

# Onion information kit—update

Reprint – information current in 1998–99



## REPRINT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ!

For updated information please call 13 25 23 or visit the website [www.deedi.qld.gov.au](http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au)

This publication has been reprinted as a digital book without any changes to the content published in 1998–99. We advise readers to take particular note of the areas most likely to be out-of-date and so requiring further research:

- Chemical recommendations—check with an agronomist or Infopest [www.infopest.qld.gov.au](http://www.infopest.qld.gov.au)
- Financial information—costs and returns listed in this publication are out of date. Please contact an adviser or industry body to assist with identifying more current figures.
- Varieties—new varieties are likely to be available and some older varieties may no longer be recommended. Check with an agronomist, call the Business Information Centre on 13 25 23, visit our website [www.deedi.qld.gov.au](http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au) or contact the industry body.
- Contacts—many of the contact details may have changed and there could be several new contacts available. The industry organisation may be able to assist you to find the information or services you require.
- Organisation names—most government agencies referred to in this publication have had name changes. Contact the Business Information Centre on 13 25 23 or the industry organisation to find out the current name and contact details for these agencies.
- Additional information—many other sources of information are now available for each crop. Contact an agronomist, Business Information Centre on 13 25 23 or the industry organisation for other suggested reading.

Even with these limitations we believe this information kit provides important and valuable information for intending and existing growers.

**This publication was last revised in 1998–99. The information is not current and the accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed by the State of Queensland.**

This information has been made available to assist users to identify issues involved in onion production. This information is not to be used or relied upon by users for any purpose which may expose the user or any other person to loss or damage. Users should conduct their own inquiries and rely on their own independent professional advice.

While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility for decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained in this publication.



Queensland Government

# Onion Information Kit Annual Update 1999

**Technical content**

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**Compilation**

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*Jerry Lovatt*

**Agrilink**  
your growing guide  
to better farming  
**S E R I E S**

Queensland Horticulture Institute  
Department of Primary Industries, Queensland

## Onion Information Kit Annual Update 1999

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## Introduction

Welcome to the 1999 edition of the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit Annual Update*. This is a special service provided to registered purchasers of the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit* published in August 1997.

This 1999 update provides you with any significant changes to the content of the Agrilink information kit since it was published. It does this by giving you a broad overview of the changes in each section, and then providing the specific changes page by page.

Thank you for being an Agrilink customer. We look forward to continuing to serve you with quality information products.

We have changed the format of our update booklets as a result of a survey of how buyers use the update information. The update is now designed so you can place the relevant pages in the front of each section of the Agrilink information kit so that they are available for reference whenever you use the kit.

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# Before you **START**

## Overview of the 1998–99 season

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### 1998 season

Ideal growing conditions early in the season resulted in some good quality Early Lockyer Whites and Golden Brown onions. The early season planting was less than in previous years but this shortfall was supplemented by an increase in later plantings. The estimated total area planted for 1998 was 700 ha, 15% more than the 1997 crop.

The Lockyer Valley crop was down by about 5% on the 1997 crop but the area under onions on the Darling Downs increased by about 10%. The area planted to red salad onions has increased by about 5%. A small number of growers on the Atherton Tableland and in and around Emerald account for about 10% of the Queensland crop.

About 20% of the 1998 crop was planted early to Golden Brown and Early Lockyer White with a small proportion of Early Lockyer Brown. The mid season crop (50%) consisted predominantly of Wallon Brown, with a good-sized area planted to the new Yates varieties Cavalier and Predator. The remaining 30% of the crop planted is still dominated by Gladiator with some Gladalans being planted.

A large percentage of the early season onions harvested were of variable quality. Weather conditions in the last few weeks of September 1998 resulted in an increase in the incidence of downy mildew with a corresponding reduction in yield. Unseasonable wet weather resulted in a shortage of large onions and a corresponding increase in the number of medium sized onions.

