Phylloxera and Grape Industry
Board of South Australia

SUMMER 2014

Newsletter

Min. Leon Bignell (pictured centre) with (from L to R) Ben Gibson - PGIBSA, Peter Hackworth -WGCSA, Brian Smedley - SAWIA and Alan Nankivell - PGIBSA

MINISTER LAUNCHES THE BOARD'S NEXT STRATEGIC PLAN

Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Minister - Mr Leon Bignell has launch the Board's next 5 year plan at the annual meeting that was held at the Adelaide Pavilion, South Tce, Adelaide on Wednesday 15 October 2014.

The Board in collaboration with Wine Grape Council of South Australia (WGCSA) and the South Australian Wine Industry Association (SAWIA) embarked on a process of exploration about the priorities for the Board to consider.

The process included surveying industry stakeholders across the industry, face to face meetings with significant groups, such as the regional leaders, interviews with industry leaders and a full day session with the industry partners where the core vision and goals were created. The Board has continued to refine the plan as a result of feedback from its collaborators.

The strategic goals are:

1. We demonstrate positive biosecurity actions;
2. We are the national provider of grape and wine industry biosecurity knowledge;
3. We monitor and measure the adoption of Research and Development outcomes;
4. We communicate brilliantly and effectively;
5. We operate effectively in an ever changing environment.

The Minister outlined the actions the Board will be undertaking over the next 5 years to achieve these goals. During the years ahead, the Board will be reporting on the plans progress.

The plan and implementation strategy are available on the website www.phylloxera.com.au

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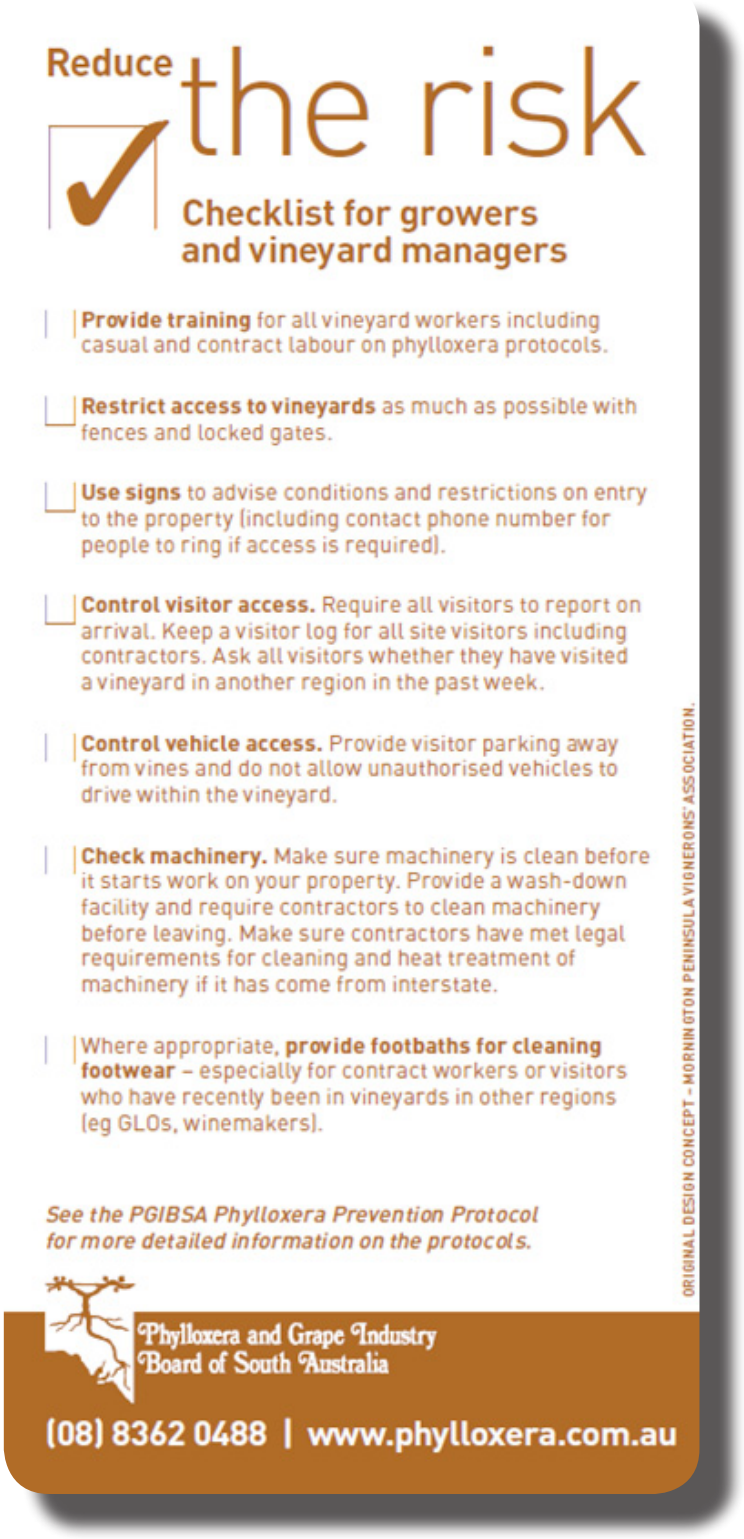
PHYLLOXERA HEATSHED

REDUCE THE RISKS TO YOUR VINEYARD

"Phylloxera can be spread by movement of grapevine material, grape products, machinery, people and vehicles"

"Growers, contractors and wineries need to take responsibility for protecting their vineyards and regions by implementing preventable protocols"



"Protect your vineyard from phylloxera or other pest, diseases and weeds that can be spread by visitors"

2014 SA Winegrape crush survey results

706,017 tonnes	was the total crush of South Australian wine grapes in vintage 2014.
$423m	was the total estimated value of grapes, down by $16m (1.4%) from 2013.

