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Monday, 29th of July 2013

The latest industry news at your fingertips

'Guacamole' is the Australian avocado industry's fortnightly email newsletter. It is intended to be a topical and industry specific newsletter.

The edition of Guacamole is separated into four sections: [Grower Update](#), [Industry Update](#), [Member Update](#) and [Industry News](#).

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Grower Update



North QLD Qualicado workshop 15 August - RSVP Now!

All North Queensland industry members are encouraged to attend the upcoming Qualicado workshop on 15 August at Koci Avocado's. Agenda topics include Fruit spotting bug control options, optimising Phosphorus Acid applications and all you need to know about improving fruit size. We have some fantastic, experienced guest speakers lined up including (to name a few) Matt Weinert, Simon Newett, Dr Ruth Huwer and Dr Ian Newton plus a farm walk through Sony Koci's orchard at RN 4030 Mareeba/Dimbulah Road Atherton. More information about Qualicado can be found [clicking here](#).

Please **RSVP for the workshop by 9 August** to Julie Petty on 07 3846 6566 or supplychain@avocado.org.au

Infocado Quarterly Report Published

The Infocado Quarterly Report for July has now been published and shows an updated forecast for industry for the coming 12 months. The report has been emailed to all businesses who contributed their forecasts. Please take the time to thoroughly review the document. If you

need to change your seasonal forecast, the July forms were emailed to all contributors last week. Any changes made to forecast now will feed into the Infocado Weekly Reports. Should you have any questions please contact Julie Petty on 07 3846 6566 or supplychain@avocado.org.au

Free iPad still up for grabs!

All growers are reminded that Avocados Australia is giving away two free iPads to two lucky OrchardInfo contributors! Forms have been emailed and posted to all growers along with instructions on how to complete them. If you are filling your form out electronically and you're having issues, please make sure you have downloaded Formatta Filler correctly - instructions for doing this are detailed in the email you received. Entries for the free iPads close on 30 September. For more information or help, please contact Julie Petty at Avocados Australia on 07 3846 6566 or infocado@avocado.org.au

Avocado Industry Annual Levy Payers' Meeting

The 2013 Avocado Industry Annual Levy Payers' Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 8th October 2013** in the EJ Faulkhead Room at Mecure Mildura (120 Eighth Street, Mildura, Victoria), starts at 1:30pm and finishes at 4:30pm. The Avocado Industry Advisory Committee look forward to seeing everyone there. To confirm your attendance email co@avocado.org.au or call 1300 303 971.

Free Cyclone Oswald Assistance Announced

Growers impacted by the rains and floods from ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald (covering the period 21-29 January 2013) have been granted more time in which to apply for grants under the assistance package from 30th August to 29th November. We are aware that some Queensland growers are still struggling to get contractors to meet the earlier deadline so this extension is welcome news. Growers that are eligible need to take advantage of this opportunity as soon as they can.

The grants are up to \$25,000 and low interest loans are also available for people to get back in business as soon as possible after the rains and floods from ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald (covering the period 21-29 January 2013). [Click here](#) to read the details. If you are a primary producer affected by the January floods and severe weather, please contact the Industry Recovery Officer (IRO) closest to your district:

- Rowena Beveridge: 0417 783 313 (Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim, Somerset, Southern Downs, Western Downs, Toowoomba, Goondiwindi and Ipswich)
- Robert Doyle: 07 4153 2555 (North and South Burnett)
- Margie Milgate: 0429 000 179 (Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Logan, Gold Coast)
- Bundaberg Fruit and Vegetable Growers: 07 4153 3007 (Bundaberg, Central Highlands, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Banana and Fraser Coast).

This project is part of the Queensland Farmers' Federation's Industry Recovery Initiative. For more information [click here](#). Information on funding and eligibility criteria can be found on the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority website at www.graa.qld.gov.au.

