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Dear Dave

In this eNewsletter, we share the outcomes of the SRA AGM, remind you about tissue culture orders and share details of various programs and initiatives that might be of interest.



## SRA welcomes new directors

Sugar Research Australia (SRA) has announced the appointment of three new directors, including a new chairperson, following its annual general meeting (AGM) in Brisbane.

Rowena McNally was elected as chairperson, alongside incoming directors, Mark Day and Rowley Winten.

Chief Executive Officer Roslyn Baker thanked retiring Chairperson Dr Ron Swindells and outgoing directors Dr Guy Roth and Lee Blackburn for their service.

In [Ms Baker's address to the AGM](#), she also highlighted some exciting research for the year ahead.

Watch the full AGM [here](#).

[READ MORE](#)

## Tissue culture orders closing soon

SRA reminds industry they have until 15 November to place their orders for tissue culture for planting in spring 2022. Orders can be made through QCANESelect® on the [SRA website](#).

Seedlings produced from tissue culture are certified free from disease, are DNA tested and maximise industry productivity by allowing rapid adoption of new varieties. For enquiries, please contact Clair Bolton on **(07) 3331 3374** or [cbolton@sugarresearch.com.au](mailto:cbolton@sugarresearch.com.au).

The [TC Calculator](#) can be used as a tool for estimating how many plantlets to order.

## Australia's number one plant priority pest – do you know what it is?

Australia's Chief Plant Protection Officer, Gabrielle Vivian-Smith, has released a series of new videos on National Plant Priority Pests to raise biosecurity awareness about Australia's most unwanted plant pests and diseases.

While not directly related to sugarcane, it is worth being aware of these pests and diseases as part of general biosecurity awareness.

Check out these short videos on *Xylella* (Australia's number one plant priority pest), brown marmorated stink bug, and khapra beetle on the DAWE website and watch out for new videos in the coming weeks.

[Xylella and exotic vectors - Department of Agriculture](#)



[Brown marmorated stink bug - Department of Agriculture](#)



[Khapra beetle - Department of Agriculture](#)



## Not-for-profit organisations – grants available to help build drought resilience

Community networks have a critical role in helping people prepare for, and live through, times of drought, which is why the Australian Government has invested in the Networks to Build Drought Resistance program.

[Networks to Build Drought Resilience - Department of Agriculture](#)

Not-for-profit organisations can apply for funding for projects that encourage connectedness in agricultural communities.

Applications are now open.

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## Has your farm suffered damage in recent storms?

Growers who suffered significant damage from a natural disaster are able to apply for an Individual Disaster Stricken Property declaration.



The declaration gives access to freight subsidies up to \$5000 from the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, as well as Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority Disaster Assistance loans of up to \$250,000 available at a concessional interest rate.

For more information and links to all application forms, click the button below.

[READ MORE](#)

## Calling NQ Dry Tropics farmers who are keen to provide input on new digital tools

The Future Drought Fund's [Climate Services for Agriculture](#) program and [Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool](#) aim to support the Australian agricultural sector and regional communities to build resilience to future drought and climate risks.

Two new tools have been developed to help farmers anticipate what future climate in their region might look like, how it could impact production and what can be done now to prepare.

The tools have been developed with input from farmers in four pilot regions and further feedback is now being sought to ensure the tools are practical.

Growers in the NQ Dry Tropics can provide feedback at an online session on 4 November at 12:30pm AEST. The workshop will involve two 45-minute sessions.

[Register here.](#)

**Got workshop waste? Provide input on solutions**

In the last eNewsletter we told you about a workshop taking place to discuss dealing with workshop wastes. The organisers have developed a survey to make it easier for people who are interested in providing feedback but may not be able to attend the workshop.

The survey is your chance to influence research for solutions to better manage waste from workshops associated with farming operations.

It will take less than 14 minutes to do the survey which aims to create options that will save you time and \$ in the future. The researchers want to hear from farmers and associated organisations to develop solutions that are driven by the sector for the sector.

To complete the survey, follow this link - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WorkshopWaste>

The survey is open until 9 November.

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