

Olive Fund

2017/18
ANNUAL REPORT



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The projects in this report have been funded by Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited using sources including the olive levy, Australian Government contributions and, in some instances, co-contributions from a variety of sources.



SUMMARY BY
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RELATIONSHIP
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HORT INNOVATION

We're for growers

At Hort Innovation it's our job to work with industry to invest the olive levy and Australian Government contributions into initiatives to help growers be as productive and profitable as possible – and 2017/18 was another fantastic year of growing better, together.

With **more than \$551,000 invested by Hort Innovation into R&D for the olive industry during 2017/18**, including into a host of new projects, I'm happy to be able to share with you all the key insights in this Hort Innovation Olive Fund Annual Report.

You'll find a top-level list of all R&D investments from the year on **p3**, and can explore the research projects in more detail from **p4**. Just some of the highlights include strong new work into pest and disease management, work to produce educational resources around the use and benefits of Australian extra virgin olive oil, plus investments to help growers access and implement best practice, new knowledge and current technologies.

On a personal note, thank you for welcoming me as your new Relationship Manager. I know that during 2017/18 my predecessor, Will Gordon, enjoyed getting to connect with you about everything going on in the Olive Fund, and getting to hear your thoughts and share ideas. During 2018/19 I'm looking forward to doing the same, with even more opportunities to connect in person and a reminder that you can reach me any time at **bradley.mills@horticulture.com.au** or on 0408 635 465 if there's something you'd like to ask or discuss around levy investments.

I also encourage you to explore the easy ways you can stay close to all of the good things your levy is achieving throughout the year...

- » **Become a member.** Paying a levy doesn't automatically make you a Hort Innovation member, but signing up is free at www.horticulture.com.au/membership. As well as providing the opportunity for voting rights at the organisation's Annual General Meeting, Hort Innovation membership includes exclusive email alerts with industry-specific news and opportunities, direct invitations to explore investment updates and more.
- » **Check out Hortlink.** This digital publication provides an update on all new, ongoing and recently completed investments in the Hort Innovation Olive Fund. The latest edition is always available from the Olive Fund page at www.horticulture.com.au/olive, while members have *Hortlink* sent straight to their inboxes.
- » **Engage with your industry communications program.** The *Olive communications program* (OL16006) has been dedicated to bringing the latest information and advice to growers, including outcomes and resources related to levy investments (look for the Hort Innovation Olive Fund logo to easily identify work related to your levy). The communications program has been funded through the Hort Innovation Olive Fund, with more info on **p5**. At the time of writing this iteration of the program was winding down, with a new investment set to carry on its work.

Here's to another great year of investments and connection in 2018/19,

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Making levy investments

Discover how the olive levy and Australian Government contributions are invested through the Hort Innovation Olive Fund in this quick recap.

Where do investment ideas come from?

Great investments start with great ideas, and Hort Innovation encourages all growers and other industry participants to share their thoughts and suggestions for the research initiatives they want to see.

Ideas can be submitted any time via Hort Innovation's simple Concept Proposal Form. Visit www.horticulture.com.au/innovation-concept-pipeline.

Ideas can be for your specific industry – to be funded by the industry levy and Australian Government contributions – or they can be for Hort Innovation's strategic partnership initiative, Hort Frontiers. Hort Frontiers projects address broader, longer-term and more complex issues facing Australian horticulture as a whole, and are funded through partnerships with co-investors. Visit www.hortfrontiers.com.au for more.

How are levy decisions made?

Let's talk 'SIPs' and 'SIAPs'!

Investments specific to the Hort Innovation Olive Fund are guided by the industry's Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), which was finalised by Hort Innovation in April 2017 after close consultation with growers and other industry stakeholders.

The SIP outlines key industry priorities for investment and can be found on the Olive Fund page at www.horticulture.com.au/olive.

The SIP document is used like a 'roadmap' by the olive Strategic Investment Advisory Panel (SIAP) – a panel made up of growers and other industry representatives, which has a key role to play in the investment process. The SIAP discusses investment ideas at consultation meetings, with the SIP guiding them, in order to provide advice to Hort Innovation on potential levy investments.

Details of the SIAP panellists and summaries of the SIAP's meetings can be found at www.horticulture.com.au/olive.

What happens next?

The SIAP's advice is used by Hort Innovation to work suitable ideas into project proposals. The proposals are then made public for potential delivery partners to submit responses. Current opportunities are always listed at www.horticulture.com.au/delivery-partners.

At the end of the process the responses are assessed, often with the assistance of industry, and the best delivery partner for the work is chosen. A contract is then issued and the work begins.

