

[View Online](#)

[Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [Membership](#) | [Events](#) | [Growers](#) | [Services](#) | [News](#) | [Contact](#)

Monday, 18 November 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:

[Avocado Industry hosts New Commissioner to China](#)
[North Queensland Qualicado Workshop - 4 December](#)
[Best Practice Resource - Alternate Bearing & Irregular Bearing](#)
[Supply Chain Directory - Lists your business on our website](#)
[Online Report Centre - latest upload](#)
[Energy Saving Information](#)
[Dry Matter Results & Retail Prices](#)
[National & International Newsfeed](#)
[No Vietnam fruit ban yet, say Australian authorities](#)
[Chinese free-trade agreement opens door to exports](#)
[Chilean fruit industry expects highest returns in 2015](#)
[Costco sees potential growth in demand for Australian produce](#)

Grower Update



Avocado Industry hosts New Commissioner to China

In early November members of the Avocado Industry hosted Mr Adam Balcerak, a representative of the Department of Agriculture and the new trade commissioner to China. The new commissioner took part in a three-day meet and greet in Central Queensland that commenced with a full day discussing the avocado industry. Meetings were held with representatives of the Avocado Export Company, Sunfresh, the Avolution and Avocados Australia with visits to packhouses, processors and orchards. The intention of the first day of the three day tour was to showcase Australian avocados and to show him that the industry is committed to developing export markets.

The industry is eager to gain access to the Chinese market and this was a significant part of the conversations that were held between the Commissioner and the key exporters and growers he met with. The new commissioner's visit comes before his post to China in which he will commence a four year term of service.

"It was a great opportunity to educate the commissioner about our industry before he takes up this position. The avocado export plan identifies China as a priority market for the future and we need to secure government support to help us achieve a viable market access protocol," said Avocados Australia's CEO John Tyas.

North Queensland Qualicado Workshop - 4 December

The North Queensland Qualicado Workshop will be taking place on Thursday 4 December 2014 at 232 McBean Road, Mareeba QLD. All growers and packers in the area are invited to attend this free and informative event aimed at providing avocado growers and packers in the region with the latest information on how to manage pre and post-harvest nutrition, handling and temperature control, managing Phytophthora and more.

PROGRAM:

- 08.30am Complimentary coffee and tea on arrival
- 09.00am Welcome by Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
- 09.05am Program Overview - John Tyas, CEO AAL
- 09.30am Best Practice Resource - Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
- 09.45am Grower Self-Assessments (40mins) - Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
- 10.25am Morning Tea (25mins)
- 10.50am Plant Varieties - Denis Roe, Birdwood Nursery
- 11.05am Pre & Post-Harvest Nutrition - Simon Newett, QDAFF
- 11.50am Handling and Temperature Control - Terrence Campbell, QDAFF
- 12.35pm Lunch (45mins)
- 01.20pm R U real about Root Rot - Simon Newett, QDAFF
- 02.05pm Contributing to Infocado - John Tyas & Nathan Symonds, AAL CEO & PM
- 02.50pm Orchard Walk - with Giovanni Ravello
 - In-Field Nutrition - Simon Newett, QDAFF
 - Phytophthora Management - Simon Newett, QDAFF
- 03.20pm Wrap Up & Evaluations - Nathan Symonds, AAL Program Manager
- 03.30pm Finish

Note: This program may be subject to change.

Those interested in attending can RSVP now by contacting Nathan Symonds on 07 3846 6566 or supplychain@avocado.org.au before Tuesday 2 December 2014.

Supply Chain Directory - Lists your business online

Avocados Australia provides a free supply chain directory on our website. You can find this feature by going to the [Avocados Australia website](#) and clicking on "SUPPLY CHAIN DIRECTORY" located top right on the top menu bar. The Supply chain directory provides us with a great way for listing businesses active in the industry and for directing enquiries.

To be listed just [click here](#) and fill in the online form.

When we get enquiries for industry contacts (e.g: someone seeking to import Australian avocados, someone seeking processed product, someone seeking a particular service or product etc) we can then direct these people to this page.

Best Practice Resource - Alternate Bearing and Irregular Bearing

Did you know that the Best Practice Resource contains information about alternate bearing and irregular bearing?

