

## **\$22 million boost to Queensland's biosecurity preparedness**

The Queensland Government is investing \$22 million over 5 years to boost preparedness for biosecurity emergencies, including foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), lumpy skin disease (LSD), and African swine fever (ASF).

An ongoing annual investment of \$2.4 million will further build existing capacity to address increasing biosecurity risks from emergency animal and plant pest and diseases, after the initial 5-year investment.



Livestock owners are encouraged to be prepared, vigilant and on the lookout for LSD, FMD and ASF.

For more information and resources, visit our [eHub](#).

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## **COVID-19 to peak this month**

Queensland's agriculture supply chain continues to face disruption from COVID-19.

While the Winter peak has now passed in Queensland, many agribusinesses face workforce challenges. Ensure your business continuity plans are up-to-date and in action.

For information and resources, visit our [agribusiness continuity planning eHub](#).



## Queensland Agriculture Workforce Network (QAWN) funding extended

Great news for agriculture enterprises needing assistance to attract, train and retain their workforce!

Funding for the Queensland Agriculture Workforce Network (QAWN) has been extended for another 3 years.

Officers are located across the state and deliver a free service to Queensland agribusinesses, regardless of commodity or organisation membership.

Head to our website to [connect with your local officer](#).



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## Nominations open for the Queensland Agriculture Awards

Do you know someone making an outstanding contribution to agriculture?

Nominations have opened for the Peter Kenny Medal and Minister's Emerging Leader Award. The awards recognise individuals who are working to advance industry objectives and demonstrate excellence in leadership.

Candidates could work in agribusiness, education, farm-based production, the supply chain, research, advocacy, or an associated field.

The awards include a \$3,000 bursary, with winners announced at the Trop Ag Conference.

For the full list of criteria and to nominate, visit the [AgAwards eHub](#).

Nominations close 2 September 2022.

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## Commercial partner wanted for new strawberry varieties

Hort Innovation and the Queensland Government are seeking a partner for the commercial licence of new strawberry varieties.

The novelty 'pink' and 'white' varieties are the result of years of research, field trials and consumer preference tasting, tailored to Australian growing conditions and buyer palettes.

The strawberries have a rich aroma, are sweet in flavour and offer superior quality.

If you'd like to learn more or submit an expression of interest, visit the [Hort Innovation website](#).

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## Mango Road leads to more mangoes

More varieties of mangoes are on their way!

The Queensland Government has awarded Australia's largest grower of Kensington Pride mangoes the commercial rights for three new varieties.

Manbulloo Group's marketing, management and export company, Mango Road, has been selected to manage the launch.

The new mango flavour profiles are similar to Kensington Pride. They display higher productivity in some regions, earlier and later fruit maturity and harvest timing, an attractive appearance and good shelf life.

The fruits were developed through the National Mango Breeding Program to address the limitations of current varieties.

Read the full release, [Mango Road leads to good taste and good jobs](#).

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## Horticulture producers continue to net rewards from expanded scheme

Queensland horticulture producers will benefit from an expanded trial of the Australian Government's Horticultural Netting Program to offset the cost of installation.

The trial is now available to all horticultural industries except wine grapes.

Producers can apply for a co-contribution grant of up to \$300,000 to offset the cost of purchasing and installing horticultural netting on existing commercial horticulture crops.

For more information and to apply, visit the [QRIDA online portal](#) or phone 1800 623 946.

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## Food Zone showcases a treat for industry

We opened our doors to members and colleagues of the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology at our Food Zone facilities in Coopers Plains.

Visitors had a behind-the-scenes tour of the facilities, including the five pilot plant processing bays, custom-designed product development lab, sensory research facilities and the Queensland BrewLab.

It was a great opportunity to connect and showcase the work taking place to support the food industry.

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## Central Queensland Smart Cropping Centre—Expressions of interest open

Get involved in the design and development of work at Emerald's new Central Queensland Smart Cropping Centre (CQSCC).

The CQSCC brings research, development, and extension together with the latest AgTech innovations to create integrated farming solutions.

The CQSCC is part of the Queensland Smart



Farms initiative— a network of farms and facilities dedicated to advancing Australia's agriculture and food industries through AgTech innovation.

[Express your interest](#) in the CQSCC and register your details via the [Queensland Smart Farms Engagement Hub](#) to keep up to date.

For more information on Queensland Smart Farms, visit our [website](#).

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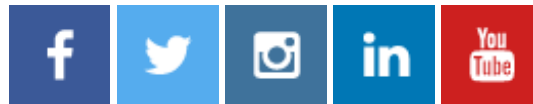


Natural disasters and COVID-19 has disrupted the way we go about our day-to-day lives and run our businesses.

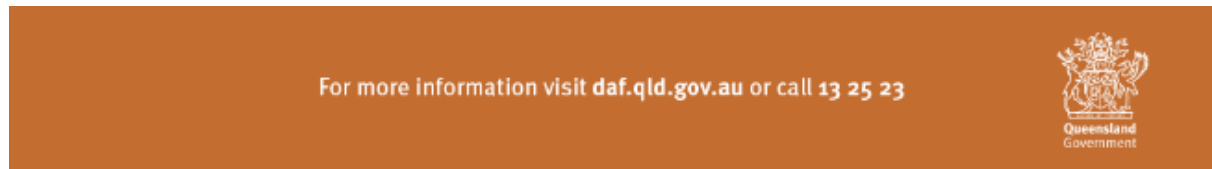
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Queensland Government

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