



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Avocado experts are coming to Crows Nest**

**Avocado experts will be coming to Crows Nest to present the South Queensland Avocado Regional Forum on Wednesday 23 February at the Crows Nest RSL and Community Centre.**

A range of avocado experts will be speaking on the day however the main presentation will be concerned with “The Challenges of Avocado Flowering, Pollination and fruit Set”. All avocado industry members interested in avocado production are invited to attend and registration is essential.

The South Queensland Avocado Regional Forum is being presented as part of a greater project that is concerned with avocado industry development and extension. This Hort Innovation funded project is responsible for delivering a range of events and resources to help the avocado industry access, understand and implement best practice information. The ultimate goal is to help improve orchard productivity, fruit quality and overall profitability.

South Queensland is one of eight growing regions operating in Australia. Avocado growers in the South Queensland region mainly grow the Hass variety of avocado and they harvest their fruit from May to end of November. According to Avocados Australia for the period 2020/21 the South Queensland growing region produced nearly 2,300 tonnes of avocados (Source is Avocados Australia’s Facts-at-a-glance).

The South Queensland Avocado Regional Forum will provide a chance to give avocado growers and packers an update about the industry. The key presentation on the day will be given by Harley Smith and Amnon Haberman both from the CSIRO. Ebony Faichney and Ian Newton from the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF) will speak about “Managing Avocado Pests: Current Threats & Future Directions”. Noel Ainsworth, also from QDAF, will provide an update about the Supply chain.

John Tyas, CEO of Avocados Australia, will be presenting the industry update at the forum.

*“The SQ Avocado Regional Forum is an excellent chance for avocado growers and packers in the region to hear about industry-wide activities and to hear from experts about best practice,”* Mr Tyas said.

Avocado industry members interested in attending should register online at <https://www.trybooking.com/BWYCX>

**ENDS**

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**About Avocados Australia – [www.avocado.org.au](http://www.avocado.org.au)**

*Avocados Australia (AAL) is the representative industry body for the Australian avocado industry. We provide a range of services to our members and the broader industry to foster growth and development. Avocados Australia is a not-for-profit member-based organisation and our members include avocado growers, associated businesses and industry people. Avocados Australia seeks to work with all parts of the chain, from production through to the consumer. By working together, we seek to continually improve the ability of growers to provide a healthy, profitable and safe product for all consumers.*