

Raspberry and Blackberry Fund Annual Investment Plan

2025/26



September 2025

Hort
Innovation

**RASPBERRY AND
BLACKBERRY FUND**

Proposed investments in 2025/26

A list of proposed R&D investments in the Raspberry and Blackberry Fund in 2025/26 can be found below. Each year, raspberry and blackberry industry representatives meet as an advisory panel to discuss investment recommendations in line with the Raspberry and Blackberry 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 raspberry and blackberry R&D advisory panel met May 13, 2025 to discuss, provide advice on, and prioritise recommendations on investments in 2025/26. The R&D investment recommendations are listed in order of priority 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 Raspberry and Blackberry Annual Investment Plan (AIP) 2026/27. Any investments not endorsed by June 30, 2025, will not be included in this report.

Table 1. Raspberry and blackberry R&D advisory panel prioritised investment recommendations in 2025/26

Priority	Investment	Outcome	Strategy
1	Generation of data – berry residue trials	2. Industry Supply, productivity and sustainability	2.13 Crop Safety data
2	Generation of data – rubus and strawberry mite efficacy and residue trials	2. Industry Supply, productivity and sustainability	2.13 Crop Safety data
3	National Bee Pest Surveillance Program	2. Industry Supply, productivity and sustainability	2.6 Protect Biosecurity Status

Current contracted R&D and marketing projects

Current contracted projects in the Raspberry and Blackberry Fund as at July 1, 2025, which are aligned to the respective outcomes and strategies in the Raspberry and Blackberry SIP, can be seen in Tables 2 and 3. More information about these projects is available on the Hort Innovation website where the projects have a hyperlink.

Table 2. Current contracted raspberry and blackberry R&D project actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2027/28

Project code	Project title	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$	2026/27 Forecast \$	2027/28 Forecast \$
FF20000	National Fruit Fly Council – Phase 4	6,000	6,000	10,500	
MT18004	Review of the biosecurity plan for the berry sector	-	7,200	-	-
MT20007	Regulatory support and coordination (pesticides)	3,293	-	-	-
MT21004	Consumer behavioural data program	39,478	27,539	33,165	-
MT21006	Australian Horticulture Statistics Handbook	7,583	-	-	-
MT21008	National Bee Pest Surveillance Program: Transition program	15,711	-	-	-
MT21015	Horticulture Impact Assessment Program 2023/24 to 2025/26	1,919	-	-	-
MT22003	Nuffield scholarships	-6	11,440	-	-
MT22007	Expansion of flies as berry crop pollinators	96,548	122,265	-	-
MT22010	Facilitating the development of the Australian berry industries	189,420	199,373	199,373	199,373
MT22011	Horticulture National Lean Leaders Program	3,500	4,473	-	-
MT23001	Strategic Agrichemical Review Process (SARP) 2023 updates	3,466	-	-	-
MT23003	Berry advisory mechanism	51,384	51,384	64,229	-
MT23004	Multi-industry berry trade development and market access project (2024-2029)	85,488	132,216	74,220	65,196
MT23201	Consumer usage and attitude tracking 2023/24	3,443	-	-	-
MT24004	BerryQuest International 2025	33,334	-	-	-
MT24005	Horticulture Impact Assessment Program 2023/24 to 2025/26	1,288	859	1,073	-
MT24008	Regulatory support and coordination (pesticides)	5,472	3,648	3,648	5,472

Table 2. continued

Project code	Project title	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$	2026/27 Forecast \$	2027/28 Forecast \$
MT24009	Improving management of chilli thrips in blueberry and rubus	37,618	37,618	37,618	75,238
MT24014	Horticulture partnering with the Solving Plastic Waste CRC	16,667	16,667	16,667	16,667
MT24201	Consumer usage and attitude tracking 2025/26	2,013	4,025	4,025	-
PH23001	Progress on bumble bees as commercial pollinators in Australia: update on risks and opportunities	25,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
RB16000	Rubus industry minor use program	2,866	-	-	-
RB21000	Integrated pest management approaches to address pest challenges in raspberry and blackberry	224,428	224,428	224,428	336,642
RB21001	Using pheromones and traps in the management of mirids and vegetable bugs	15,000	20,000	35,000	-
RB22000	Assessing the viability of fumigation as an export pathway for Australian rubus	69,108	-	-	-
RB22001	Strengthening the sustainability of berry production	104,000	52,000	-	-
RB23002	Best practice pollinator management for the rubus industry	71,526	143,053	166,902	-
RB23003	Rubus industry – barriers to best practice across diverse communities	80,395	20,100	-	-
Total		1,195,941	1,104,287	890,849	718,588

Table 3. Current contracted raspberry and blackberry marketing project actuals at 2024/25 and forecast to 2025/26

Project code	Project title	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Forecast \$
MT23004	Multi-industry berry trade development and market access project (2024-2029)	0	-
MT23500	Berry basket marketing campaign FY24	174,000	-
Total		174,000	-

Financial statements

Financial statements for the R&D levy fund can be seen in Table 4 below, and the marketing levy fund can be seen in Table 6.

Table 4. Raspberry and blackberry 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	4,591,244	4,363,232	3,277,482	2,285,089
Levies from growers	304,256	240,000	240,000	240,000
Commonwealth funds	702,616	1,431,006	1,303,922	1,018,754
Other income	175,763	110,833	77,274	52,515
Total income	1,182,635	1,781,839	1,621,195	1,311,269
Project funding ¹	1,195,941	1,835,858	1,619,536	1,334,124
Available for investment	-	600,000	600,000	400,000
Service delivery	209,290	426,154	388,308	303,385
Total matched expenditure	1,405,231	2,862,012	2,607,844	2,037,509
Federal Government levy collection costs	5,415	5,577	5,745	5,917
Annual levy cash movement	-228,012	-1,085,751	-992,393	-732,157
Closing balance	4,363,232	3,277,482	2,285,089	1,552,932

Note:

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



Table 5. Raspberry and blackberry marketing 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	288,157	217,233	2,440	2,440
Levies from growers	112,301	-	-	-
Other income	11,195	500	-	-
Total income	123,496	500	-	-
Project funding ¹	156,000	174,000	-	-
Available for investment	-	-	-	-
Service delivery	37,019	41,293	-	-
Total expenditure	193,019	215,293	-	-
Federal Government levy collection costs	1,401	-	-	-
Annual levy cash movement	-70,924	-214,793	-	-
Closing balance	217,233	2,440	2,440	2,440

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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