

Cherry Growers of Australia
CHERRY FOCUS
August 2007

YOUNG FARMERS FORUM.

The Australian Cherry Industry was well represented at the National Young Farmers Forum held in Griffith, NSW in late July 2007.

Barisha Batinick (NSW) and John Jeffs (SA) represented the industry at this forum that looked as dealing with issues relevant to Primary Production within Australia.

The Forum was an initiative of the Australian Government and organised by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry through the Advancing Agricultural Industries Programme.

MARKET ACCESS.

The Research work undertaken on Queensland Fruit Fly by Andrew Jessop from the NSW DPI has recently been submitted to Biosecurity Australia. After discussions with industry the scientific work was presented to the authorities in Taiwan for their consideration. A delegation of Government and Industry representatives visited Taiwan during the period 4th to 6th July 2007 to further discuss the work. CGA using levy funds sent Ian Hay (President) as part of the delegation. His involvement in this delegation was also supported by Summerfruit Australia Ltd.

Industry is hopeful of a quick resolution to this matter.

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT.

Through the Industry Partnership Project CGA has organised a Young Leaders Forum and Workshop just prior to the Conference. Representatives from all States, as nominated by their State organisations, will be participating in activities on Sunday 5th and Monday 6th August at the Hilton Adelaide.

John Jeffs (SA) and Phillip Green (Phillip Green Horticultural Consultant) have been planning this session and will facilitate the session.

The growers will be given some training in leadership development but more importantly will do some planning on strategic development for the Australian Cherry Industry. Their deliberations will be presented to the Industry during the Annual General Meeting.

Other workshops on skills development and leadership will be conducted in each State during August and September. The workshops will be two day sessions. Growers are encouraged to either participate or support their

employees to participate. More information is available through either your State Association or by contacting Cherry Growers of Australia on 08 8349 4556.

CHERRY INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PLAN.

The Australian Cherry Industry Biosecurity Plan is near completion and will be presented to the Industry at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 7th August 2007. This Plan is a most important document as it sets the process if and when an exotic cherry pest or disease enters Australia.

The Cherry Industry Biosecurity Working Group has done some very good work in assisting Plant Health Australia staff in bringing this Plan 'to life'. Kimberly Green and Sophie Peterson of Plant Health Australia have done an exception job in developing the Plan and the associated documents.

The challenge for the Industry will be to implement the support mechanisms that are required from the plan so that industry is ready for any new outbreak.

*Trevor M Ranford
Secretary
Cherry Growers of Australia Inc*