Vineyard care workshops:
Post-harvest management & biosecurity
Organisations with biosecurity interests

**GWRDC**
Invests in and directs research, development and extension for the Australian wine sector (levy funded)

National coordinator of government–industry partnership for plant biosecurity (levy funded)

**Plant Health Australia**
National representation body for Australia’s grape growers, including biosecurity interests (voluntary membership)
From vine to glass: Supporting a competitive Australian wine sector

Grape growers

Winemakers

1.6c/t

2.4c/t

Levies matched by Commonwealth Government
What does biosecurity mean to you?
Biosecurity for us means...

Measures that aim to protect livelihoods, lifestyles and the natural environment which could be harmed by the introduction or spread of any new pests, diseases or plants
Where are our biggest threats now?

Consequences of exotic pest threats

- Lower yield and quality
- Bunch damage
- Vine decline, yield loss
- Stalled ripening
- Defoliation
- Severe crop loss
- Complete crop loss
- Vine damage
- Vine death

Global distribution of high priority exotic pest threats
Who is Plant Health Australia?

• Plant Health Australia (PHA) is the national coordinator of plant biosecurity in Australia

• PHA is a not-for-profit, independent organisation - sits between Government and Industry e.g. wine industry (WGGA)

• PHA’s role is to ensures the wine industry is prepared for anything related to biosecurity

• The wine industry pays a levy to be a member of PHA
Biosecurity publications

PHA has developed a biosecurity plan (IBP) and biosecurity manual for the Australian wine industry

*Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Viticulture Industry* guides how to prepare for, and respond to, biosecurity threats

Includes:

- Threat identification, pest risk assessment and categorisation
- Risk mitigation plan
- Contingency plans and response management
Biosecurity manual

Biosecurity Manual for the Viticulture Industry describes important factors for on-farm biosecurity management:

• Key exotic pests for viticulture
• Early detection and reporting of pests
• People and biosecurity (contractors, tourists, etc)
• Equipment and vehicles (machinery washdown)
• Nursery best practice checklist
• Biosecurity best practice checklist
# Biosecurity best practice checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECOMMENDED PRACTICES</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>TO DO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pests</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vineyard staff know how and where to report pests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pest monitoring is regularly conducted, with activities and results recorded including when nothing is found</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vineyard staff are familiar with common established and exotic viticulture pests and know how to report them</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial grapevines and neighbouring vegetation regularly inspected for pests</td>
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<td>Pest awareness material is available to staff</td>
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<td><strong>Product management</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The origin of planting or propagation material is known and is “certified” or has documented health status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Propagation material is thoroughly checked upon arrival</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Records of planting material and its source are maintained</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment used to store or transport propagation material or fruit is cleaned on arrival and exit from the property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fallen or waste fruit, packing shed waste and plant trimmings are disposed of away from production areas and irrigation sources</td>
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</table>

| **People movement**                                       |     |       |
| Biosecurity signs with contact details are located at all entrances to the property |     |       |
| Staff are trained in biosecurity measures and vineyard hygiene practices |     |       |
| All visitors sign a visitor register on arrival           |     |       |
| All visitor and staff clothing, footwear and tools are inspected for loose soil or plant matter before entering and leaving the vineyard |     |       |

| **Equipment and vehicles**                                 |     |       |
| Designated parking area for visitors and contractors is available and clearly signposted |     |       |
| Cleaning and wash-down facilities, preferably on a concrete pad, provided for people, machinery and equipment and clearly signposted with instructions |     |       |
| High pressure water or air available for use to remove plant material and soil from equipment and machinery |     |       |
| Sump installed in wash-down facility to catch unwanted weeds and stop run-off |     |       |
Prevention is better than cure

Six easy ways to protect your vineyard

1. Be aware of biosecurity threats
2. Use pest-free propagation material
3. Keep it clean
4. Check your vineyard
5. Abide by the law
6. Report anything unusual
What happens if you see something unusual?

Who would you speak to?
What happens if you call the hotline?

• Connects you to your state government agriculture department
• They will ask you to provide information about what you’ve seen
• If deemed necessary, someone will come to look at the issue before any further action is taken
What happens if Pierce’s disease is found?

**State and local level**
- Pest reported
- Confirmation of pest identification
- Property quarantine restrictions
- Delimiting surveillance
- Actions to eradicate the pest
- Manage the pest

**National level**
- Commonwealth Government, PHA and affected industries
  - Notification
  - Determine course of action (eradicate or not)
  - Agree to fund eradication
  - Agree to not eradicate

For Pierce’s disease, affected industry groups would include:
- Wine Grape Growers Australia
- Dried Fruits Australia
- Aust. Tablegrape Growers Assoc.
- Nursery & Garden Industry Aust.
- Almond Board Australia
- Citrus Australia
Plant pest response arrangements

Australia is world-first in having a pest response agreement - the **Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD)**

The EPPRD is signed by Commonwealth, state and territory governments and peak industry bodies (WGGA for winegrapes)
Plant pest response arrangements

In the event of an outbreak, the EPPRD:
• Brings about a coordinated and agreed response
• Explains which organisation is responsible for each step
• Details how the costs of dealing with the incursion will be shared between industry and government
• Establishes guidelines for ‘Owner Reimbursement Costs’
Which costs are included?

Owner Reimbursement Costs are available to owners for direct costs as a result of the response actions.

Direct costs as a result of the incursion includes:

- Loss of profit
- Direct additional costs
- Capital items
- Vineyard destruction and replanting
- Fallow periods
- Non-bearing period
- Stored product
What other biosecurity issues are you concerned about?
Take home messages

• **Prevention is better then cure** – implement biosecurity best practice at your place now

• **Protect the wine industry** – everyone has a role to play to make biosecurity work

• **WGGA represents** the wine industry’s biosecurity interests

• If you see something unusual - do something.
Thank you...
Any questions?

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