



## HeadsUp

A COMMENTARY  
ON INDUSTRY ISSUES



Confidential

CropLife members

In this issue: [Ag2030](#) | [Vic lockdown](#) | [CropLife team news](#) | [CropLinks](#)

### Delivering Ag2030 updated plan released

The Australian Government has released the [May 2021 Delivering Ag2030 plan](#), highlighting further measures for the agricultural industry as it works towards the goal of \$100 billion production by 2030. This follows the initial plan which was launched in October 2020.

The Ag2030 plan is divided into seven key priority areas:

- Trade and exports
- Biosecurity
- Stewardship
- Supply chains
- Water and infrastructure
- Innovation and research
- Human capital

The plan reflects the Federal Government's support for modernising Australia's agricultural innovation system to drive improvements in collaboration, commercialisation and uptake to grow productivity and competitiveness.

Key actions regarding innovation and research include:

- An initial \$1.5 million to develop investment strategies through the National Agricultural Innovation Agenda;
- \$11.9 million to support innovation in the forestry sector, including extending the existing nine Regional Forestry Hubs and creating two new Hubs;
- \$20.1 million towards fisheries deregulation through technological innovation to boost productivity and competitiveness; and
- Continuing to streamline and modernise the agricultural levies legislation.

The plan also highlights the launch of the [growAg platform](#) to help connect research and development outcomes and showcases innovative agricultural research, technologies and commercialisation opportunities in one central location.

### Victorian lockdown

The Victorian Government has announced a seven-day circuit breaker lockdown covering the whole state to begin from 11:59pm tonight (27 May 2021).

The Victorian Government has confirmed that any industry / business declared essential in the previous lockdown will be covered again. The strong preference is that if a worker can work from home, they do that. No worker permit system will be used.

Up-to-date information will be available on CropLife's [COVID-19 webpage](#).

## **New members of the CropLife Australia team**

CropLife has welcomed three new team members in the past few months. We are very pleased to have on board Dr Jana Phan, Lucy Darragh and Angie Ghirardello.

Dr Jana Phan joins us as Director of Stewardship and Sustainability Policy bringing with her experience in agricultural science and evidence-informed policy development and analysis, and advocacy. Jana was most recently with the Australian Academy of Science as their Science Policy Analyst and prior to that has some time with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. She has a strong track record in synthesising, analysing and developing evidence-informed policy, and holds a PhD in plant biology from The University of Adelaide.

[jana.phan@croplife.org.au](mailto:jana.phan@croplife.org.au)

Lucy Darragh joins CropLife as Manager of Crop Biotechnology Policy, which is a newly created interim role until July 2022 as Dr Anne-Sophie Dielen is on parental leave. Lucy has extensive industry experience in policy research and advocacy most recently being part of the GrainGrowers team where she represented grower interests and managed a diverse policy portfolio, including agvet chemicals, biosecurity, trade standards and grain classification. Lucy holds a Bachelor of Agriculture from Charles Sturt University and a Master of Environmental Science (plant physiology and genetics) from the University of New England.

[lucy.darragh@croplife.org.au](mailto:lucy.darragh@croplife.org.au)

Angie Ghirardello has taken on the role of Communications Officer. Prior to joining CropLife, Angie worked for the National Press Club for over six years, most recently as their Marketing and Sales Manager. Angie holds a Bachelor of Business from Swinburn University of Technology and is undertaking a Graduate Certificate of Digital Marketing Leadership.

[angie.ghirardello@croplife.org.au](mailto:angie.ghirardello@croplife.org.au)

## **CropLinks: The latest plant science industry news**

The latest edition of our [CropLinks newsletter is available now online](#) featuring the latest plant science industry news. A copy has been sent to all Federal and key state and territory Parliamentarians, and key industry stakeholders. Some of the top stories in this edition:

**Fruits and vegetables take centre stage:** The United Nations declared 2021 as the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables to raise awareness of their nutritional and health benefits as part of a balanced diet and healthy lifestyle. The report raises concerns that Australians need to increase their intake of fruits and vegetables and highlights the importance of pesticides in protecting produce.

**Ensuring environmental health through pesticides:** Invasive weeds and other pests can have major negative impacts on Australia's natural environments as they can damage the diversity and balance of ecosystems.

**Modernising Australia's Gene Technology Scheme:** Following the Third Review of the National Gene Technology Scheme, the Federal Department of Health is seeking to modernise and futureproof Australia's National Gene Technology Scheme. This presents an opportunity for Australia to remain a world-leader in biotechnology regulation.

These stories and more are [available now online](#). A number of printed copies have been sent to head offices of member companies.



For more information, contact: Katherine Delbridge | 02 6273 2733 | [katherine.delbridge@croplife.org.au](mailto:katherine.delbridge@croplife.org.au)

All previous Heads Up alerts can be found through the [member section of our website](#).

**Please note:**

As an employee of one of CropLife Australia's member companies, you currently receive CropLife Australia's Heads Up, a service by CropLife Australia providing a commentary on industry issues. To unsubscribe, please send an email to: [info@croplife.org.au](mailto:info@croplife.org.au) and write 'unsubscribe Heads Up' in the subject box.