

R&D INSIGHTS

THE LATEST UPDATES ON R&D WITHIN THE OLIVE INDUSTRY | MARCH 2026



R&D Insights contains the latest levy-funded R&D project updates, research findings and related industry resources, which all happen under the Hort Innovation Olive Fund.

Hort Innovation partners with leading service providers to complete a range of R&D projects to ensure the long-term sustainability and profitability of the olive industry.



Gamila at Beechworth's Gamila MacRury and Oliver Baker at the Dookie agrivoltaics research project site.

Olive grower learnings from Irrigation Symposium

Irrigation researchers and experts from across the globe gathered in regional Victoria in January for the *XI International Symposium on Irrigation of Horticultural Crops*, a six-day event hosted at the Tatura SmartFarm.

Joining them for two days were growers from a range of Australian horticultural industries, including six olive producers.

Sponsored by Hort Innovation and Agriculture Victoria, the growers attended a full day of symposium research and development sessions, presentations and an industry workshop on the theme *Sustaining future orchard profitability in years with reduced access to irrigation water*. The following day they joined a technical field tour with site visits to the Tatura SmartFarm, Sandmount Farms' Go.Farm at Katunga and the University of Melbourne's Dookie

Campus farm and agrivoltaics vineyard, finishing with a session on drone applications including a spraying flight demonstration.

The growers were there to listen, learn and explore the ideas discussed, with the aim that they would then share their learnings and contemplations with their peers.

Here's what they took away from the event:

Gamila MacRury, Gamila at Beechworth

Over the two days of the conference, a few key themes stood out. Academics are very focused on evapotranspiration rates, essentially trying to determine how much water leaves a plant through the canopy. Much of the research involves trials with gadgets in the canopy, combined with climate change coefficients, to answer the question of how much water trees should receive at any given day or time. This was the single major theme throughout the conference.

Lower MDB allocations

From the industry workshop, the message was clear: very little water will be available for agriculture from the Murray-Darling Basin. Reduced flows and reprioritisation of water are expected, and the Barmah Choke significantly limits the water reaching downstream irrigators. Anyone making agricultural decisions based on assumptions of stable water allocations is likely to be very disappointed.

Water quality issues

A more challenging issue discussed was managing salinity in irrigation water. Many groves use saline water, which requires extra water to flush the salt - but this also washes away other important minerals. Balancing the need to remove salt without depleting nutrients remains unresolved.

The conference also highlighted that desalinated wastewater, while safe for humans, isn't automatically safe for plants. For example, boron levels aren't monitored for human consumption but can be toxic to plants if too high. It's a subtle point, but one growers may need to consider.

Pulse irrigation was another focus. The technique — applying water in increments, allowing it to settle, then applying more — helps manage salinity while preserving nutrients. In Israel, this approach often concludes with fertigation to minimise nutrient loss.

Workshop takeaways: profitable irrigation in uncertain times

Several practical points came out of the workshop:

- **Design first:** Good irrigation design underpins effective water use. Don't improvise - plan for future-proofing, even if you don't implement everything immediately.

- **Measure, don't guess:** Farmers often over-irrigate. Invest in probes or monitoring tools rather than relying on calendar schedules or intuition.
- **Dedicate mental time:** Data is only useful if you can interpret it. Allocate time to understand what your technology is telling you and make decisions accordingly - or hire a consultant if you prefer.
- **Audit your system:** Check whether your irrigation setup meets your real needs. Look at each element and identify the true bottlenecks.
- **Leverage grants and subsidies:** Infrastructure improvements like header tanks or new pumps can effectively be 50% cheaper with government support. Take advantage of these opportunities.
- **Buy water early:** Water will never be cheaper than it is now. Plan ahead and don't leave purchases until the last minute.

Investigate tech support

Before investing in any irrigation technology, ensure adequate support is available.

Ideally, remote support should be possible so problems can be diagnosed and fixed without shipping equipment off-site. Downtime can be costly - not just for irrigation, but for other essential equipment like tractors. Quick, effective on-site support is essential.



Melanie Coid and Rob Whyte, Gooramadda Olives

It was a useful event and we were glad we attended. The presenters were great and we got a lot out of it, especially as we're currently looking at how to better utilise water here on the grove. We left with a lot to think about and some changes to play with.

