

GRDC Biosecurity Framework

Aim:

Invest in RD&E that is

- strategic, collaborative and coordinated to minimise grains biosecurity threats to production and trade in the context of common cross-industry objectives
- contributing to the optimal management of grains industry plant biosecurity risks across the pre and post boundary continuum at national, state, region and farm levels with regard to pests, weeds and diseases that are either exotic (not yet established in Australia) or established (present in Australia).

Strategic elements

Identify, understand and prioritise risks

- Support prioritisation of biosecurity threats to the grains industry
- Contribute to better understanding biosecurity threats including data capture and analysis
- Support the regular review and prioritisation of biosecurity threats to best support preparedness.

Preparedness

- Contribute to minimising priority exotic biosecurity risks through preparedness activities
- Co-invest in rapid, accurate and cost-effective detection tools for high priority pests, weeds and diseases
- Develop human and technical capability in plant biosecurity to support our plant industries into the future
- Collaborate on increasing grains biosecurity awareness and practices.

Surveillance

- Coordinated, collaborative (where applicable cross industry) and cost-effective surveillance to support optimal management of priority biosecurity threats
- Contribute to the implementation of the National Grains Biosecurity Surveillance Strategy.
- Improve surveillance across the biosecurity continuum both domestically and internationally.

Sustainable management

- Invest in pre-emptive and proactive management options for exotic and established biosecurity threats minimising adverse impacts of biosecurity incidents to production, trade and the environment.

Guiding principles

- GRDC invests in grains biosecurity RD&E to protect Australian grain crops
- Biosecurity risks are dynamic and can change rapidly
- GRDC staff and collaborators understand their biosecurity responsibilities
- Sharing of biosecurity related information is critical to ensure accurate and timely identification of biosecurity risks while acknowledging the importance of managing trade sensitivities
- Climate change and increasing globalisation of trade and travel will impact on risk profiles
- New genotypes of a weed, disease or pest may increase the damage potential of the existing genotype

- GRDC to develop and maintain active roles on national biosecurity plans and committees to improve grains biotic threat responses and subsequent required RD&E
- Preparation for a grains industry biosecurity incident will be improved by extensive collaboration and information sharing across plant and animal production industries
- Preparedness supports faster action in emergency situations, increasing chances of eradication, limiting industry and business impacts
- Greater participation of industry stakeholders in biosecurity decision making will ensure more streamlined responses to biosecurity incidents
- Synergy between diagnostic effort and capability for exotic and established targets of concern to Australian industries will deliver increased value
- Good biosecurity practices as part of everyday management will improve productivity and profitability.

- Comprehensive surveillance, from pre-departure port, through to national risk pathways across Australia will be enhanced by a network of partnerships and new technologies
- Research and biosecurity surveillance partnerships with neighbouring countries, countries along key trade routes, as well as with personnel and entities working in the northern areas of Australia, will reduce biotic threats to grain producers.

- Best practice management of existing pests, weeds and diseases enhances preparedness for the early detection, reporting, eradication or management of a new biosecurity threat
- Further spread of biotic threats to grains production, including spread resulting from climate change, can be mitigated by targeted RD&E
- Efforts to limit spread need to match the generally growing domestic and international travel and trade access to Australia
- Grains production depends upon the natural environment and the related ecosystem services
- Biosecurity risks are assessed and mitigated in the management of GRDC investments with alignment to legislative requirements in the state of operation.
- During incursion or interception events GRDC will provide access to any relevant and available technical data; and consider priority of any future RDE needs (if requested by Grain Producers Australia (GPA) or other responsible party).