How can I keep track of investments?

Newly contracted projects are announced in Hort Innovation's *Hortlink* publication, with the latest edition emailed directly to members three times a year and always available from the Olive Fund page at www.horticulture.com.au/olive. *Hortlink* also provides updates on ongoing and recently completed investments.

The industry communications program, which to date has been run through the investment *Olive communications program* (OL16006), also provides regular information on levy-funded activity. See **p5** for more.



R&D project list 2017/18

NEW INVESTMENTS IN 2017/18

OL16006	Olive communications program
OL16007	Investigating olive oil quality improvement through filtration
OL16008	Processing water treatment options to improve olive oil quality
OL16010	National olive industry conference and trade exhibition
OL16011	Risk and crisis management planning for the olive industry
OL17001	An integrated pest and disease management extension program for the olive industry
OL17002	Educating health professionals about Australian olive products
OL17005	Olive industry fruit, oil and water quality testing – phase 2
MT17012	Generation of residue data for permit applications
ST16008	AgVet collaborative forum
ST17000	Generation of data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2018



ONGOING INVESTMENTS IN 2017/18

OL15002	International olive council committee
OL16000	Olive industry minor use program
OL16001	Australian olive industry benchmarking program
OL16003	Desktop review for future investment in olive oil quality improvement
OL16004	Olive oil food service program
MT16010	Horticultural trade data 2017-2019
MT16011	Horticulture trade intelligence reporting 2017-2019
ST16006	Generation of residue, efficacy and crop safety data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops

INVESTMENTS COMPLETED IN 2017/18

OL16005	Testing of water and oil quality for the olive industry
MT15032	Monitoring and evaluation framework for the industry Strategic Investment Plan
MT15033	Strategic Investment Plan

During the 2017/18 financial year, all Australian levy paying horticulture industries also contributed to across-industry projects addressing issues that affect horticulture as a whole. Visit www.horticulture.com.au/across-horticulture for financial documents and information on this program.

R&D report

Take a closer look at just some of the investments in the Hort Innovation Olive Fund during 2017/18. Any resources from levy-funded projects – such as fact sheets, guides and more – are published on your grower page at www.horticulture.com.au/olive as they become available.

An integrated pest and disease management extension program for the olive industry (OL17001)

NEW IN 2017/18

Key research provider: Western Sydney University

Beginning in late 2017, this program is tasked with giving Australian olive growers access to current, practical information and instruction for implementing integrated pest and disease management (IPDM) strategies in the grove. It has a focus on the sustainable management of three major pests and diseases for the industry: black scale, olive lace bug and anthracnose.

The program brings together a national network of experienced IPDM researchers, extension scientists and industry representatives, and is tasked with delivering...

- » Face-to-face IPDM workshops and field days across growing areas with information specific to those areas
- » Online tutorials and self-assessments for growers
- » A best practice IPDM manual and fact sheets, plus other hard copy and digital information, including a revised Pest and Disease Field Guide for the industry
- » Training for industry consultants and pest scouts.

Educating health professionals about Australian olive products (OL17002)

NEW IN 2017/18

Key research provider: Boundary Bend Olives

Beginning in April 2018, this new investment is responsible for disseminating evidence-based health information about olive products to an audience of Australian healthcare professionals and other health-interested professionals and consumers (such as fitness professionals and life coaches). The information will also be available to students of health-related disciplines, researchers, olive growers and olive processors.

The information will be delivered through an expanded Olive Wellness Institute website (developed by Boundary Bend Olives), and the goal is to equip the target audiences with the knowledge needed to be able to advise patients, clients and the wider public on including healthy olive products in their daily life.

National olive industry conference and trade exhibition (OL16010)

NEW IN 2017/18

Key research provider: Australian Olive Association

Beginning in mid-2017, this investment facilitates the industry's National Olive Industry Conference & Trade Exhibition. This annual event is an opportunity for growers to come together to learn about the latest industry research, build networks and share information. The trade show component provides an opportunity for the exhibition of trade information and materials.

Want to keep up to date with the latest information on new, ongoing and recently completed R&D investments throughout the year? Check out Hort Innovation's *Hortlink* publication – the latest edition is always available from your grower page, www.horticulture.com.au/olive.

Generation of data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2018 (ST17000)

NEW IN 2017/18

Key research provider: Peracto

The generation of pesticide residue, efficacy and crop safety data is required to support label registration and minor use permit applications made to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority which, when approved, provide access to safe and effective chemicals for the management of pests, weeds and diseases.

