

Prune Fund

Annual Investment Plan

2025/26



September 2025

Hort
Innovation

PRUNE
FUND

Proposed investments in 2025/26

A list of proposed R&D investments in the Prune Fund in 2025/26 can be found below. Each year, prune industry representatives meet as an advisory panel to discuss investment recommendations in line with the Prune Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). At these meetings, the panel is provided with a financial forecast and an investment analysis of current investments. Based on this information, they provide Hort Innovation with advice on priorities for investment for the upcoming year.

The prune R&D advisory panel met on September 20, 2024, January 16, 2025 and May 5, 2025 to discuss, provide advice on, and prioritise recommendations on investments in 2025/26. The R&D investment recommendation is listed in Table 1.

Note: Investments will be aligned to form multi-industry projects where possible, and all investments are subject to funding availability. If investments do not occur in this financial year, they will be reconsidered and reprioritised for the Prune Annual Investment Plan (AIP) 2026/27. Any investments not endorsed by June 30, 2025, will not be included in this report.

Table 1. Prune R&D advisory panel investment recommendation in 2025/26

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	National Bee Pest Surveillance Program	4. Industry supply, productivity and sustainability	4.2 Enhance crop pollination and resilience through improved pollination security



Current contracted R&D projects

Current contracted projects in the Prune Fund as at July 1, 2025, which are aligned to the respective outcomes and strategies in the Prune SIP, can be seen in Table 2. More information about these projects is available on the Hort Innovation website where the projects have a hyperlink.

Table 2. Current contracted prune R&D project actuals at 2025/25 and forecast to 2027/28

Project code	Project title	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$	2026/27 Forecast \$	2027/28 Forecast \$
DP22000	Dried prune industry communications and extension program	16,000	13,564	-	-
DP23001	Prune International industry study tour	-8,576	-	-	-
DP23910	Industry and grower consultation including SIAPs and EAPs	170	-	-	-
DP24910	Industry and grower consultation including SIAPs and EAPs	1,450	-	-	-
MT21004	Consumer behavioural data program	-5,112	-	-	-
MT21015	Horticulture Impact Assessment Program 2020/21 to 2022/23	81	-	-	-
MT23201	Consumer usage and attitude tracking 2023/24	0	-	-	-
Total		4,013	13,564	-	-



Financial statements

Financial statements for the prune R&D levy fund can be seen in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Prune R&D levy fund actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2027/28 (as at July 1, 2025)

	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$	2026/27 Forecast \$	2027/28 Forecast \$
Opening balance	256,002	278,520	257,572	236,420
Levies from growers	17,059	39,000	31,500	31,500
Commonwealth funds	2,391	66,343	58,263	58,263
Other income	10,097	8,710	7,995	7,252
Total income	29,547	114,054	97,758	97,015
Project funding ¹	4,013	21,364	7,800	7,800
Available for investment	-	90,000	90,000	90,000
Service delivery	769	21,323	18,726	18,726
Total matched expenditure	4,782	132,687	116,526	116,526
Federal Government levy collection costs	2,247	2,314	2,384	2,455
Annual levy cash movement	22,518	-20,948	-21,152	-21,966
Closing balance	278,520	257,572	236,420	214,454

Note:

1. Project funding includes committed projects and projects supported by the advisory panel and currently in the process of procurement.

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