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## National Plant Biosecurity CRC - 2004 Bid

Welcome to the first newsletter for the *National Plant Biosecurity CRC bid 2004*. This newsletter, for participants and other interested parties, will keep you informed of the proposed CRC and its bid progress. The proposed *National Plant Biosecurity CRC* will:

***increase the competitiveness and sustainability of Australia's plant industries***



by pre-empting, and thus diminishing, the economic and environmental impact of Emergency Plant Pests (EPPs; principally invertebrates and plant pathogens). This goal will be achieved by:

- building a national capability to detect and identify incursions;
- developing tools to enhance surveillance and national response programs;
- equipping plant scientists with tools to undertake pre-emptive plant breeding;
- creating the capacity to conduct and coordinate epidemiological research on pest incursions; and
- enhancing the national biosecurity skills base through education and training.



This CRC will safeguard Australia's plant industries and improve market access. These benefits are long-term.

### **Request from the CRC Program**

The Preliminary Bid requested \$21 million of funding from the CRC Programme over the proposed 7 years of the CRC. To date, Participants have committed almost \$26 million, but in order for this CRC Bid to be competitive, Participant contributions need to be maximised.

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## Status of the Bid...

### STAGE 1 SUCCESS!

The **National Plant Biosecurity CRC** Preliminary Bid was amongst 33 successful bids to make it through the first round of the CRC application process from a pool of 52. This reflects the strength of the **National Plant Biosecurity CRC** bid which will be built upon through to stage 2 in June.

### STAGE 2 (Full Business Case)

The full CRC application for stage 2 is due in Canberra by **2 July 2004**. An Appraisal Panel will consider applications, along with reports from referees nominated by the applicants and reports from independent assessors.

### STAGE 3 (Interviews)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to be interviewed.

### FINAL STAGE (Recommendation to Minister)

The CRC Committee will recommend to the Minister those applications that should be funded and the amount of the funding. The Minister is expected to announce the successful applications in December 2004.

### START-UP

Subject to Centre agreements being completed, the CRC will begin operations on 1 July 2005.

### Links

[CRC website](#)

[PHA Australia](#)





## Steering Committee

A Steering Committee has been established to drive the overall bid. Professor John Lovett is the Chair of this Committee and Ian Muirhead has been employed to assist in gaining support for the proposal, coordinating input and preparing the bid documents.

The Steering Committee is developing the business model and structure of the CRC. Conscious of the change of emphasis in the Australian Government's criteria for this CRC round, the Steering Committee favours an incorporated structure with a skills-based Board.



The Steering committee will drive the overall bid and concentrate on the "big picture" particularly Governance and structure. It is not a representational committee, and will not develop the program detail (this will be done by Participants).

The Steering Committee has been restructured to provide a workable structure given the limited time available:

- John Lovett (Chairman)
- Peter Baverstock (PVC Research, Southern Cross University)
- Mike Cole (Deputy Chief Plant Protection Officer, DAFF)
- Joanne Daly (Cheif, CSIRO Entomology)
- Rob Delane (Executive Director, DAWA)
- Neil Fisher (CEO, PHA)
- Simon Hearn (MD, RIRDC)
- Ian Muirhead (Bid Coordinator)

## Participant Advisory Committee

Input from all participants will be provided through the Participant Advisory Committee (PAC), which is representational. The purpose of the PAC is to ensure that all participants can input to the development of the CRC. The Committee's particular role is to develop the CRC's programs, including the education and training program. All participants, 15 at this stage, have been invited to nominate a representative for this committee.

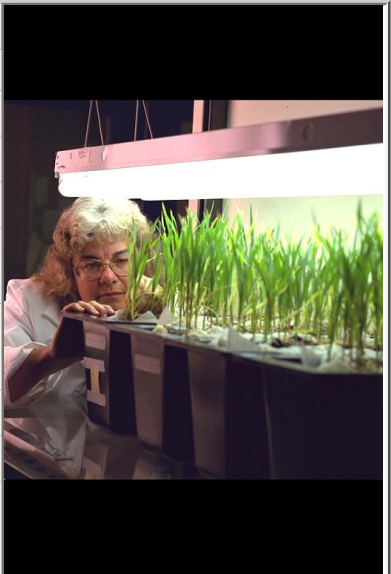

The date for the first meeting of this committee has been set - **31 May 2004**. Please mark this date in your diaries, and advise [Ian Muirhead](#) if your nominated representative is unable to attend. The venue will be Canberra. The program is being developed now.







The organisations listed below are supporting the *National Plant Biosecurity CRC bid 2004*. There are still opportunities for other organisations to join the bid as either core or supporting participants - please contact [Ian Muirhead](#) for more information.

National Plant Biosecurity CRC Bid Participants				 
Participant Name	Type	Organisation Type	Nature of activity/business	
<a href="#">Charles Darwin University (CDU)</a>	Core	University	Research and education	
<a href="#">CSIRO Entomology</a>	Core	Australian Government	Research and Development	
<a href="#">Department of Agriculture Western Australia (DAWA)</a>	Core	State Government	State dept. responsible for biosecurity issues, R,D&E	
<a href="#">Dept of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)</a>	Core	Australian Government	Commonwealth Dept responsible for biosecurity. Includes Office of the Chief Plant Protection Officer, Biosecurity Aust and AQIS	
<a href="#">Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)</a>	Core	Industry / Private Sector	Reserch and Development Corporation	
<a href="#">Murdoch University</a>	Core	University	Research and education	
<a href="#">New South Wales Dept. of Agriculture (NSWDA)</a>	Core	State Government	State dept. responsible for biosecurity issues, R,D&E	
<a href="#">Plant Health Australia Ltd (PHA Ltd)</a>	Core	Other	Company formed by the Australian and State governments and Industry bodies to facilitate national policy development and implement and broker plant biosecurity arrangements	
<a href="#">Qld Dept. of Primary Industries &amp; Fisheries (QDPI&amp;F)</a>	Core	State Government	State dept. responsible for biosecurity issues, R,D&E.	
<a href="#">Rural Industry Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC)</a>	Core	Industry / Private Sector	Research and Development	
<a href="#">Southern Cross University (SCU)</a>	Core	University	Research and education	
<a href="#">University of Adelaide (UofA)</a>	Core	University	Research and education	
<a href="#">Horticulture Australia Ltd (HAL)</a>	Supporting	Industry / Private Sector	Research and Development (contribution indicative, pending finalisation of program)	
<a href="#">Northern Territory Dept of Business, Industry and Resource Development (NT DBIRD)</a>	Supporting	State Government	State dept. responsible for biosecurity issues, R,D&E	
<a href="#">South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI)</a>	Supporting	Australian Government	State dept. responsible for biosecurity issues, R,D&E	



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#### **Bid Coordinator**

Dr Ian Muirhead

Phone (07) 3378 2646

Email [i.muirhead@uq.net.au](mailto:i.muirhead@uq.net.au)

#### **Interim Chairman**

Professor John Lovett

Phone (02) 6227 5050

Email [lovettassociates@bigpond.com](mailto:lovettassociates@bigpond.com)

#### **Proposing Organisation**

Mr Neil Fisher

CEO, [Plant Health Australia](#)

5/4 Phipps Close, Deakin ACT 2600

Phone (02) 6260 4322

Fax (02) 6260 4321

Email [admin@phau.com.au](mailto:admin@phau.com.au)