About 600 to 700 tonnes of mild onions were exported to Japan. Small quantities of more pungent onions were also exported to Singapore and Taiwan.

### 1999 season

The Lockyer Valley has seen a shift to predominantly mid-late season plantings. Growers have moved away from early plantings of brown onions due to the poor prices received for Golden Brown onions. In general, the total area planted stayed much the same as 1998 with some good yields recorded for mid-late season onions. The season was difficult for growers in the Lockyer due to a mild winter resulting in a higher than usual incidence of bolting and severe outbreaks of downy mildew and onion white rot.

The area planted to onions in the Darling Downs has also increased, again to predominantly mid-late season varieties. The season was good, with some excellent quality onions harvested. Yields were also good.

There has been renewed interest in onions, particularly sweet onions for export from the Atherton Tableland. The export market is small but has some potential if agronomic problems can be solved. Onions produced on the Tablelands are now absorbed by the local domestic market.

Prices have fluctuated a great deal throughout the season. Early white onions commanded a good price of \$15 to \$20 per bag but dropped dramatically as quantities increased and eventually regained a price of \$10 to \$15 per bag. Early browns were reasonably priced, up to \$14 per bag for large and \$10 for mediums. This was reversed later in the season as the demand for medium sized brown onions increased. The quality of early red onions was poor but they still commanded a good price of \$10 per 10 kg bag. This levelled out at about \$6 to \$8 per 10 kg bag.

### **Onion Downy Mildew Forecasting Service**

The Onion Downy Mildew Forecasting Service (Downcast model) was implemented in the 1998 season as unreplicated trial plots of about 20 m x 20 m on growers' early planted onions only. The trial plots were sprayed on the recommendations of the forecasting system and compared with the growers' spray program. The use of the forecasting system in 1998 reduced spray numbers by about four to five depending on the growers' practice. Importantly, the forecasting system can more accurately target sprays to coincide with critical stages in disease development.

The Downcast model confirmed that there were no early season infection periods (from March to middle April) as the average daily temperature was too high. When the average temperature dropped within the critical range, conditions were suitable for sporulation but often not for infection. The leaf wetness conditions on the days following the predicted sporulation were generally not adequate to promote the disease.

In 1999 four weather stations were established in major districts in the Lockyer Valley to monitor weather differences and make regional forecasts for onion downy mildew outbreaks.

The forecasting service is available to onion growers in the Lockyer Valley. The forecast information is distributed in two ways:

- Growers can obtain the forecast for the cost of a local call by dialling a telephone number that has a recorded message giving the current downy mildew status at the four weather stations. This message is updated every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- The forecast information is e-mailed to local chemical resellers in the Lockyer Valley and made available to local growers.

### **Specific updates**

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#### ***Prices and throughputs (page 3)***

Prices and throughputs for the 1998 season in the Brisbane and Sydney markets are shown in Figures 1 to 3. For comparison, the three-year average for 1995 to 1997 is also graphed. (Data courtesy Market Information Services, Brisbane. See page 17 of this update.)

