

SARP explained

MT19008: Strategic Agrichemical Review Process
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The Strategic Agrichemical Review Process (SARP) is a structured process that provides a view of current priorities and gaps regarding pest, disease and weed control in Australian horticulture industries. A SARP report was initially completed in 2016 for each horticulture crop with a levy fund, and these have just been updated in late 2020. Given that the levy fund is newly established for blueberries, this is the first SARP produced for the blueberry industry.

Each industry's SARP report assists in directing ongoing efforts to ensure the availability of and access to effective chemical controls for the industries, to address those priorities and gaps. This may relate to pursuing chemical registration with agrichemical companies, or minor use permits with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

The SARP process involved industry consultation and desktop studies to:

- Assess the importance of the diseases, insects and weeds that can affect each horticulture crop
- Evaluate the availability and effectiveness of fungicides, insecticides, herbicides and pesticides in the control of these plant pests and diseases
- Determine any gaps in the current pest and disease control strategy
- Identify suitable new or alternative treatments to address the gaps.

Alternative treatments (e.g. pesticides) should ideally be selected for benefits of:

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) compatibility
- Improved scope for resistance management
- Sound biological profile
- Residue and trade acceptance domestically and for export

The SARP process has identified diseases, insect pests and weeds of major concern to each of the berry industries. Against these threats, available registered or permitted pesticides have been evaluated for overall suitability in terms of IPM, resistance, efficacy, trade, human safety and environmental issues. Where tools are unavailable or unsuitable the process aims to identify potential future solutions. Potential new risks to the berry industries have also been identified.

The results provide each berry industry with a clear outlook of gaps in existing pest control options. This report is not a comprehensive assessment of ALL pests and control methods used in berries but attempts to prioritise the major problems.

You can access the full SARP report for each berry industry at bit.ly/2020-SARP

A feature highlighting the current priorities for each berry industry can be found on:

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