Some of it was backing up what we'd already thought about ourselves but they had scientific data to back it up - like the drip-line set up kept the weeds down under the trees and those that were growing are in the middle of the grove. It confirmed for us that you're better off putting your dripper line out near the branchline rather than under the trees. And that spray heads grow weeds.

They also spoke about sloping trial sites so the water ran down, gravity-fed, which was great as ours is sloping.

Effective pulse

The data that they showed us with the pulse irrigation and the effectiveness of that was especially useful. You run it for a couple of hours and turn it off, then run it again later. It's much more effective, and reduces both the cost of electric pumping and water usage. We're going to implement that in the grove here.

It's good timing, as we're in the process of changing our irrigation system over. We've got issues with cockatoos here, they rip out irrigation lines, so we're taking out the sprinkler heads and putting a new ground line in. We've done a trial section - you rip a hole and it goes in the ground and gets buried - but we weren't sure how far from the treeline it needed to go in. They had information at the symposium as to the distance it needed to be from the trees; we've had a play with a small section and are happy with how it worked.



Major takeaways

- The biggest takeaway was that we got to network with the people from Smart Farms, who are looking for smaller farmers to do some research projects. And another from the Rutherglen research station. I'll make contact with both of those as we're keen to take part in research projects they're working on.
- During the field visit I had a look at how they've trellised other trees; citrus and stone fruit. We might have a play with that.
- The pulse irrigation — running it, stopping it, then running it again - keeps the trees more effectively watered while using less water.
- The other thing was, if you're short of water, don't give them a little bit, just don't water at all. The trees will work it out.

Overall it was very interesting - quite academic but there were parts of it that were practical — and there was plenty of information to bring back to the grove and implement."



Russ and Tina Knight, Lisadurne Hill

As usual with field days and industry-relevant seminars and symposiums, there is always something new to learn and consider. The Irrigation Symposium was jam-packed with case studies on irrigation settings and, most importantly, the elements that need to be considered when assessing irrigation needs and outcomes for different horticultural crops.

Hitting the irrigation 'sweet spot'

The key message to be taken from the Tuesday speakers was the importance and difficulty of hitting the 'sweet spot' with irrigation, and in particular the importance of providing the root zone of the crop with the right amount of water. Too much water leading to root rot and too little not supplying adequate water for the crop. Each crop having its own unique requirements.

Where the speaker was able to accompany the talk with great graphics, showing a cross-section through the soil profile, the more demonstrable was the message.

Takeaways

Some of the important takeaways were:

- Where salt/brackish water was used to irrigate olives 50% more water was needed to leach out the salts that would accumulate at the root of the plants. A trade-off between quality and quantity of water needed.¹
- As water for irrigation is a tradeable commodity in Victoria, this prompts the reflection of water as a value and a cost. In times of low water allocation it may be more profitable to sell the water rather than use it on a lower value crop.
- Throughout the talks the information and knowledge base of all the contributing factors in soil health and crop sustainability were paramount. The role of water sensors, evapotranspiration rates, root zone health, the role of micro-nutrients and the specific requirements of any crop were the data-driven factors to achieve and maintain crop success.

What do farmers want?

At the end of the day a panel of speakers, researchers and one farmer addressed questions from the floor. A lot of the questions were addressed to the farmer, around the day-to-day experience of growing and irrigating crops. He

was particularly asked about what he would want from new technology.

The answer was a system that he could simply turn on and know that all relevant water and nutrients would be handled. While he used technology quite a lot it could only go so far and had not substantially reduced the labour needed.

What can we afford?

Missing from all the talks were details of the costs associated with data-measured equipment and software to analyse irrigation requirements. Realistic cost estimates of putting some of these wonderful data-driven scenarios into practice would have been useful. What can be afforded?

Action from learning

The symposium has prompted us to consider taking two out of eight of our olive sections and putting in more water sensors, together with doubling the irrigation lines.

There are three specific actions we propose to take based on the learnings from the symposium:

We are going to try a form of pulse irrigation. Instead of watering each section for 70 minutes per night, we will run two cycles of 35 mins. The objective is to maximise the moisture levels in the root zone and minimise leaching of nitrogen out of the root zone.

We will revisit the use of moisture sensors. We installed eight of them a number of years ago: they were difficult to install, unreliable and produced inconsistent readings. They are now hanging on the wall of our processing shed. I will research more sophisticated sensors.

