

# Blush

A weekly email of issues relevant to the Australian Mango Industry.  
Compiled by Trevor Dunmall, IDM for the Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd (AMIA).  
Week 11 2005 (Collins diary) Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> March 2005.

## **Spray and adjuvant workshops well attended**

The AMIA/Nufarm spray and adjuvant workshops, which have been held in 6 regions over the past 2 weeks were well received by the growers who attended them. Robyn Gaskin, Research Director with Plant Protection Chemistry New Zealand was the key speaker at the workshops and provided great food for thought on application and the use of adjuvants in application. A report on the workshops with information that Robyn presented will be available in the next edition of Mango Matters. The workshop program was funded by Nufarm with assistance from a Federal Government AusIndustry grant. Special thanks to the Nufarm team who organised the workshops, and in particular Stuart Frankling and Guy Perriman who were integral in ensuring the workshops occurred and ran smoothly.

## **Produce Executive Program**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Produce Executive Program is being run again at Monash University (Mt Eliza Business School from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> May. This program is highly recommended. If you would like to know more details, or obtain a copy of the application form, please contact Trevor Dunmall. Positions are limited so please apply early.

## **New Report shows true worth of Agriculture (From HAL Newsletter)**

A new report launched this week shows Australian agriculture is at the core of a sector of the national economy that generates more than 12% of national GDP each year. The research was funded by a VC from the Australian Farm Institute with matched funding through HAL.

The project set out to quantify the full scope of economic activity associated with the agricultural sector in Australia. It measured all the economic activity within the farm sector, as well as within industries providing goods and services to farmers, and within the industries using farm produce to manufacture or market products for consumption. The researchers termed this Australia's 'Farm-Dependent Economy'.

The report found that Australia's Farm-Dependent Economy contributed an average of 12.1% of national GDP for the six years up to 2004. This is nearly 4 times the simple yet widely used measure of the value of commodities at the farm-gate. The report is not just constrained to big-picture economic effects. It also drills down into the impacts of policy changes and natural disasters on employment, living standards and economic activity in Australia's regional areas. It highlights that policy changes impacting on agriculture have a much greater impact on the whole economy than has ever been recognised.

For a full copy of the report go to <http://www.farminstitute.org.au/>

## **Federal Government Grants (from HAL)**

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) is running the New Industries Development Program (NIDP) as part of the Backing Australia's Ability: Building our Future through Science and Innovation package.

There are 2 funding schemes running at present:

1. Pilot Commercialisation project: Grants of between \$50-100K are available - applications close in April and Sept.
2. In Market Experience Scholarships (IMES) - for agribusiness managers to look at new markets and gain experience etc. Applications close in July.

If you want more information about these: **1300 884 588** or [www.daff.gov.au/agribiz](http://www.daff.gov.au/agribiz)