

NORTH QUEENSLAND AVOCADO STUDY GROUP WORKSHOP
Thursday 13th July 2017
DBC farming, hosted by Henk Van Niekerk, 137 Veness Rd, Dimbulah

- 8:30 am REGISTRATION - Tea/coffee available**
- 9:00 am Welcome, introductions & outline of the day – Kaila Ridgway, DAF, Mareeba
- 9:15 am **Session 1 – Update on spotting bug management**
- 9:15 Science & research of the lure trap – Dr Ian Newton, DAF, Mareeba
- 9:25 Practical aspects of spotting bug management – Leonie Wittenberg,
LW Crop Services, Atherton Tablelands
- 9:35 Purchase and use of the lure trap – Jason Vella, Organic Crop
Protectants (OCP)
- 9:45 Progress with registration of new insecticides Transform® (Dow
AgroSciences) and Trivor® (Adama) – Dow (Ken Springall) &/or
Adama reps &/or Simon Newett, DAF, Nambour
- 9:55 Q & A for session 1
- 10:05 Introduction of host and discussion on the two field walks, plus update on the
Maluma variety – Henk Van Niekerk, DBC Farming
- 10:20 am SMOKO**
- 10:50 am **FIELD WALK #1**
- 10:50 Site 1 – Canopy management, drip irrigation and weed mat.
- 11:05 Site 2 – Original Maluma variety trial, pollinisers, and inner canopy
sprinklers.
- 11:20 Travel back to shed
- 11:30 am **Session 2 – Industry Update**
- 11:30 Local fruit quality enquiries and diagnosis – Peter Trevorrow & Kathy
Grice, DAF, Mareeba
- 11:45 ATAGA update – Kaila Ridgway, Secretary
- 11:50 Ambrosia beetle update – Kaila Ridgway, DAF, Mareeba
- 12:00 “Mechanical selective limb removal” – video presentation – Simon
Newett, DAF, Nambour
- 12:15 Work Place Health & Safety information on chainsaws – Adam
Spinelli, QLD WH&S
- 12:25 Correct use of Altacor® (chlorantraniliprole) – Kent Bell, DuPont

12:35 Q & A for session 2

12:45 pm BBQ LUNCH

1:35 pm Session 3

1:35 “How to plant an avocado tree” – video presentation - Simon Newett, DAF, Nambour

1:40 “The new Best Practice Resource (BPR)” – AAL video presentation

1:45 Review of the 2016 flowering and fruitset season in FNQ – Patrick O’Farrell, DAF, Mareeba

2:10 Q & A for session 3

2:20 pm Complete evaluation forms & choose topics for next NQ study group workshop (Thursday 12 October)

2:30 pm End of official proceedings & workshop wrap up

2:35 pm Optional Extra – drive to ‘Hillside’ farm

3:00 pm FIELD WALK #2 and social refreshments/afternoon tea at the ‘Hillside’ Farm, 65895 Burke Development Rd Dimbulah

3:00 Meet at the farm car park – Prompt!

3:15 Site 1 – One-year-old Maluma high density trellis system trial & the use of plant growth regulators

3:35 Site 2 – Four-year-old Maluma trees planted on the high-density ‘railway staggered’ 7x3m spacing, drip irrigated for now 2.5 years.

3:50 Site 3 – Six-year-old Maluma trees planted on the ‘railway staggered’ 7x3m spacing, drip irrigated vs. micro-sprinkler.

4:00 pm Finish

Morning tea and lunch will be provided but for logistical and catering purposes please **RSVP** by **9 am Tuesday 11 July** stating **all names** attending to kaila.ridgway@daf.qld.gov.au or via text or message on **0417 335 271**. Also please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.



DIRECTIONS: From Mareeba head west along the Mareeba-Dimbulah Rd, drive through Dimbulah then 1.2km the other side of Dimbulah turn left down Veness Rd. The orchard is 1.4km up this road on the left (allow 40 minutes from Mareeba).