We use a single dripline. We've been planning to install a second dripline. It is a big investment (27,000 trees).

We'll set up a few trials to measure the impact on yields. With the information from the sensors, together with working on evapotranspiration rates and watering for the root zone and no deeper, we would be able to see if tree health and tonnages improved.

It is certainly worthwhile as a trial for assessing setup and maintenance costs of a more insightful view into water use on our grove.

More information

Find out more about the Irrigation Symposium [here](#).

And if you want to dive deeper into any of the topics covered, there's also a book of abstracts available [here](#).

1. From Alon Ben-Gal talk on Non-Conventional Water Sources



Hort levy payments included in FY2025 R&D Tax Incentive program

Olive levy payers have a new opportunity for business tax offsets, with Hort Innovation obtaining AusIndustry approval as a registered Research Service Provider (RSP) for the 2024-25 financial year. This means Hort is officially registered to undertake R&D activities on behalf of levy payers, and therefore some levy-funded R&D projects may be eligible for tax offsets.

In practical terms, it means that eligible olive businesses can claim a percentage of their olive levy payment as a tax offset.

R&D Tax Incentive program

The R&D Tax Incentive is an Australian Government program that provides a tax offset for eligible R&D activities and expenditure. It is designed to encourage businesses to invest in R&D that generates new knowledge, processes or products.

For our purposes it is important to note that:

- due to the narrower definition of R&D under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth)*, not all levy-funded activities qualify as R&D under the program;
- AusIndustry RSP registrations are approved for each financial year and must be renewed annually for continued eligibility to claim levy payments;
- to be eligible, the claiming organisation must be operating as a company. Individuals, corporate limited partnerships and private trusts are ineligible for the program.

Making a claim

All claims are managed through the AusIndustry registration process and the ATO R&D schedule in your tax return. Applications must be submitted within 10 months after the end of the financial year in which the R&D occurred - 30 April 2026 for FY2025 claims.

Applicants must self-assess their activities and maintain detailed records. In the case of levy claims, this requirement is met by Hort Innovation which has assessed all activities funded by levy for FY2025, and maintains all records.

Project Descriptions and eligible R&D tax rates

Hort Innovation has prepared the required Project Descriptions and calculated the eligible R&D tax rates for each industry, to be used by levy payers to complete their claims.

The Project Descriptions provide details of the levy-funded R&D activities delivered by Hort Innovation, outlining the scope of work undertaken, the purpose of the activities, and the proportion of levy funds attributed to eligible R&D. They are needed to prepare the Application for Registration of R&D Activities.

The eligible R&D tax rate identifies the proportion of R&D activities undertaken that meet the definition of R&D under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth)*. It does not apply to marketing, biosecurity (in the case of olives, the 10c/tonne PHA component) or other non-R&D levy expenditure. The eligible olive levy R&D rate for the 2024-25 financial year is 40.99%.



More information

Hort Innovation has prepared both general information and industry-specific R&D tax incentive resources to assist with applications, accessible below:

[R&D Tax Incentive info guide for levy payers](#) - provides general information around eligibility and key dates, helping you understand the basic requirements and timelines for the R&D tax incentive.

[RSP Project Descriptions for FY2024/25](#) - outlines the R&D activities to assist levy payers with the necessary information needed for their application.

[R&D Tax Incentive Rates for FY2024/25](#) - the eligible R&D expenditure percentages by levy type for the financial year.

More detailed information on the R&D Tax Incentive can be found on the ATO website [here](#).

Next steps

If you are interested in submitting an application as an eligible levy payer:

Seek independent advice from qualified financial or professional advisors to assess your individual circumstances, and to provide application support;

Email RSP@horticulture.com.au if you have any questions.

[Submit your application by 30 April 2026.](#)

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This communication and the supporting documents do not constitute financial, taxation or legal advice. Hort Innovation does not provide application services. Obtaining independent advice from qualified financial or professional advisors is strongly recommended.

Listen, ask and learn at AOA extension events

It's industry learning time again, with two new upcoming events scheduled as part of the AOA's ongoing Communications and Extension Project.

Focussing on processing and the basics of olive production respectively, both events have best practice and quality as the foundation aims, and offer producers at all experience levels the opportunity to listen, ask and learn.



Olive fundamentals at Back to Basics Field Days

Whether you're looking to start a grove from scratch or want to refresh your knowledge on olive growing, attending the AOA's Back to Basics Field Day is a must for your 'to-do' list.

