



# PGIBSA Quarterly Report



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## DNA SAMPLING RESEARCH - update

The Phylloxera Board is continuing to see strong results from the DNA sampling research.

A third round of data collection in the Yarra Valley and Rutherglen for 2014 is currently underway, which will begin testing a range of sampling methodologies.

In Spring 2014, the Board will conduct, for the first time, DNA sampling research in South Australia in the following regions -

- Riverland - due to the region having a high percentage of vines on rootstocks; and to further the development of the soil sampling method to include the detection of nematodes;
- Mundulla - to complete a time/cost comparison with the bucket method of detecting phylloxera;
- Barossa Valley - as it has the highest volume of grape receivals and grape processing in South Australia; and
- McLaren Vale - to conduct further nematode evaluation.

These trials have been made possible through additional funding from the SA Government.

Following PGIBSA's presentation at the Science Exchange in May, the science community were very excited about the future application prospects, but more importantly, the ability to conduct DNA testing in "real time" in the field.

## RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

The first function of the Board (as per the Act) is to assess risk. To enable this process, the Board has established a risk register and has put in place a formal incident reporting process. It is important to note that all information provided is held in the **strictest confidence**.

Management of incident reporting by the Board is as follows:

- A Board staff member notes the allegation during a discussion with the informant to ascertain specifically what happened, the time, and who was involved.
- It is a requirement of the State regulators that all incidents be reported in writing before any investigation can take place. Therefore where the allegation is nonspecific, the Board will request further information in writing, especially regarding any regulatory breaches.
- An incident form is completed either over the phone with a Board staff member or by the informant.
- Upon receipt of the details, an assessment is undertaken and an investigation initiated or more information sought.
- Where a regulatory breach has occurred, it is immediately discussed with Biosecurity SA and the appropriate regulatory State authorities for any appropriate action.
- Incident reports are reviewed by the Risk and Audit Committee, which then makes a recommendation to the Board.

### Reporting:

As part of the ongoing risk review process, the Board will document incidents that are identified and then apply the risk assessment method.

Incident reports require the following information:

- a. What was the incident, eg illegal or ignorant human behaviour such as the movement of planting material, machinery or people?
- b. Time/date of the alleged incident,
- c. Who was involved?
- d. Where did the incident occur, and importantly -
- e. How the person reporting gain this information, eg observation, heard about it from another person etc?

### Ongoing incidents:

In the April to June 2014 period, no incidents were reported.

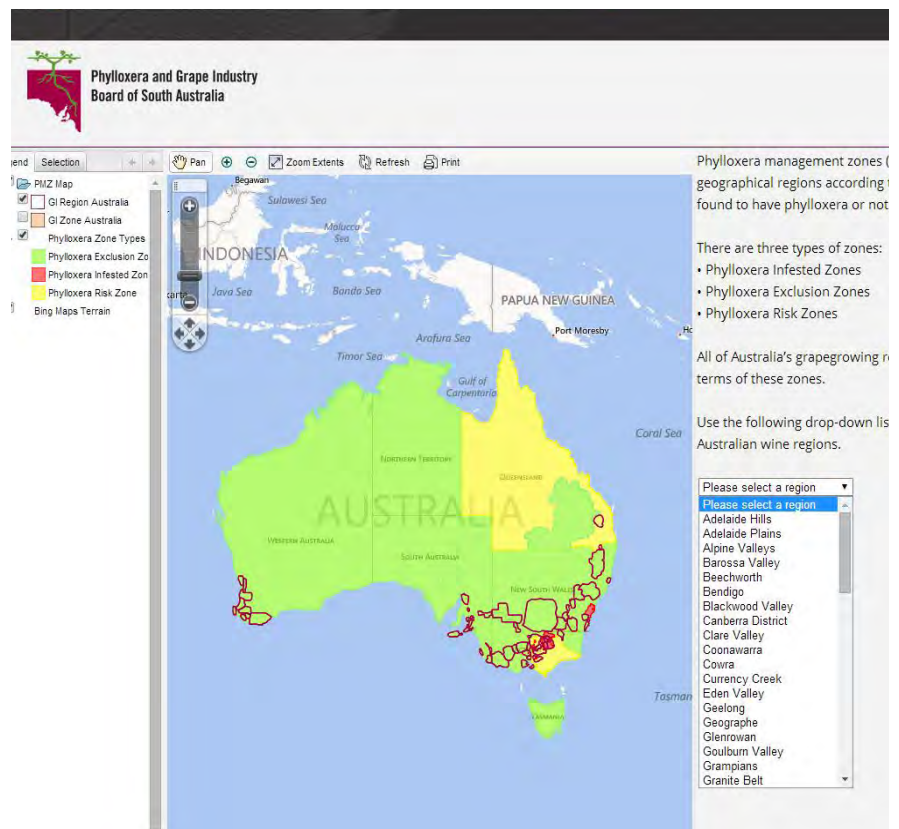
The Board welcomes reporting on any incidents, including those that allegedly may have occurred sometime ago (ie.years ago) that have caused concern.

