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Wednesday, 18 June 2014

The latest industry news at your fingertips

'Guacamole' is the Australian avocado industry's fortnightly email newsletter delivering the latest news of relevance to the Australian avocado industry.

Make sure you check out:

[Heston Blumenthal talks Avocados](#)
[\\$500 Flight Centre voucher to WIN - Just have your say!](#)
[WA Growers & Packers - Workshop 24 July!](#)
[WA Wholesalers & Providers - Workshop 23 July!](#)
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Grower Update



WA Growers & Packers - Workshop coming 24 July!

Avocado growers and packers based in Western Australia are invited to attend the **Western Australian Qualicado Workshop** happening on **Thursday 24 July** at **313 Seven Day Road near Manjimup**. This free and informative workshop has been tailored to meet the needs of avocado growers and packers. Avocados Australia would like to thank local avocado grower Anthony Fontanini for kindly offering to host this workshop. The Qualicado workshops are extension events that are being rolled out across the country as part of Avocados Australia's [Qualicado program](#). Qualicado has been funded by Horticulture Australia Ltd using the national avocado levy and matched funds from the Australian Government. Our thanks also go to Birdwood Nursery for supporting the Qualicado program as a national sponsor.

[Click here](#) to view the **WA Qualicado Workshop** program.

Those interested in attending can **RSVP** now by contacting Nathan Symonds on **07 3846 6566** or supplychain@avocado.org.au before **Monday 21 July 2014**.

Perth-based Wholesalers & Proveedores - Workshop 23 July!

On Wednesday 23 July 2014 Avocados Australia is holding the **Perth Qualicado Workshop** an event for Perth-based avocado wholesalers, proveedores, ripeners and transporters. They can learn more about how avocado bruising occurs in the supply chain and find out ways to get the most shelf life from ripening and handling practices. This free informative event will be taking place at the **Perth Market Functions & Training Centre** (Market City, 280 Bannister Road in Canning Vale).

Proposed Program:

08.30am	Complimentary coffee and tea on arrival
09.00am	Welcome by Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
09.10am	Program Overview - John Tyas, CEO Avocados Australia
09.30am	Overview of Qualicado Program - Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
09.40am	Best Practice Resource Overview - Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
09.50am	Avocado Bruising Research Update - Terry Campbell, QDAFF
10.20am	Break
10.35am	Handling and Ripening - What you can do to minimise risk - Terry Campbell, QDAFF
11.05am	Infocado Program Update - Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
11.25am	Avocado Varieties - Denis Roe, Birdwood Nursery
11.40am	Finish

To view updates about the Qualicado Workshop events go to the Avocados Australia website (<http://industry.avocado.org.au>) and click on "Events" on the menu bar and then on "What's On". To view the event details online [click here](#).

To RSVP to attend contact Nathan Symonds on 07 3846 6566 or supplychain@avocado.org.au.

Central NSW Qualicado Workshop draws record crowd

The majority of avocado growers and packers based in Central New South Wales attended Avocados Australia's Central NSW Qualicado Workshop that was held recently at Comboyne. Around 80 people attended the day that included presentations from leading researchers, an overview about the Qualicado program followed by an orchard walk.

The orchard walk began with an overview about the current orchard management practices being adopted by host and local avocado grower Ernst Tideman.

Avocados Australia would like to thank the speakers who took part on the day. We would also like to thank Ernst and Penny Tideman for hosting the day and supporting the event.

All of the presentations delivered on the day are available online from the Best Practice Resource (BPR). To do this [click here](#) to access the BPR login page. Once you are logged in glide your cursor over the menu bar to "Growing" then scroll down and click on "Qualicado". Once on the page click on "Central New South Wales". A list of the presentations and their links appear on the page.

Avocados Australia's Online Survey - Have your say!

Score \$500 toward your next holiday, complete our survey for the chance to win!

Avocados Australia is committed to continuous improvement of our communication with stakeholders. To achieve this we are reviewing our communications via an online survey to seek your feedback on how we are doing. Importantly the survey also provides you with the opportunity to tell us ways we can improve and innovate.

Avocados Australia wants to hear from you! We value your opinion. So to provide an added incentive we are offering **the first 20 people who respond a free Avocados Australia cap**. As well as this all respondents have the chance to win a **TRAVEL VOUCHER WORTH \$500** from Flight Centre*. The travel prize will be drawn on Friday the 27 June and the winner announced on our website. So if you fill in the survey you may win the chance to cover the cost of your next holiday.

The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Your responses are confidential. So take a moment to share your views.

[Click here to access Avocados Australia's Online Communication Survey.](#)

Please complete the survey before close of business on Tuesday 24 June 2014.

*Conditions Apply: Prize is to be taken as offered and is not transferable or redeemable for cash and can't be on sold. Prize must be redeemed by the due date as indicated on the offer. All personal details provided are only used in conjunction with this survey prize and are not disclosed to any other parties. Avocados Australia will not be held liable for any further claim following the receipt of the prize by the winner.

DATE CLAIMERS!