Providing key information for both new and existing growers, the comprehensive program starts with an overview of the industry and olive products, before moving on to planting considerations including site selection and varieties. It then works through the growing and production stages, including irrigation, grove management, pruning, pests and diseases and harvest options.

The focus on the fundamentals aims to provide the basic decision-making information for anyone looking to enter the olive industry, and also practical knowledge for those wanting to better manage an existing grove or restore a neglected grove.

Industry experts on hand

Presenters for the SA event will be AOA CEO Michael Southan, and AOA President and grove consultant Mike Thomsett.

They will be joined by a range of local industry providers, adding their expert knowledge across the program's wide-ranging topics and providing information on the latest equipment and services available to increase grove efficiency.

Details

When: Tuesday, 14 April

Where: Rio Vista Olives, 262 Carawatha Drive, Mypolonga, SA

Cost: \$44 inc GST members/levy payers; \$55 inc GST general entry - includes arrival tea/coffee, morning tea and lunch**

Registrations close 6 April – register [here](#).



Processing Workshop with Pablo Canamasas

Good olive oil starts in the grove with best practice management, and the key to ensuring extra virgin quality olive oil is best-practice processing.

Achieving those as an industry lies firmly in knowledge-sharing, provided in spades at the annual AOA Processing Workshop. Presented by international olive oil consultant, processing expert and EVOO judge Pablo Canamasas, the two-day workshop starts literally from the ground up, covering the production of high-quality olive oil from grove management to best-practice processing and storage. Including both the practical and technical aspects of oil extraction, and olive oil chemistry, there's also plenty of opportunity for questions along the way.

This year's event will be held at the Mypolonga, South Australia production mill of Rio Vista Olives. The OMT equipment which will be used for the demonstrations has seen Rio Vista take Best of Show trophies at the Australian International Olive Awards for three of the last five years, so it's an outstanding chance to see quality processing in action.

Comprehensive program

The two-day program starts with a theory session covering the elements crucial to oil quality:

- Pre-season arrangements
- Agronomical aspects impacting on oil quality
- Crushing and malaxing
- Use of processing aids
- Centrifugation
- Oil storage and filtration



Then things get practical, with a hands-on demonstration of the processing methods and practices discussed in the theory session, finishing with a tasting of the oils obtained during the trials. And as always with AOA events, there'll be plenty of opportunity for discussion – and more questions - around the results.

Details

When: Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 April

Where: Rio Vista Olives Mill, 262 Carawatha Drive, Mypolonga SA

Cost: \$285 incl GST AOA member/olive levy payer; \$385 incl GST others**

Limited places

This is an outstanding opportunity to learn from one of the olive industry's best. Numbers are strictly limited, so [register now](#) to ensure you don't miss out!

**Maximise your learning opportunity by attending both events and receive a \$20 discount on registration. Purchase combined events tickets [here](#).



The Processing Workshop and Back to Basics Field Days are part of the Olive levy project Australian olive industry communications and extension program (OL22000), funded by Hort Innovation, using the Hort Innovation olive research and development levy, co-investment from the Australian Olive Association and contributions from the Australian Government.



The study found polling is the most efficient and easy-to-implement method for re-establishing damaged orchards and attaining optimum yield, regardless of fire type, proven by the results of post-bushfire polling of the Woodside Farm grove in the Adelaide Hills.

Manual guides bushfire response and recovery

It's been another tough summer for farmers in Australia, with bushfires ravaging agricultural properties across most states. Victoria was undoubtedly the worst affected and unfortunately, olive groves were among the losses.

There's a lot for growers to deal with post-bushfire - emotionally and practically - and among the most important is the assessment of damage to your affected grove. It's the starting point for the next crucial step: best-practice management for optimal recovery.

But how do you go about these vital tasks, especially when you're still reeling from the shock of a bushfire?

Hort research project

The Hort Frontiers project *Developing management strategies to enhance the recovery of horticulture from bushfires (AS19002)* aimed to answer those questions. Commencing in the summer of 2020, shortly after bushfires devastated horticulture production regions in NSW and SA, the five-year project was a partnership between Hort Innovation, NSW DPIRD and the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI). Its aim was to understand the immediate and long-term effects of bushfires on perennial cropping systems, provide information on the best recovery options, and develop strategies to minimise the damage from future bushfires.