In May 2018, Hort Innovation announced the securing of more than \$1 million in assistance grants under the Australian Government's Access to Industry Uses of Agricultural and Veterinary (AgVet) Chemicals program. Through this project, the grant funding is being used, along with levy contributions, to generate the data required for a range of registration and minor use applications across a variety of horticulture crops, including for the olive industry.

Similarly, data generation is also undertaken by the multi-industry projects *Generation of residue data for permit applications 2017* (MT17012) and *Generation of residue, efficacy and crop safety data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2017* (ST16006), the latter of which involves grant funds from an earlier round of the AgVet program, plus some levy contributions.

Olive industry minor use program (OL16000)

Key research provider: Hort Innovation

Through this project, levy funds and Australian Government contributions are used to submit renewals and applications for new minor use permits for the olive industry, as required. These submissions are prepared and submitted to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

For more on minor use permits, including a list of permits, see [p8](#).

All current permits for the industry remain searchable at portal.apvma.gov.au/permits, while permit updates are also circulated in Hort Innovation's *Growing Innovation* e-newsletter, which levy-paying members receive monthly. Not a member? Sign up to the Hort Innovation membership program for free at www.horticulture.com.au/membership.

Olive communication program (OL16006)

NEW IN 2017/18

Key research providers: Cox Inall Communications and Australian Olive Association

Beginning in mid-2017, this program is responsible for keeping Australian olive growers and other industry stakeholders informed about key industry issues and the latest R&D activities and results in a timely way. The ultimate goal is to facilitate the uptake of new information, technologies and practices – in turn helping growers forge more productive, profitable and resilient businesses.

The project produces...

- » Monthly e-newsletter *Grove Innovation*, capturing the latest in R&D and other important information and resources for growers.
- » *R&D Insights*, a quarterly eight-page lift-out that is inserted into *Olivegrower & Processor* magazine and available digitally. It provides in-depth coverage of industry R&D projects, results and industry issues and information.

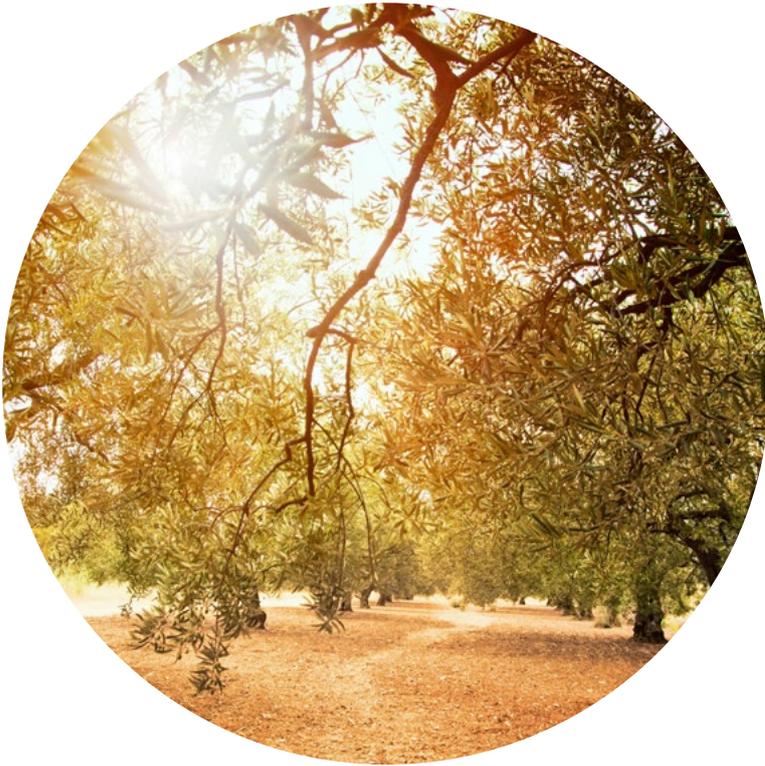
Risk and crisis management planning for the olive industry (OL16011)

NEW IN 2017/18 & NOW COMPLETE

Key research provider: Biologic

New for 2017/18 and concluding in May 2018, this investment was responsible for developing a comprehensive risk management and crisis preparedness and response plan for the Australian olive industry. The plan includes information and processes to ensure the industry is able to respond in an effective and responsible manner in the event of a crisis, such as environmental contamination, food safety concerns or supply chain issues. The project team noted that the process of creating the plan also helped foster a proactive and preventative risk management approach, through the identification of potential risks to and in the industry, and the development of related management and mitigation strategies.

The industry had continued input into the plan and its risk register of issues through industry workshops, online surveys and meetings.