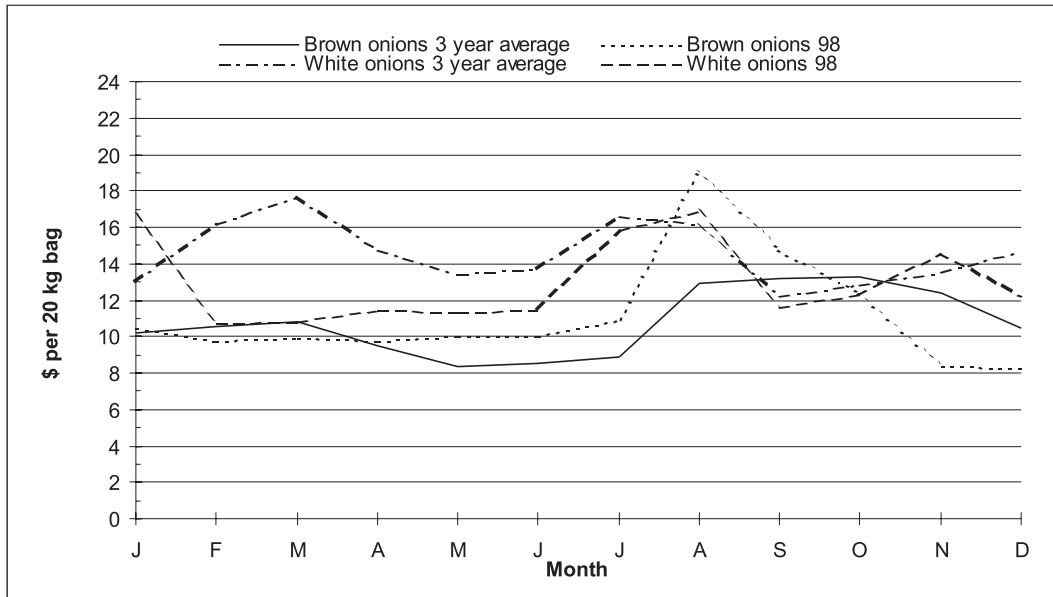


Figure 1. Average price, 1995 to 1997 and 1998 average price on the **Brisbane** market for brown and white onions

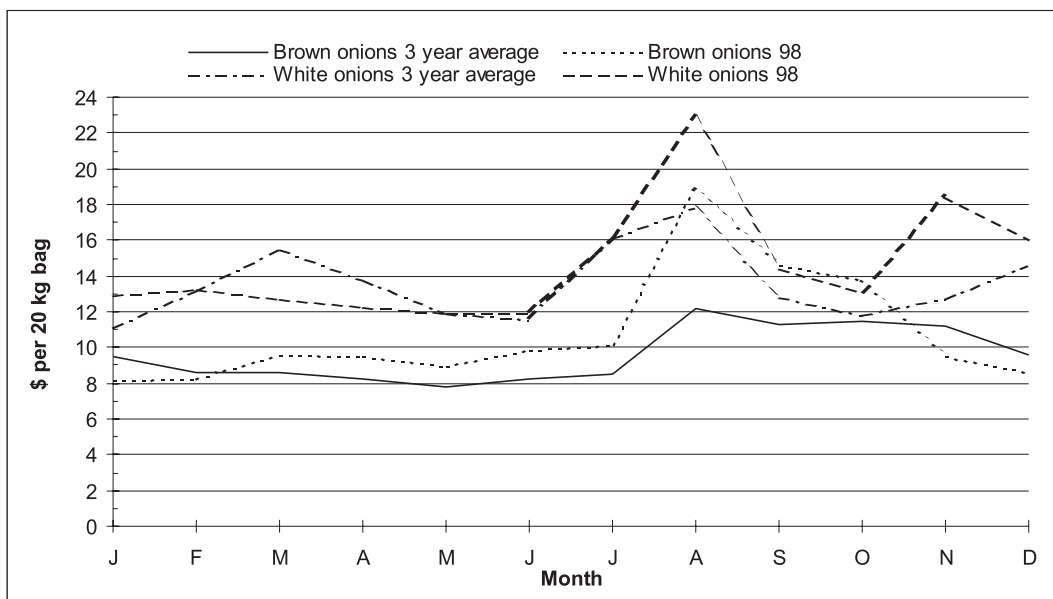
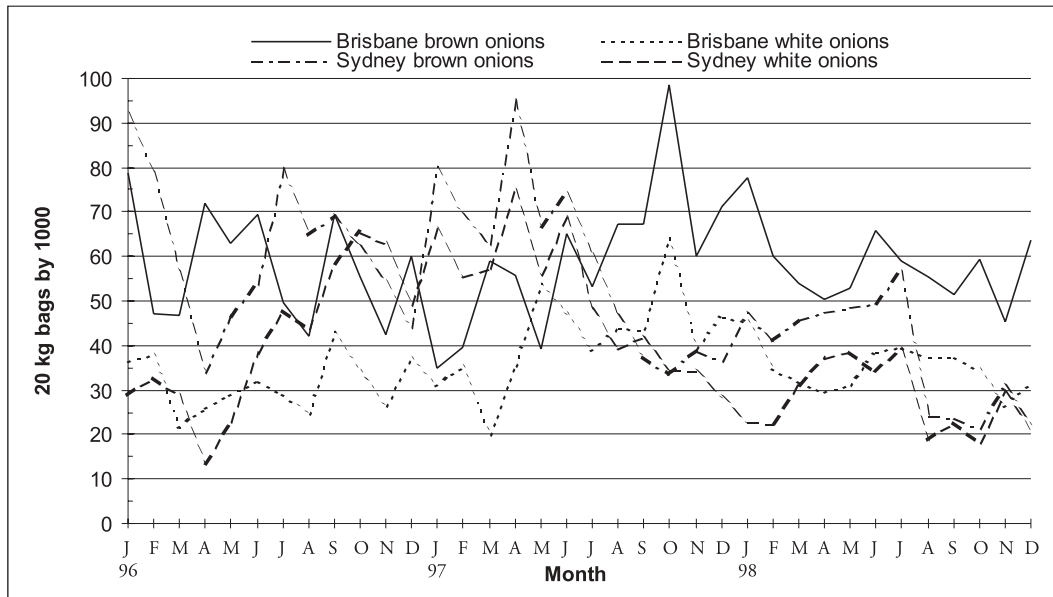