Although most of the studies were conducted in apple orchards, the results apply to many other horticulture tree crops and have relevance for olive growers.

Best practice post-fire manual

One of the key project outputs was a grower-focussed bushfire recovery manual, which condenses practical research findings into one accessible publication.

Published in November 2024, *Bushfires in orchards: a guide to preparedness, response and recovery* was developed as a best practice post-fire manual on effective assessment and management.

It focuses on bushfire damage to orchard trees and infrastructure, and recovery options for the two main types of fire, radiant (blow torch) and smouldering (slow cooker).

It also describes the annual preparations required in orchards before the start of the bushfire season, and longer-term orchard improvements to increase resilience. Grounding the information are case studies from producers affected by bushfires, sharing their experiences and what they could have done differently.

At 59 pages, there's a lot of information, so here's a synopsis of the sections most relevant to olive growers. The full detail is invaluable, though, so please access and read the entire report - [and put the guidance into action in your grove.](#)

Study methodology: Developing management strategies to enhance the recovery of horticulture from bushfires (AS19002)

Monitoring and experimental sites with differing levels of fire damage were subject to a range of remedial pruning and crop reduction treatments. Vegetative and reproductive recovery parameters were collected for 3-4 growing seasons after the bushfire and fruit quality at harvest was assessed.

Other assessments included perennial tissue non-structural carbohydrate (NSC) levels and tree nutrient status.

In a controlled experiment, different heat loads were applied to potted apple trees to represent a smouldering fire, allowing tree assimilation and whole tree NSC balance to be measured.

Apple trees affected by radiant fire had fully recovered by the second growing season post-fire, while trees badly damaged by smouldering fires did not recover and eventually died. This was reflected in NSC levels in roots, which did not differ in trees damaged by radiant fire but declined significantly in extremely smouldered trees in subsequent growing seasons.

As expected, cutting the trees back to the trunk took four growing seasons to attain full canopy recovery. Tree polling was the most efficient and easy-to-implement method for re-establishing damaged orchards and attaining optimum yield, regardless of fire type.

The controlled experiment showed how increased heat load in smouldering fires affected apple tree physiology and NSC dynamics by reducing assimilation and NSC root reserves.

This work provides important information on tree recovery strategies and ways to build bushfire resilience in orchards.

The work initially resulted in the first in-depth scientific review internationally of the effect of bushfires on horticulture and options to minimise damage from extreme fires that are predicted to increase in frequency.

Understanding fire types

The two most important fire types resulting in immediate and ongoing fruit tree losses are:

- **blow-torch** - intense flame and wind-driven scorching heat from a fuel source external to the orchard. The orchard rows closest to the fire source will be the most severely affected, with a gradient of reduced damage moving away.
- **slow-cooker** - fire sustained by dry matter under the trees or in the inter-rows that directly affects the trees as it travels along the rows. The variable fuel load and fire intensity typically results in a random patchwork of tree losses.

The report provides in-depth detail about the varying effects, recovery strategies and prevention/mitigation strategies for each type of fire.

Effects of fire on pests and pollinators

The effects of bushfire on pest and disease populations and the associated damage to fruit crops are not well understood, however we know that stressed or injured plants are more vulnerable to insect attack and disease infection.

Observations since the Black Summer bushfires suggest growers should monitor for increased pest activity in fire-affected trees, with elevated pest populations and damage noted in the studied orchards.

Data from apple orchards also showed there were fewer flower visits by introduced honey bees and native stingless bees in the spring following the bushfires, along with increased visits by flies in the same period.

Assessing fire-damaged trees

Assessing visual damage to tree foliage, limbs and the main trunk in the initial period post-fire can help growers understand the type, distribution and severity of fire damage in their orchards.

Assessments can help determine where most tree losses are likely to occur. The information can then be used, along with regrowth responses, to gauge the ongoing potential for tree mortality or recovery.

Example: researchers in the Adelaide Hills assessed tree damage in a blow-torch fire-affected apple orchard and a slow-cooker fire-affected cherry orchard

immediately post-fire, and repeated the assessments biennially over several years. A comparison of the initial visual assessment and scorch rating for each tree with a mortality assessment conducted three seasons later showed that almost all trees with an initial rating of 'low/moderate to high' leaf scorch, and many with an extreme damage rating in the blow-torch affected apple block, successfully recovered. It is likely that leaf scorch was the predominant type of damage in these trees and that vascular tissues were largely undamaged.