Investigating olive oil quality improvement through filtration (OL16007)

NEW IN 2017/18 & NOW COMPLETE

Key research provider: NSW Department of Primary Industries

This short investment looked at the availability of technically and financially feasible options for removing any impurities that may be present in olive oil, including but not limited to filtration approaches. The project revealed a number of avenues suitable for further investigation, including the use diatomaceous earth as an adsorbent, the use of 'ultrasonication', and the effects of carbon-based adsorbents on olive oil composition and traits.

Australian olive industry benchmarking program (OL16001)

Key research provider: RMCg

This ongoing investment is tasked with ensuring Australian olive growers have access to clear, relevant industry benchmarking information around productivity, quality and profitability. This information will assist new and experienced growers to assess the performance of their businesses against the wider industry and identify areas for action and improvement.

The project team is collecting a host of benchmarking data for the olive industry. Those who participate in the data collection will be provided with confidential individual reports. These reports will enable participating growers to compare how their business is performing against the aggregated results that will be reported to the wider industry. A final, industry-wide benchmarking report will allow growers to understand how the industry is performing as a whole.

Olive oil food service program (OL16004)

Key research provider: The Australian Nutrition Foundation, Victorian Division (Nutrition Australia)

Previous industry research has indicated a lack of knowledge in the Australian food service sector about Australian extra virgin olive oil. Beginning in mid-2017, this project is increasing awareness of the product among trainee chefs, and is responsible for...

- » Developing a better understanding of the current use of olive oil in the food service sector, and of the trends that impact on olive oil consumption
- » Delivering education and training for trainee chefs and culinary school students about the attributes, benefits and uses of Australian extra virgin olive oil (the core activity of the program).

International Olive Council Committee (OL15002)

Key research provider: Modern Olives

This ongoing investment supports Australian olive industry attendance at biannual International Olive Council chemists' meetings. These meetings involve discussion on the technical analysis, grading and regulation of olive oil, among other things. Participation helps ensure the Australian olive industry is prepared for any changes to international regulations that may affect trade, and mean Australia's accredited laboratories that certify domestic products can continue achieving international accreditations.

Full details of completed research can be found in project final reports which, when finalised, are available to order at www.horticulture.com.au/final-report-order-form. Final reports are free to Australian horticulture levy payers, registered Hort Innovation members and industry representative bodies.

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Become a member
at [www.horticulture.
com.au/membership](http://www.horticulture.com.au/membership)

Minor use permits

Why minor use permits?

While the use of pesticides and other chemicals in the horticulture industry is being modified through the increasing uptake of integrated pest management approaches, there remains a need for the strategic use of specific chemicals.

Chemical companies submit use patterns for product label registrations to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) – however the olive industry is generally provided with limited label registrations because of its ‘minor’ crop status in this area (meaning the chemical companies can consider the market size too small to generate adequate commercial returns, based on the R&D investment required). This is where minor use permits come into play. The APVMA’s national permit system adds some flexibility to the approval process and provides a legal framework that can allow access to products for minor use purposes.

Permits in 2017/18

During the 2017/18 financial year, a successful renewal for PER14897 was prepared by Hort Innovation and submitted to the APVMA, facilitated through the *Olive industry minor use program* (OL16000) and supported by data from the earlier AgVet grant project *Generation of residue data for pesticide minor use permit applications in horticulture crops 2015/16* (ST15027).

An application to renew PER81949 was also submitted, supported by data from the project *Generation of residue, efficacy and crop safety data for pesticide applications in horticulture crops 2017* (ST16006). At the time of writing, this remained with the APVMA for assessment.

Meanwhile, permit renewals for PER85411 and PER13999 were also issued during 2017/18, with the applications submitted through the industry minor use program in the previous financial year.

Find details for all of these permits in the table below.

Current permits

Below is a list of minor use permits for the olive industry, current as of September 1, 2018.

PERMIT ID	DESCRIPTION (CHEMICAL/CROP/PEST OR USE)	ORIGINAL DATE OF ISSUE	EXPIRY DATE	PERMIT HOLDER
PER14414	Natrasoap insecticidal soap spray / Olives / Lace bug	04-Oct-13	30-Sep-23	Australian Olive Association (AOA) C/Hort Innovation
PER11360 version 3	Copper / Olives / Fungal leaf spot and fruit rot	24-Mar-09	30-Nov-21	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER82184	Fenoxycarb (Insegar) / Olives / Black olive scale	04-Mar-16	31-Dec-18	EE Muir C/AgAware
PER13999 version 5	Dimethoate / Olives (oil production only) / Olive lace bug, green vegetable bug and rutherghlen bug	19-Apr-13	06-Mar-19	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER85411 version 2	Paraquat and diquat (Spray Seed) / Olives / Range of broadleaf and grass weeds, as per label	01-Nov-17	30-Nov-22	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER14580	Azoxystrobin (Amistar) / Olives / Anthracnose	23-May-14	31-Aug-19	AOA C/Hort Innovation