Figure 2. Average price, 1995 to 1997 and 1998 average price on the **Sydney** market for brown and white onions





**Figure 3.** Throughput for 1996 to 1998 on the **Brisbane** and **Sydney** markets for brown and white onions

### Production costs (page 5)

The cost of growing a 40 t/ha crop is now about \$2150. Harvesting costs, including drying, bagging and freight, add a further \$4840.



# Common QUESTIONS

## Overview

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Some additional questions, particularly related to chemicals available, have been raised since the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit* was first published. Following are some questions that the DPI's extension officers have been asked recently and their answers.

### ***Is Goal now available and if so what are its restrictions?***

Goal is now available under a minor use permit. Copies of this permit are available from DPI's Gatton Research Station and from Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers. A DPI Note '*Guidelines for using oxyfluorfen herbicide (e.g. Goal) in Queensland onions*' is also available. Call the DPI Call Centre on 13 25 23 or visit our web site: [www.dpi.qld.gov.au/dpinotes/Welcome.html](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/dpinotes/Welcome.html)





# Growing **THE CROP**

## Overview

This section briefly updates changes to *Growing the crop* relating to varieties and weed control.

## Specific updates

Several new onion varieties are now grown in the Lockyer Valley and on the Darling Downs.

**Table 1.** *New onion varieties grown in the Lockyer Valley (page 5)*

Variety	Seed source	Plant	Harvest	Notes
Terminator	Yates	Mid to late May	Mid to late October	Vigorous hybrid brown variety
Dove	Yates	Late May to early June	Mid October to November	Hybrid white
Devine	Yates	June	November	Hybrid white
Nautilus	Yates	Early to mid May	Late September to early October	Vigorous hybrid brown variety. Also suitable for central and north Queensland
Sombrero	Henderson	May	Late September	Low pungency onion ideally suited to the mild onion market
Rio Demon	South Pacific Seeds	Late May to June	October to mid November	Mid maturing red onion
Rio Pancho	South Pacific Seeds	Late April to late May	Mid September to mid October	Mild sweet Granex type
Rio Xena	South Pacific Seeds	Late May to June	Mid October to mid November	Mild brown onion suitable for the sweet onion market. Also suitable for north Queensland

Air-seeders must be calibrated before planting each variety to accommodate the range of varieties available and the variability in seed weight and size.