Avocado trees are exhibiting alternate bearing when they have consistent "on"/ "off" yields from one year to the next. Once this cropping cycle is triggered it becomes entrenched through internal tree factors (dictated by a see-sawing of carbohydrate levels and plant growth hormones between years) and is difficult to break out of.

There is no predictable pattern to irregular bearing, it is sporadic in nature and usually driven by climatic or management events that impact negatively on fruit-set/crop load regardless of flowering intensity. If poor crops are caused by weather events then it is likely that all the farms in the district will be affected whereas if caused by a management error then only that farm will be affected.

To access the above content on the BPR move your cursor to the "Growing" menu item and then select "Irregular & alternate bearing".

How to gain access to the BPR:

If you are an Australian grower/packer/wholesaler/ripenener/transporter/exporter/retailer and you haven't applied to access the Best Practice Resource apply for access now! [Click here](#) to access the "Apply for access" online form.

Online Report Centre - latest upload

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 UPLOAD:

Market Data:

- *Export Market Intelligence Report - Jan-Sept*

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

Energy Saving Information

Apple and Pear Australia Ltd (APAL) is sharing their "Watts in your Business" program information with other horticulture industries. Apparently many of the main energy sinks in the deciduous orchards / packing sheds will be the same as those found in other crops. They include irrigation, refrigeration, lighting, packing lines and renegotiating tariffs is a great way to start reducing your energy costs. To access the information sheets [click here](#) to go to the Watts In Your Business website. 'Watts in Your Business' is managed by APAL, undertaken with Summerfruit Australia Limited and Cherry Growers Australia Inc., and funded under the Australian Government's Energy Efficiency Information Grants program. KMH Environmental have completed the audits and are preparing the reports with the assistance of Michael Bellstedt and Ananth Arkal of Minus 40, and Sam Birrell of Netafim.

National & International Newsfeed

Did you know that Avocados Australia's industry website provides a free newsfeed from our home page? Wherever you are as long as you are online you can access our website. Just [click here](#) to go to the page and then scroll down and look bottom right to the 'National & International news' section.

Dry Matter Results & Retail Prices

The latest **Dry Matter results** 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: "Maturity Monitoring" and "Retail Pricing".

Industry News

No Vietnam fruit ban yet, say Australian authorities

Following a teleconference with Department of Agriculture and peak bodies, the Department has confirmed that there are no bans implemented with Vietnam, nor bans on the issuance of import licences at this time. However, there are a number of technical market access

concerns that will need to be addressed to avoid adverse effects arising from Vietnam's transition to new import and regulations due to come into effect on 1 January 2015. The Department of Agriculture is currently working with Vietnam to reassure it of the competency of our national systems to detect and manage fruit fly in Australia, which are widely recognised by Australia's trading partners. Source: Australian Horticultural Exporters Association

Chinese free-trade agreement opens door to exports

THE Prime Minister and Chinese President Xi Jinping will sign a memorandum of understanding in Canberra today on an Australia-China free-trade agreement, strengthening the nation's relationship with its biggest trading partner. Read more by [clicking here](#).

Chilean fruit industry expects highest returns in 2015

Speaking during the inaugural session, Fedefruta president Juan Carolus Brown Bauza forecast a 15% rise in fresh fruit exports in 2015, partly due to recovery from last summer's challenging season. Read more by [clicking here](#).

Bulk retailer Costco sees potential growth in demand for Australian produce

The company's Australian country manager, Patrick Noone, says there is a big opportunity for Australian farmers to sell fresh produce in local outlets, as well as to shoppers as far afield as San Francisco, Taiwan, Korea and Japan. 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.

- We are BioSecure HACCP and ANVAS certified to provide the healthiest trees possible.
- Phytophthora-tolerant clonal rootstocks available to order.
- Enquire about the latest Hass-like cultivars Maluma, Carmen and Gem.

For more information contact info@birdwoodnursery.com.au

www.birdwoodnursery.com.au BIRDWOOD NURSERY Ph 07 5442 1611 Est. 1978

Qualicado National Sponsor

2012 Winner of the Best Avocado

2012 Winner of the Best Avocado

2012 Winner of the Best Avocado

This email was sent by Avocados Australia, Level 1 / 8/63 Annerley Rd, Woolloongabba, Australia 4102 to co@avocado.org.au

[Unsubscribe](#)