The Board will apply the risk assessment principles to the incident to determine the level of risk. The Board is particularly interested in alleged breaches of regulation (Plant Quarantine Standard) and between PEZ's and PRZ's/PIZ's.

## NEW - INTERACTIVE MAP - PHYLLOXERA MANAGEMENT ZONE MAP

A new addition to the Board's website is the Phylloxera Management Zone (PMZ) map. The exact boundaries of Australia's phylloxera infestation and risk zones are now as close as your computer or tablet. It is located at [www.phylloxera.com.au/interactive-maps](http://www.phylloxera.com.au/interactive-maps)

The online map allows users to zoom in to see specific areas and individual roads in any wine region. The map would be of direct benefit to vineyard and winery owners and has the potential to increase general awareness of, and compliance with, the National Phylloxera Management Protocol (NPMP) and the relevant State Plant Quarantine Standards.



## OUTBREAK SIMULATIONS

As per the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act (1995), “if an outbreak of disease occurs, the Chief Inspector and the presiding member of the Board must -

(a) Determine the appropriate action to be taken to control the outbreak; and

(b) Provide ongoing advice to the Minister in relation to the outbreak and the action being taken to control it.”

When combining this legislation with the learnings from the Yarra Valley infestation in 2006, the conduct of regional simulations play an important role in ‘determining the appropriate action’ and most importantly, lead the region to the most important task of completing their Outbreak Management Plan.

### *Recent Simulation Exercises:*

The Board has recently staged a simulation in the Riverland (meeting pictured) with the following key issues raised:

- Should the whole of the Riverland be declared a PIZ?
- What communication/awareness plan is in place to notify the region of the outbreak? Would it be similar to the Fruit Fly outbreak?
- What impact will being zoned in a PIZ have on our marketing?
- What would happen to Riverland Vine Improvement operations? How would that impact on growers with orders outside of the zone? and
- Complete an Economic Analysis of an outbreak - this depends on the scenario.

### *Upcoming Simulation Exercises:*

- Langhorne Creek - will have their first Outbreak Simulation on the 14 August 2014, 9.30-12.30pm (followed by lunch) - at the Langhorne Football Club (see attached flyer);
- Barossa Valley - will host the next stage of their process which is to host a simulation whereby the business decision makers are invited to attend.



## INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES

A good article demonstrating leadership in biosecurity management by Ben Thomson in not only protecting his own family vineyard, but also those of his clients!

<http://grapegrowersandwinemaker.wordpress.com/2014/06/27/ben-puts-his-best-foot-forward-at-harvest/#more-983>

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**Disclaimer:** While the board has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this report, it accepts no liability for the use of the information and any consequences arising from doing so.



# Phylloxera Outbreak Simulation

## - Langhorne Creek -

A *not to be missed opportunity* to experience the potential impact of a Phylloxera Outbreak in the Langhorne Creek wine region.

**Thursday August 14**

**9:30am - 12:30pm**

**Football Club, Langhorne Creek  
(followed by lunch)**

**If there was a Phylloxera Outbreak in Langhorne Creek....**

- Should the whole region be declared a phylloxera zone if one area has it?
- Would you be able to sell your fruit outside the region?
- Would there be enough harvesters to get our fruit off in time?
- Could our fruit be transported to wineries outside the region?

All these questions (and more) will be discussed during an interactive and entertaining morning so please come and share your views and suggestions for biosecurity planning for the region.

**Register by August 8:**

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Phylloxera and Grape Industry  
Board of South Australia

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**"Healthy phylloxera free vineyards for SA"**