance and the fruit as well as coverage with the fruit. That said, hot water spray units have been developed for mangoes that have overcome these issues.”

**Hort Innovation**  
Strategic levy investment

**PAPAYA FUND**

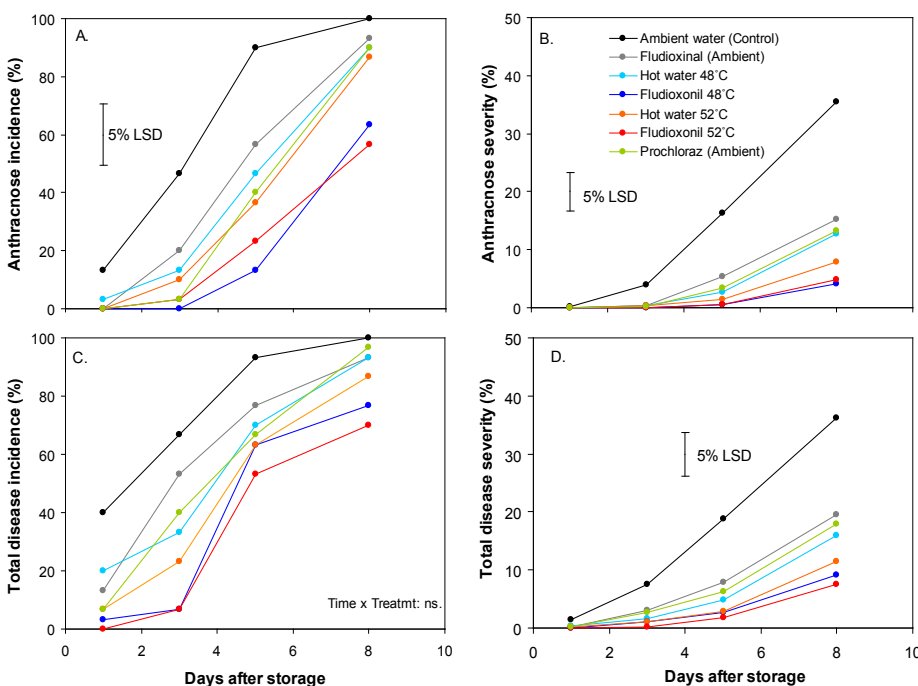
This project has been funded by Hort Innovation using the papaya research and development levy and funds from the Australian Government. For more information on the fund and strategic levy investment visit [horticulture.com.au](http://horticulture.com.au)

## REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY

Through the ‘Papaya industry extension and communications program’ (PP20000), the Queensland Department of Agriculture & Fisheries is looking to run a papaya industry event, providing extension information on post-harvest disease management and hot water dip technology.

The upcoming papaya industry extension will include a tour of both mango and papaya operating packhouses in the Mareeba area, and will likely take place in the December to January 2023 period. If interested in attending, please text Geoff Dickinson on 0407 177 237 or email [Geoff.dickinson@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:Geoff.dickinson@daf.qld.gov.au).

*The ‘Papaya industry extension and communications program’ (PP20000) project is funded by Hort Innovation using papaya industry levies and funds from the Australian Government.*



Effect of fungicide and hot water treatments on the (A) incidence and (B) severity of Anthracnose and (C) incidence and (D) severity of all diseases combined (total disease) on papaya fruit held over an 8 day shelf life. Fruit were initially ripened at 26°C for 2.5 days followed by 3 days at 14°C storage, and were then evaluated in a 23°C shelf life room for 8 days.

**Hort Innovation**  
Strategic levy investment

**PAPAYA FUND**

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# HORT INNOVATION UPDATES

## Papaya Fund Annual Report now available

Hort Innovation has released the 2021/22 Papaya Fund Annual Report.

The annual report maps out where key levy funds have been invested in 2021/22 and provides a rundown of new, ongoing, and completed research and development and marketing projects.

Top-level data from the Papaya Fund Annual Report shows that:

- 1.2 million Australian households purchased papaya in 2021/22
- \$334,551 in levies were collected by the Government and passed on to Hort Innovation for investment
- Papaya production since 2012/13 has grown 44 per cent to 18,330 tonnes in 2020/21

- The value of papayas in the foodservice sector has increased 48 per cent compared to that of its pre COVID-19 value in 2018/19

- The majority of Australia's papaya production happens in Queensland (85 per cent), with the remainder grown in Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

The full Papaya Fund Annual Report can be downloaded here: <https://www.horticulture.com.au/globalassets/hort-innovation/levy-fund-financial-and-management-documents/fund-annual-report-pdfs-202122/hort-innovation-far-papaya-2021-22.pdf>

## New Papaya Industry Strategic Investment Plan released

The new Papaya Industry 2022-2026 Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) has been released by Hort Innovation.

The Papaya SIP 2022-2026 provides a roadmap to guide Hort Innovation's investment in papaya industry levies and Australian Government contributions, ensuring investment decisions are aligned with industry priorities.

Learning, achievements and analysis of the previous SIP, consultation with Australian papaya levy payers, and synthesis of various strategic documents have been incorporated into the development of this SIP.

With input from the Papaya Industry Strategic Investment Advisory Panel (SIAP), the following four priority areas, outcomes and strategies have been identified:

1. **Demand creation** – Contribute to improving consumer knowledge, attitudes and purchase intent to drive volume growth

2. **Industry supply, productivity, and sustainability** – Improve industry productivity (inputs/outputs) to maintain competitiveness, viability and sustainability of supply
3. **Extension and capability** – Build capability and an innovative culture
4. **Business insights** – Measure industry supply (production) and demand (consumer behaviour) data and insights to inform decision-making.

The industry has continued to grow steadily year on year from a volume of 12,704 tonnes in 2012/13 to 19,648 tonnes in 2019/20. Production volume is expected to continue to grow at this rate over the next five years.

Access the Papaya Industry SIP here: <https://www.horticulture.com.au/globalassets/hort-innovation/levy-fund-financial-and-management-documents/sip-2022-2026-pdfs/hort-innovation-sip-2022-26-papaya.pdf>

## What happened in the Papaya Fund last year?

Annual Report 2021/22



Hort Innovation PAPAYA FUND

Check out the Hort Innovation Company Annual Report for 2021/22, featuring each of the 37 industries that sit under the Hort Innovation umbrella here: <https://www.horticulture.com.au/hort-innovation/funding-consultation-and-investing/investment-documents/fund-annual-reports/>

## HORT INNOVATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Hort Innovation Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Friday, 25 November 2022.

Further details on the format and location of the event will be made available soon and shared with members in the official 2022 Notice of Meeting.

At this year's AGM, Hort Innovation members will use their voting entitlements to elect one or more Directors to the Board, and vote on other matters affecting the company.

Please find more information here: <https://www.horticulture.com.au/hort-innovation/the-company/corporate-governance/agm-2022/>