Recover or remove?

The decision to recover or remove a fire-damaged orchard is complex. It requires understanding the type of fire that has affected the trees, damage intensity and distribution, initial and ongoing tree mortalities, the potential for recovery of damaged but surviving trees, the cost of returning trees to full production, and the economics of recovery versus re-establishment.

Focusing only on the tree health aspect, this suggested four-step approach may help decide whether to recover or remove an orchard based solely on the observable damage to the trees.

Step 1. Understand

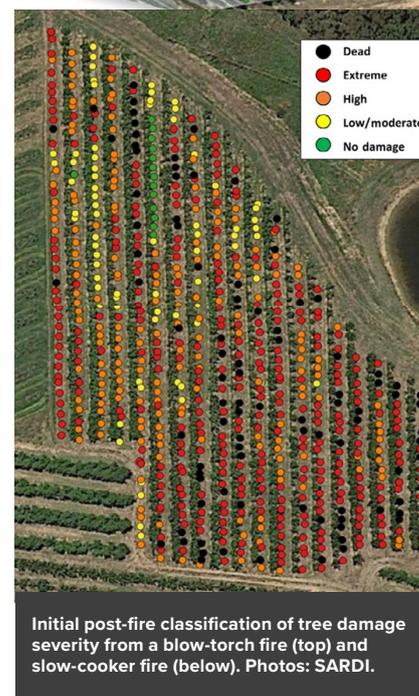
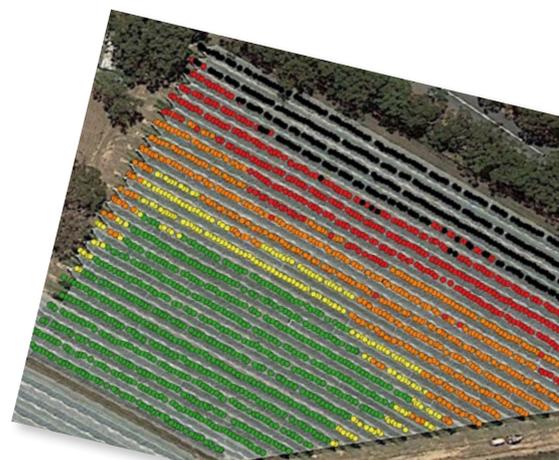
Take time to determine if your orchard has suffered a blow-torch fire, slow cooker fire or a combination of both by observing the visible signs of damage.

- **Blow-torch:** fire/heat came mainly from outside. The amount of scorched foliage reduces as you move into the block away from the edge.
- **Slow-cooker:** dry matter will be burnt around the trunks and foliage scorching will mainly be in the lower canopy. Damage will be random throughout the block.

Step 2. Assess and wait

Note the percentage of leaf scorch and its distribution for both fire types. Take photos or drone images (if possible) for later reference.

- Give the trees time to show their regrowth potential. In 2019-20, healthy regrowth between the fire in January and early Autumn (April) was a useful indicator of tree recoverability. In trees with significant leaf scorch, observe and note shoot regrowth in the weeks and months following the fire.



Initial post-fire classification of tree damage severity from a blow-torch fire (top) and slow-cooker fire (below). Photos: SARDI.

Step 3. Destructive sampling

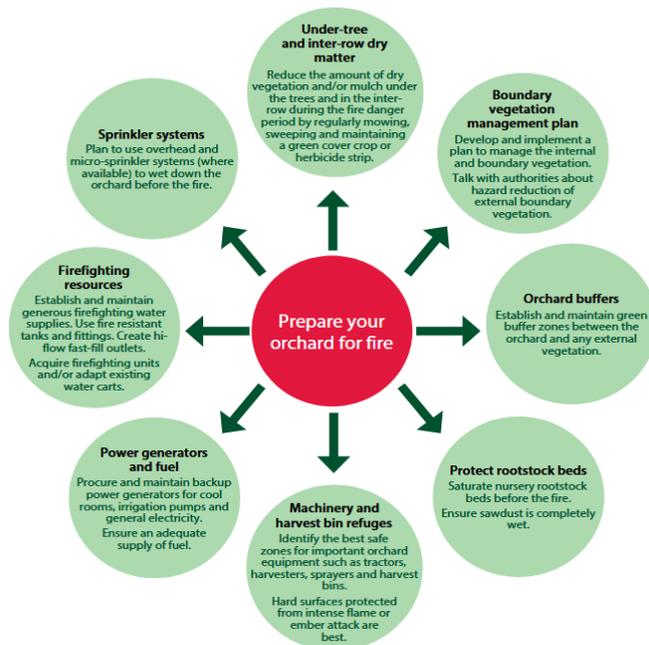
Remove the trunk bark of a sample of trees to expose the vascular tissues and determine the amount of damage.