Industry Update

Avocado Research and Network Forum

On Tuesday the 30 July, the Avocado industry R&D Forum will be held at The Point Hotel in Brisbane. The R&D Forum is an opportunity for research scientists and industry to discuss potential research ideas addressing on-farm productivity leading to better informed industry R&D planning for the avocado industry. The purpose of the forum this year is very different from previous years in that it will be focussed and forward looking, rather than an update on the current program, as it has been in the past.

The area of focus for the forum this year will be "On-farm productivity - addressing rootstocks, disease management and irregular bearing". The main objective of the day is to assist the IAC with analysing R&D opportunities and future R&D investment planning around these three key areas of research.

For more information contact Avocados Australia call 07 3846 6566 or email co@avocado.org.au.

2 Days to go - Early Bird Conference Registration last chance!

Avocado experts from around the world will be represented at the 5th New Zealand & Australian Avocado Growers' Conference happening from 9th to the 12th of September at the ASB Arena, Baypark in Tauranga, New Zealand. Australian avocado industry members are encouraged to attend. Register online now for Nutritional Values and take advantage of early bird prices go to www.avocadoconference.co.nz.

Members Update

10th Avocados Australia Annual General Meeting

It's All voting members of Avocados Australia Limited are invited to attend the **10th Annual General Meeting (AGM)** of Avocados Australia Limited to be held on **Tuesday 8th October 2013**. The meeting will take place at **EJ Faulkhead Room, Mecure Mildura** (120 Eighth Street), starts at 12.30pm and finishes at 1.30pm. For more information email co@avocado.org.au or call 1300 303 971.

Avocados Australia Director Election 2013

Recently a letter was mailed out to members informing you of the decision by the Avocados Australia Board to review the avocado Growing Areas as part of the AAL constitutional requirements. The Board needs to undertake this review every five years in consideration of production across Australia.

Avocado production has changed significantly over the past few years and is likely to change further in the future. The Board acknowledged that representation needed to be amended to take account of these changes. The Board has resolved to introduce an additional Director position to the Western Australia growing area effective for nomination in the 2013 Board election, bringing the total number of Board Directors to ten.

The 2013 Avocados Australia Board election process is due to start shortly - nomination paperwork will be posted out on Monday 5th August 2013. This year six Board positions are available for grower members to stand they are:

1. Central Queensland Growing Area
2. North Queensland Growing Area
3. Tamborine/Northern Rivers Growing Area
4. Central New South Whales Growing Area (currently vacant)
5. Western Australia Growing Area (1) (currently vacant)
6. Western Australia Growing Area (2) (new position)

All members are encouraged to take part in the election process and encourage others to join. The election will be conducted as per the Avocados Australia Constitution - the full Constitution is found at www.avocado.org.au or you can contact us on 1300 303 971.

Become a Member? Have a Voice!

You must be a financial 'Grower Member' to undertake any of the following; nominating a director, being a nominee or voting for a director. Become a member now, you have until 5pm on Thursday 22nd August 2013 to still nominate and be a nominee. After this date, and up until 5pm on Wednesday 25th September 2013 (to vote), you can become a member and still vote in the Board of Directors election. Put these dates in your diary. For membership forms please go to www.avocado.org.au or look on the last page of 'Talking Avocados' magazine.

Industry News

NZ avocado exporters forge partnership for Australian sales

New Zealand's two largest avocado exporters have come together to sell their fruit in the Australian market where they used to be competitors, says website Radionz.co.nz. Read more by [clicking here](#).

Mexico makes advances in Japan

Asia is being viewed as a "high potential" market for Mexican fresh produce exporters, with both the government and producer organizations hoping to build on a strong performance in Japan to move into other Asian markets. Read more by [clicking here](#).

Kenyan avocados struggle under pressure from Peru

A leading Kenyan avocado supplier has accused Peruvian exporters of making Europe "uneconomically viable" for African growers by flooding the market with excess products and creating an oversupply in Kenya's principal European export destinations. Click here to [read more](#).

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.

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

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