

TAPG Members

Vegetable Processors:

- McCain Foods
- Simplot Australia

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables:

- Webster Fresh
- Harvest Moon
- Premium Fresh Tasmania
- Cherry Hill Coolstores
- Bovill Brothers
- Perfecta Exports Pty Ltd

Dairy Processing:

- Bonlac Foods
- Lactos
- Cadbury Schweppes

Industry Associations:

- Agricultural Contractors Association of Tasmania
- Australian United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association (AUF)
- Agricultural Ground Sprayers Association of Tasmania
- Tasmanian Women in Agriculture

Growers:

- Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association

Government:

- Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment

Services to Agriculture:

- Dobmac Agricultural Machinery
- Hills Transplants
- Impact Fertilisers
- Incitec Pivot
- Irrigation Tasmania
- Roberts
- Elders Webster
- Serve-Ag
- Workforce Extensions
- Rural Development Services
- Agronico
- Tasmanian Quality Assured

Other Agricultural Processors:

- Botanical Resources Australia
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Tasmanian Alkaloids

Forestry:

- Forest Enterprises Australia
- Forestry Tasmania
- Gunns Limited
- Private Forests Tasmania

Aerial Spray Operators:

- Air Spreaders Tasmania
- Ford Aviation
- Tasmanian Helicopters
- Osborne Aviation Service
- Helispud
- Jones Contracting Services



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2004/05 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2004/05 TAPG has refined and updated its strategic plan. The plan has 4 key areas of activity for the organisation in its role as an industry advocate and representative organisation. These are:

1. Land Management & Stewardship including Sustainable Practices
2. Water Development and Security
3. Industry and TAPG Promotion & Publicity
4. Training and Education

The actions identified in this strategy will form the basis of the work undertaken and the allocation of resources from TAPG. The actions identified include specific projects and activities as well as broader objectives that need to be undertaken.

TAPG Aims

- Ensure the ongoing productivity and growth of the Tasmanian agriculture, forestry, food and related industries.
- Provide a cooperative forum for the promotion and increased recognition of all sectors of Tasmania's agriculture, forestry, food and related industries.
- Reinforce public confidence in the safety and quality of produce.
- Ensure the application of safe, efficient, sustainable and appropriate environmental practices.
- Provide a multi-sector approach to issues affecting the Tasmanian agriculture, forestry, food and related industries.

Highlights for the Year

- Development of the industry code of practice for Materials on Roads with TFGA
- Coordination of the industry effort in managing the weeds in imported feed grain issue
- Aerial spraying industry support and review for the code of practice
- Chemical use in agriculture review
- Developing the Contribution of Agriculture Report for Tasmania
- Lobbying government on water management issues
- Providing input from industry into the regional NRM strategy development
- Facilitating the pre-employment vegetable industry training program
- Participation in the Cropping a Career program in schools
- Devonport's Taste the Harvest Festival agricultural promotion and Beyond the Farmgate Tours
- Member forums on aerial spraying and strategic management
- Providing a vital and unique forum for industry issues to be debated and resolved



Code of Practice launched for Agricultural Materials on Public Roads A great partnership with local government

The code was jointly developed with TFGA in conjunction with local government on the Northwest Coast to target livestock movements and machinery operations. These activities can at times cause problems on local roads with excess and unwanted deposits of materials from agricultural operations. The code represents a real attempt to self regulate this in a way that identifies a standard and aims to minimise the impact from farm residues onto local roads.

Below: Materials on Roads warning sign



Taste the Harvest Festival – Devonport, March 2005

TAPG continues to support this major northwest event to promote the agriculture sector. This has included support for the Beyond the Farmgate Bus Tours in the week leading up to the event and the Agricultural Marquee and displays at the Festival. We get great support from growers David Addison, Tim Burgess, Richard Bovill, Premium Fresh and Cherry Hill Coolstores with produce and the Agricultural Marquee participants Simplot, McCain, Harvest Moon, Tasmanian Alkaloids, DPIWE, Ashgrove Cheese and Webster Walnuts.



Beyond the Farmgate Bus Tours – One of the groups checking out some paddocks at Fortside Research Farm with tour guide Bruce Beattie

The Beyond the Farmgate bus tours were again a great success thanks to the support of Joe Horak and Bruce Beattie from DPIWE, Hills Transplants, Harvest Moon, Fortside Research Farm and BRA.



Harvest Moon's display at the Agricultural Marquee for Taste the Harvest (before the crowds arrived)

A summary of the TAPG Position on the Tasmanian Vegetable Industry Review

- The industry is a major sector in Tasmanian agriculture and we need a robust and viable industry
- A rigorous analysis of the industry cost structure is needed
- There is a need for a better understanding of the different international standards of production and the impact this has on our international competitiveness
- Support for improved competitiveness and productivity across the industry
- Continued promotion of Australian and Tasmanian product as a part of a locally grown campaign
- Improved labeling and regulations on country of origin to clearly identify retail products
- The need to industry stakeholders to work collaboratively to achieve improvement



TFGA's Gwen Norman and Denis Leonard at the TAPG Agricultural Marquee loading up the Veggie packs

Aerial Spraying, Chemical Use and the Review of the Code of Practice

TAPG has continued to play a pivotal role in Tasmania for the agricultural industry and aerial sprayers. This includes continued management of the paddock numbering system, advice to growers on spraying protocols, promotion of the code of practice and guidelines for aerial spraying, plus a coordinated effort on responding to the DPIWE review of the code.

We have been a leading industry advocate on the issue of chemical impacts on waterways and the unfounded claims from certain groups about aerial spraying. Close attention has been given to water quality issues and TAPG is working alongside DPIWE in progressing this broad issue further.

TAPG has also started working with industry partners TFGA and Avcare on a chemical use in agriculture and forestry outline.

Pre-Employment Vegetable Training Program

Participant companies were McCain Foods, Premium Fresh and Webster Fresh in 2004/05 with 120 people trained by a combination of TAFE and industry representatives. This is a program funded through the Office of Post Compulsory Education and Training – Competitive Bids program. The program has been running now for 3 years and provides an opportunity for new employees to receive formal basic training at the enterprise and follow up workplace assessment.

Go for 2 & 5 Launch – June 2005

Eat Well Tasmania coordinated the Tasmanian launch of the Go for 2&5 Campaign in June across all three main regions of the state. TAPG assisted in this process and continues to support such initiatives to increase consumption of fruit and vegetables.

Imported Feed Grain Report

The final report from the industry group convened by TAPG was submitted with recommendations to the Government in March 2005. These recommendations covered a range of areas such as import accreditations, auditing and scheduling of import premises based around feed grain standards, education and awareness, and monitoring all built on the principles of risk management.

We anticipate that the work of this industry group will continue for some time to come. It represents a good cross section of industry and government representatives and provides a valuable link into government decision making in quarantine and agriculture.



Go for 2 & 5TM
FRUIT VEG