Top 3 regions for tonnes crushed

Riverland	61.8% (436,378t)
Langhorne Creek	5.9% (48,639t)
Barossa Valley	6.2% (43,775t)

258 wineries	responded voluntarily, with a 2.0% non-response rate across the state.

For the full, state and regional reports, please go to http://www.phylloxera.com.au/resources/sa-winegrape-crush-survey/

DNA TRIALING

As a result of the additional funding provided by the State Government, the DNA project team took the opportunity to conduct further trials in South Australian vineyards in the Riverland, Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale.

The purpose of the trials was to ascertain the performance of the simple soil sample technique as a way of identifying and quantifying nematodes, both the beneficial and harmful species. A further site at Mundulla will be sampled in October to complete a time trial comparison in the site where a bucket detection method was trialled several years ago. This will be useful to compare the costs of collecting and analysing the samples.

Finally, the South Australian sites provide an opportunity to test the DNA identification method for false positives as it is not known that phylloxera exists at these sites.

The data collection continues in the Yarra Valley, King Valley and Rutherglen with the next collection occurring in October 2014 by the end of 2014 the research team will have gathered replicated data for 2 years. The time line for completion of the research is the end of 2015.

Min. Leon Bignell pictured with Dr Alan McKay and Dr Kathy Ophel Keller of SARDI - discussing DNA trialing

SA SPATIAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

At the recent South Australian Spatial Excellence Awards (SASEA), held on Friday 29 August 2014, the Board won the industry award for the Environment and Sustainability category for a project focussing on increasing knowledge transfer in the Wine Industry, through the creation of the Grape Industry Kiosk, thus giving grapegrowers access to tools to view and update their details online. The information is then used to publish a virtual atlas of information on the location and quantity of every grape variety grown in the state of South Australia.

Pictured L to R: Alan Nankivell - PGIBSA, Lisa Weber - Precision Management Solutions and Brendan Tully - PGIBSA

The virtual atlas provides real time information to industry stakeholders, enabling them to be more informed when making business decisions. As stakeholders seek to drive for efficiencies and productivity gains, vital in a competitive global market the Grape Industry Kiosk provides a platform upon which information can be gathered and presented to the industry in an easy to read format. Importantly, the platform also delivers capabilities for biosecurity trace back and communication management.

The project was completed by Mr Brendan Tully, Spatial Administrator - PGIBSA and Ms Lisa Weber Director of Precision Management Solutions, who worked together to bring this innovation to reality.

The SASEA are presented annually by the Spatial Industries Business Association in conjunction with the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute, celebrating the achievements of top spatial information enterprises and showcase the finest projects that the South Australian Spatial Industry has to offer.

BOARD MEMBERS'

Ben Gibson
Chairman
0417 865 580

Marc Allgrove
0448 671 815

Nigel Blieschke
0418 836 546

Ashley Chabrel
0409 882 582

Cassandra Collins
0402 433 976

Roseanne Healy
0408 800 268

Elise Heyes
0408 333 976

Suzanne McLoughlin
0412 859 882

Geoff Raven
0401 121 917

PGIBSA News

STAFF CHANGES

ANDREW DOWNS

With the recent announcement of the new Strategic Plan, the Board looked to maximise its limited resources toward priorities, which required a change in the skill set amongst staff. As a result, the role performed by Andrew Downs changed from Viticulturalist – Project Officer to Manager – Projects and Communications.

The position went to market and the successful candidate was Inca Pearce, who has commenced with the Board on 1 December 2014 as the Manager – Projects and Communications. Inca has extensive experience in viticulture, R&D and communications.

INCA PEARCE

Whilst it is sad to see Andrew move on, the Board wishes him every success in the future. Andrew has made a valuable contribution to the development of the Board's programs through thoughtful management of the rootstocks trials, overseeing the DNA research trial data collection and the management of the online Risk Assessment Tool.

The Board welcomes Inca to the team and we look forward to working with her to mitigate against the risk of pest and disease incursions in South Australian vineyards.

2015 SUVEILLANCE INSPECTIONS

This year, staff will be conducting inspections in late January 2015 in the Barossa Valley and Riverland region.

Imagery was taken from early January 2014 as part of a collaborated capture between Local Government (Mallala, Light and Barossa Councils, Mid Murray Council and River Murray Council), DEWNR and PGIBSA.

Analysis of the multispectral imagery showed very few sites with low vigour presenting as a possible oval shape, however, a handful of sites will be ground truthed.

Please contact the office for more information on **08 8362 0488** or alternatively email Brendan Tully at gis@phylloxera.com.au

KEEP IT CLEAN — HEAT IT!

The heat shed treatments remain an important tool in maintaining confidence in phylloxera free vineyard equipment.

For all heat treatment bookings, please contact Mark Dinham during business hours on **08 8762 0666** or email Mark at gyrobuilt@tpg.com.au

If you would like to become a registered user, please contact Alan Nankivell, CEO on **08 8362 0488** or by email at alann@phylloxera.com.au

Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia

46 Nelson Street,
Stepney, SA 5069

T (08) 8362 0488
F (08) 8362 0499
E admin@phylloxera.com.au

phylloxera.com.au

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