Continues >>



PERMIT ID	DESCRIPTION (CHEMICAL/CROP/PEST OR USE)	ORIGINAL DATE OF ISSUE	EXPIRY DATE	PERMIT HOLDER
PER14575	Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban) / Olives / Ants, African black beetle and light brown apple moth	23-Dec-13	31-Mar-19	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER14460 version 2	Ethephon / Olives / Fruit loosening	01-Jun-14	30-Jun-22	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER14791 version 3	Alpha-cypermethrin / Olives / Curculio Beetle/Apple weevil and cutworms	06-May-14	30-Nov-21	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER80718	Methyl bromide / Fruit and fruiting vegetables, food producing plants and ornamentals / Fruit fly, silverleaf whiteflies and thrips for biosecurity decontamination (all states)	12-Apr-15	31-Mar-25	Biosecurity SA
PER14908	Pyraclostrobin + metiram (Aero) / Olives / Anthracnose	08-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER13859	Dimethoate / Orchard clean-up – fruit fly host crops following harvest / Fruit fly	09-Feb-15	31-Jul-24	Growcom
PER14897 version 2	Clothianidin (Samurai) / Olives / Olive lace bug	04-Mar-15	31-Mar-23	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER80751	Fluazifop-P (Fusilade Forte) / Olives / Grass weeds (Queensland only)	07-Aug-15	31-Jul-20	Comvita
PER81949	Esfenvalerate (Sumi-Alpha Flex Insecticide) / Olives / Olive lace bug (14 day WHP)	20-May-16	30-Nov-21	AOA C/Hort Innovation
PER81870	Pyrethrins (Pyganic Organic Insecticide) / Olives / Olive lace bug	17-Dec-16	31-Oct-19	AOA C/Hort Innovation

All efforts have been made to provide the most current, complete and accurate information on these permits, however you should always confirm all details on the APVMA website at portal.apvma.gov.au/permits. Details of the conditions of use associated with these permits can also be found on the APVMA site.

Minor use permit updates are circulated in Hort Innovation's e-newsletter, **Growing Innovation**, which levy-paying members receive monthly. Not a member? Sign up for free at www.horticulture.com.au/membership.

Financial statement

Financial operating statement 2017/18

	R&D (\$)	TOTAL (\$)
	2017/18 July – June	2017/18 July – June
OPENING BALANCE	321,027	321,027
Levies from growers (net of collection costs)	414,642	414,642
Australian Government money	359,707	359,707
Other income*	10,754	10,754
TOTAL INCOME	785,103	785,103
Project funding	551,750	551,750
Consultation with and advice from growers	52,825	52,825
Service delivery – Base	24,982	24,982
Service delivery – Shared	37,831	37,831
Service delivery – Fund specific	52,026	52,026
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	719,415	719,415
Levy contribution to across-industry activity	15,267	15,267
CLOSING BALANCE	371,448	371,448
Levy collection costs	9,852	9,852

At the end of 2016/17, the industry's pro rata share of levy funds were committed to strategic reserves (\$55,069 for R&D), and so have been deducted from the 2017/18 opening balance.

* Interest, royalties

Service delivery costs explained

Base service delivery (flat rate) = keeping the lights on

This figure contributes to the standard fixed costs that are incurred with the running of the business (for example, costs relating to rent, utility bills, equipment). These costs are calculated on a monthly basis and are based on actual program expenditure.

Shared service delivery (flat rate) = related to program delivery

Shared costs are related to program delivery and include costs that are incurred in supporting activities relating to R&D and marketing programs that are not attributable to any one levy industry (for example, costs relating to procurement and information technology activities). These costs are calculated on a monthly basis and are based on actual program expenditure.

Fund specific service delivery (flat rate for 2017/18) = direct servicing costs

These are the actual costs for activities and services that are directly incurred in the administration of levy program expenditure, and which are identifiable and attributable to a specific levy investment fund (for example, costs around direct relationship, marketing and fund management, and logistical costs around industry advisory meetings and activities). From 2018/19 these costs will be charged at cost on a monthly basis.

For more information explaining the costs in the financial summary, visit www.bit.ly/2x7ERLC.

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