



Sugar Research
Australia

eNewsletter

Happy new year and welcome to the first edition of eNewsletter for 2022. In this edition we open bookings for upcoming disease workshops, along with applications for research awards and postgraduate scholarships.



Bookings open for disease workshops

Registrations for **SRA's Identifying sugarcane diseases** workshops in early March are now open.

Two 2-day workshops will be delivered by the biosecurity team and pathologists at SRA's Woodford site in South East Queensland.

Manager – Biosecurity and Disease Screening Dr Nicole Thompson said sessions will include a mix of field activities, group learning and seminars, to teach the fundamentals of sugarcane diseases and pathology.

"The first session is tailored for more experienced advisors and industry staff, and the second for newcomers to the sugarcane industry," Nicole said. "Both will provide information about how to recognise Australian sugarcane diseases, methods for control, clean seed programs, biosecurity and exotic threats, and the latest research developments."

The cost of each program is \$300 per participant, with registrations open through the links below:

[Identifying sugarcane diseases workshop - Experienced advisors and industry members](#)

Tuesday, 1 March – Wednesday, 2 March 2022

[Identifying sugarcane diseases workshop - Industry newcomers](#)

Thursday, 3 March – Friday, 4 March 2022

In line with Queensland Government COVID-19 requirements and to maximise the number of participants who can attend a COVID-safe event, attendees are required to provide evidence of COVID vaccination.

For more information, contact nthompson@sugarresearch.com.au.

Research awards and scholarship funding rounds open

SRA's research awards and postgraduate scholarships are now open for applications.

Research Mission Manager Dr Stephen Mudge said the research awards encourage innovative thinking and allow participants to conduct small projects that demonstrate clear benefits to the sugarcane industry.

[More information and an application kit](#) for the research awards is available on the SRA website.

The Sugar Industry Postgraduate Research Scholarships (SPRS) enable qualified graduates to undertake Research Doctorate or Research Masters study and to facilitate research and training in areas of value to the Australian sugarcane industry. The scholarships are tenable at Australian universities and institutions for postgraduate research study.

Applications for both programs are open until 31 August 2022.

Get more information on post graduate research opportunities.

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Drought Assistance available

Two Future Drought Fund programs, Farm Business Resilience and Regional Drought Resilience Planning, are available to support farmers and regions to build resilience to future droughts.

Under new drought assistance guidelines, growers will not need a drought declaration to access drought preparedness assistance, which will be available anytime. To access the new drought assistance, growers will need to have a Farm Business Resilience Plan, or equivalent, that identifies activities to improve resilience when applying for the drought preparedness grants or loans.

Growers can attend a Farm Business Resilience Program workshop or training run by industry organisations or the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) to help develop and implement a plan, write a plan themselves, or engage professional assistance.



Photo: Queensland Government

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Updated Reef 2050 Plan released

An updated Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan has been released, with a greater focus on taking action on climate change and reducing carbon emissions.

The updated Reef 2050 Plan is the result of the first five-yearly comprehensive review of Australia's long-term strategy for managing the reef. It was undertaken by the Australian and Queensland governments in close collaboration with stakeholders and the community.

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