## Control weeds (page 11)

**Table 3.** *Pre-emergent herbicides to control weeds in onions*

Delete: Glyphosate, Ranger, Ricochet, Round-up, Sanos

## Control grass weeds (page 15)

**Table 4.** *Herbicides to control emerged grasses in onions*

Delete: Sertin 186 EC

## Herbicides—post-emergent (page 17)

**Table 5.** *Post-emergent herbicides to control weeds in onions*

Delete: Afalon, Linurex Flowable

Include:

Active ingredient	Trade names	Controls
linuron Linurex WP Linurex	Linuron WDG, Some broadleaf weeds	
oxyfluorfen (NRA* permit)	Galigan, Goal, Spark	Some broadleaf weeds

*Taken from the DPI's Infopest CD, V2.4. Consult the chemical label for rates.*

\*NRA: National Registration Authority



# Key ISSUES

## Overview

The gross margin for south-east Queensland has been updated. Eight new onion varieties are available, causing a variation in seed costs. There has been increasing interest in the export of sweet onions to Japan.

## Specific updates

### Gross margin information for south-east Queensland (page 10)

The gross margin for onions grown in south-east Queensland has been re-worked for early (white/brown), late (white/brown) and red onions. The results are shown below.

#### Early (white/brown) onions

Gross margin per hectare	\$9 644
Break-even yield at \$500per tonne	6.9 tonnes / hectare
Break-even price at 40 t/ha	\$171.39 per tonne on-farm
Gross per megalitre of irrigation water	\$2 411 / ML

#### Actual gross margin when price or yield changes

		Price per tonne		
		Low	Medium	High
Yield	t/ha	\$400	\$500	\$600
Low	32	\$4 512	\$7 312	\$10 112
Medium	40	\$6 144	\$9 644	\$13 144
High	48	\$7 776	\$11 976	\$16 176

#### Late (white/brown) onions

Gross margin per hectare	\$9 486
Break-even yield at \$500 per tonne	7.5 tonnes per hectare
Break-even price at 40 t/ha	\$175.36 per tonne on-farm
Gross per megalitre of irrigation water	\$2 371 per ML

#### Actual gross margin when price or yield changes

		Price per tonne		
		Low	Medium	High
Yield	t/ha	\$400	\$500	\$600
Low	32	\$4 354	\$7 154	\$9 954
Medium	40	\$5 986	\$9 486	\$12 986
High	48	\$7 618	\$11 818	\$16 018

## Red onions

Gross margin per hectare	\$9 512 per hectare
Break-even yield at \$650 per tonne	5.7 tonnes per hectare
Break-even price at 40 t/ha	\$226.68 per tonne on-farm
Gross per megalitre of irrigation water	\$2 128 per ML

### *Actual gross margin when price or yield changes*

Yield	t/ha	Price per tonne		
		Low	Medium	High
		<b>\$520</b>	<b>\$650</b>	<b>\$780</b>
Low	24	\$4 432	\$7 162	\$9 892
Medium	30	\$6 100	\$9 512	\$12 925
High	36	\$7 768	\$11 863	\$15 958

## Varieties (page 11)

Eight new onion varieties have been released. See Table 1 page 11 of this update.

## Forecasting for downy mildew (page 31)

The Downy Mildew Forecasting Service is covered in the overview of the 1998 and 1999 season on page 5 of this update.

## Marketing (page 33)

### Sweet onions for the export market

There has been increased interest in the export market, particularly to Japan. This is a sweet onion market that requires onions from September through to early November. Onions from Queensland are the only onions available to satisfy this market because sweet onions are not available this early from other Australian states. Growers must consider Japan as an additional market to their current markets, not a replacement for the domestic market. In most instances growers must also be prepared at times to show commitment to this export market and accept lower prices than are available on the domestic market.



