

VG16060 - Vegetable Agrichemical Pest Management Needs and Priorities – 4th Quarterly Industry Update

SUMMARY

The Project Coordinator, Patrick Arratia, is working in establishing a priorities database that identifies industry pest priorities and categorise them regionally. Using this database, the Project Coordinator will generate a yearly priority list for each commodity, resulting in the development of a gap list that identifies the top five agrichemical priorities for each commodity.

GROUND WORK

Workshops

During this fourth quarter, the Project Coordinator has continued industry consultation and engagement with growers and agronomists. Five workshops have taken place during these last 4 months, and over 30 growers and agronomists have been consulted to discuss pest, diseases and weed issues in their regions.

Date	Region	State	Venue	Targeted Crops
29/08/2018	Myalup	WA	Myalup Community Hall	Brassicas
29/08/2018	Myalup	WA	Myalup Community Hall	Carrots
30/08/2018	Manjimup	WA	Manjimup Resource Centre	Brassicas
20/09/2018	Bathurst	NSW	Bathurst RSL	Sweet corn
20/09/2018	Bathurst	NSW	Bathurst RSL	Brassicas

Pest, disease and weed issues, for targeted crops, were identified, discussed and ranked by the working group and subsequently added to the projects database.

One on one consultation

Katherine and Darwin – Northern Territories

In addition to workshops, one on one grower and agronomist consultation was conducted in Katherine and Darwin, Northern Territories during early September. Pumpkin growers were visited in Katherine and okra, snake beans, cucumbers and asian cucurbit growers were visited in the Darwin region. Pest, disease and weed issues were discussed, recorded and added to the pest priorities data base.

AGCHEM FORUM

The Agchem, which is a platform that facilitates a direct and formal discussion between the users of agchem technologies and the manufacturers, took place in Melbourne in October 2018. Vegetable pest priorities were presented to agchem registrants for potential solutions. Projects will be presented to The Australian Government and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to potentially obtain assistance grants to help with the generation of data to support applications to the APVMA and therefore improve agchem access for vegetable growers by addressing gaps identified during industry consultation.

NEXT

VG16060 industry consultation continues, project coordinator will continue visiting vegetable growing regions so keep an eye open on Patrick. If you are interested in participating and/or if you would like to have a workshop hosted in your region, please contact Patrick at patrick.arratia@ausveg.com.au or on 03 9882 0277, or contact your local VegNET coordinator.