- **Blow-torch:** work inward from the fire edge, sample a tree from each row until there is no obvious vascular tissue damage.
- **Slow-cooker:** sample a random selection of trees, including those with the most visual fire damage.

Step 4. Decide

Use these observations and assessments decide whether to remove or recover trees or blocks. Other important factors to consider (not covered in the guide) should include:

- age of the trees;
- productivity and profitability of the trees;
- available recovery funding (e.g. loans, grants);
- your financial capacity to cover the costs of orchard removal, new investments and ongoing development.



Pruning strategies for tree recovery

Following the 2019-20 bushfires, researchers applied several pruning and canopy management treatments to fire-affected apple and cherry trees in the trial sites, to investigate which would result in the best canopy recovery and fastest return to normal yields. The treatments included branch shortening, semi-polling, complete polling and complete canopy removal by heading.

At both sites, tree response to pruning treatments varied with the type of fire, the extent of damage and varietal production habits. Early findings suggest:

- Remedial pruning treatments were most successful for trees that retained vascular connection between the roots and the canopy. At all trial sites, there was a greater chance that pruning treatments would succeed if the dominant source of fire damage was blowtorch rather than slow cooker.
- For trees rated as having moderate to high damage (scorched leaves with regrowth from >50% of laterals and trunk), semi-polling pruning was the most successful.
- For trees rated as being extremely damaged (severely scorched leaves with poor regrowth from laterals and trunk), complete polling was most successful.
- Complete canopy removal by heading produced the slowest recovery and delayed the return to normal yields.

The success of any pruning treatment will depend on the level of underlying vascular tissue damage. In a blowtorch fire, trees with foliage scorch that are furthest away from the heat source will have a greater regrowth potential and better response to pruning. Responses to post-fire pruning treatments in slow-cooker affected orchards will be variable, depending on the degree of conductive tissue damage in the trunk of each tree.

Developing and maintaining fire-resilient orchards

Lessons learned from the 2019-20 bushfires have helped identify orchard management practices for bushfire preparedness that complement survival plans.

The report sets out the NSW Rural Fire Service's recommended four-step process to develop a home bushfire survival plan, complemented by the additional considerations needed for a horticultural enterprise.

It includes a great reference graphic setting out orchard bushfire preparation action, along with a comprehensive table of damage prevention/mitigation strategies for both trees and infrastructure.

More information

As previously stated, this information is provided as an introduction to the comprehensive manual *Bushfires in orchards: a guide to preparedness, response and recovery* (© New South Wales Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development).

For the full detail on bushfire management of your grove, download the report [here](#).

You can also find out more about the project *Developing management strategies to enhance the recovery of horticulture from bushfires (AS19002)* on the Hort Innovation website [here](#).

Other resources

The AOA has a number of bushfire-relevant resources available on the industry website www.australianolives.com.au, in particular the following articles published in *Australian & New Zealand Olivegrower & Processor*.

March 2020 edition

[Olives and bushfire](#), pages 14-17: User-friendly information, including practical peer experience, providing a heads-up on what to do and how to do it should you experience a bushfire in your grove

[Recovery of olive groves after fire](#), pages 18-19: Practical management information on post-fire care of olive groves

September 2020 edition

[Bushfire recovery, six months on](#) - pages 18-20: Observations and advice on grove bushfire recovery and general grove management practices

[Recovery of Australia's soils following bushfire](#) - pages 21-22: CSIRO report on impact of fire on soils and options for recovery and mitigation

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The project *Developing management strategies to enhance the recovery of horticulture from bushfires (AS19002)* was funded by the Hort Frontiers Advanced Production Systems Fund, part of the Hort Frontiers strategic partnership initiative developed by Hort Innovation, with co-investment from NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, the South Australian Research and Development Institute, and contributions from the Australian Government.