Events for Growers and Packers:

Western Australia Qualicado Workshop - 24 July 2014

Central Queensland Qualicado Workshop - 11 September 2014

Events for Wholesalers, Ripeners & Transporters:

Perth Qualicado Workshop - 23 July 2014

Other Events:

Growcom's "Whatever the Weather" Workshops:

Free workshops for horticulture growers that focus on reviewing extreme weather experiences and focusing on coping strategies to better prepare in case of future extreme weather events (for growers based in select areas of regional Queensland only). Future dates: Gympie (29 May - Mareeba - 16 July 2014); Cassowary Coast (18 July 2014); South Burnett (July 2014); Gatton and Boonah (August 2014). [Click here](#) to RSVP or for more information.

Norco Primex 3 Day Exhibition, Casino NSW - 19 to 21 June 2014:

Interested growers wishing to attend can [click here](#) for more information.

Packers, Ripeners & Wholesalers - Boost your businesses!

Are you an avocado packer, ripener or wholesaler who wants to improve your business? As part of the AAL Qualicado program, we can arrange a **free consultation session** with a supply chain expert to **review your facilities and systems against industry best practice** for quality out turns. However, this service won't be available forever so get in quickly to secure your free session.

The facility check/review will be undertaken by an independent qualified service provider contracted by Avocados Australia. The review will look at what is working well and provide expert advice where improvements can be made. Sessions typically take about 2 hours on site and an action plan will be developed in consultation with the business to address the issues identified. The cost of this consultation is covered through the Qualicado program, however should further expertise be needed; this would be at the businesses' own cost. Confidentiality of participant and information provided is guaranteed.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Nathan Symonds, Supply Chain Manager at Avocados Australia on **07 3846 6566** or email supplychain@avocado.org.au.

Infocado Reports & Retail Prices

The latest **Infocado Reports** and **Retail Prices** have been uploaded to the Avocados Australia website. You can regularly access this information by going to the [Avocados Australia website](#). Glide your cursor over the maroon menu bar to "Services". Once there drag your mouse down the list or for quick access click on these links: "[Infocado](#)" and "[Retail Pricing](#)".

Update to Australia-New Zealand Export arrangements

[Click here](#) to view the latest Department of Agriculture Industry Advice Notice (IAN) in regard an update to Australia-New Zealand Export Arrangements (superseding IAN 2014/6).

Online Report Centre - latest uploads!

Avocado levy payers and Avocados Australia members that have access to the **Online Report Centre** (located on the Avocados Australia website) can view and open electronic copies of Avocado-related Research & Development reports, Annual Reports, Market Data, Member notices and other useful documents. To view the recent uploads, and all of the above documents, [click here](#) to access the Online Report Centre and then enter your username and password to log in.

RECENT UPLOADS:

Under "Member notices"

- Avocado Biosecurity Plan
- Avocado Biosecurity Manual

If you require assistance in accessing the Online Report Centre please email co@avocado.org.au or call 1300 303 971.

Best Practice Resource - NEW Irrigation Video

Did you know that the Best Practice Resource online (BPR) includes information about how to check irrigation uniformity in avocado orchards? In fact the information is presented in an easy short video, just access the BPR.

HOW TO ACCESS:

Once you have logged on to the BPR move your cursor over the "Growing" menu option on the maroon menu and then scroll down to and click on "Irrigation". Once on the Irrigation page go to the green menu bar and click on "Irrigation uniformity video".

If you are a grower and you haven't applied to access the Best Practice Resource apply for access now! [Click here](#), then click on "Apply for access" and complete the online form.

Marketing Update

Australian Avocados' "Best Bites" talks avocados with Heston Blumenthal



Best Bites is a bi-annual newsletter from Australian Avocados to the food service industry. Developed as a communication tool by the Chef Training Program (AV13011) this newsletter primarily aims to keep food service professionals informed on Australian Avocado master-class training events that will be occurring in the coming months. Targeted at chefs the newsletter

also serves as a an inspirational reminder about usage ideas for fresh avocados to keep them on the menu. The newsletter is sent as both a printed flyer and as an eDM to the 2,000 strong food service database that has been built over the last 4 years of the program. The latest Winter Edition is particularly inspirational featuring an interview with internationally renowned chef Heston Blumenthal and his views on the simple avocado. Known as a culinary scientist Heston sums up avocados as *“potentially one of the most versatile pieces of produce you can have”*. And who could argue with that?

[Click here](#) to view the Winter Edition of "Best Bites" in full.

Industry News

Mission Produce builds new Oxnard plant as avocado consumption surges

Mission Produce Inc. recently announced that they are building a new packing, ripening and distribution plant in the city to handle the increasing demand for avocados. Read more by [clicking here](#).

Avocados from Peru launches summer campaign

The Peruvian Avocado Commission recently launched a combination of trade and consumer marketing programs to support the largest Peruvian avocado crop ever exported to the US. Read more by [clicking here](#).

Can't wait for Guacamole? You can read all the latest [Avocado News](#) and industry-related [National & International News](#) on the Avocados Australia industry website.

Qualicado Program Sponsor:

National Sponsor:

Planting Avocado Trees?

Birdwood Nursery is a specialist fruit tree nursery supplying the highest quality fruit trees to commercial growers and retail nurseries throughout Australia.

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