# *Problem* **SOLVER**

## **Specific updates**

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There have been no changes to the *Problem solver*.







# Contacts & **REFERENCES**

## **Specific updates**

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### **Seed suppliers (page 4)**

Henderson Seeds has a new e-mail address:  
adamwinter@hendersonseed.com.au

S&G Seeds is now:

#### **Novartis Seeds**

c/- Andrew Maughan

PO Box 1599

TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Mobile: 0408 499 937; Fax: (07) 4639 4946

Head office Ph: (03) 9706 3033

Add to **Yates Seeds**

Contact: Michael Sippel,

Mobile: 0418 479 062

### **Lockyer Valley onion seed producers (page 4)**

Delete:

Edgar Schulz

GATTON QLD 4343

Add:

Greg Allen

Katts Road

ROPELY QLD 4343

Ph: (07) 5462 7320

### **Vermin control**

For information on controlling native birds  
contact:

#### **Environmental Protection Agency**

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

Ph: (07) 3227 7111

To control other vermin contact your nearest  
office of the Department of Natural Resources.

### **Market price information (page 6)**

#### **Brisbane**

##### **Market Information Services**

Trevor Brewer

D Block Brisbane Market

PO Box 229

BRISBANE MARKETS QLD 4106

Ph: (07) 3379 4576; Fax: (07) 3379 4103

Mobile: 0417 712 427

Infocall: 1902 262 580 (\$2.50 per minute,  
covers Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney and

Melbourne)

E-mail: Ausmarket@bigpond.com

#### **Payment problems**

If you have a disagreement over payment for  
produce or want a list of registered farm produce  
commercial sellers, the following contacts should  
be helpful.

#### **Adelaide**

##### **South Australian Chamber of Fruit & Vegetables**

c/- Adelaide Produce Markets Ltd

Ph: (08) 8349 4528; Fax: (08) 8349 5922

#### **Brisbane**

##### **Farm Produce Commercial Sellers**

Deputy Registrar

Ph: (07) 3239 3233; Fax: (07) 3239 3379

E-mail: janetzn@dpi.qld.gov.au

#### **Sydney**

##### **Prompt Pay**

Freecall: 1800 247 787; Fax: (02) 9764 2776

**Melbourne****Farmpay**

Freecall: 1800 060 321; Infofax; 1800 678 062

Perth

**Chamber of Fruit & Vegetable Industries**

Robert Naudi

Ph: (08) 9455 2742; Fax: (08) 9455 4923

**Wholesaler information**

Contact the appropriate number below for information about farm produce commercial wholesalers in the markets.

**Adelaide****Adelaide Produce Markets Ltd**

Diagonal Road

POORAKA SA 5095

Ph: (08) 8349 4493; Fax: (08) 8349 6574

**Brisbane****Market Line**

Freecall: 1800 631 002

Web: [www.brisbanemarket.com.au](http://www.brisbanemarket.com.au)

**Melbourne****Victorian Chamber of Fresh Produce Wholesalers Inc.**

PO Box 113

542 Footscray Road

FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011

Ph: (03) 9689 3233; Fax: (03) 9689 9223

**Perth****Perth Market Authority**

Mail Point 1

280 Bannister Road

CANNING VALE WA 6155

Ph: (08) 9455 2900; Fax: (08) 9455 2902

**Sydney****Sydney Markets Ltd**

PO Box 2

SYDNEY MARKETS NSW 2129

Ph: (02) 9325 6200; Fax: (02) 9325 6288

E-mail: [sydma@sydneymarkets.com.au](mailto:sydma@sydneymarkets.com.au)

Web: [www.sydneymarkets.com.au](http://www.sydneymarkets.com.au)

**Horticultural consultants (page 6)**

Add:

**Trevor Stillman**

MS 2215

Cummins Road

BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Ph: (07) 4155 1894; Fax: (07) 4155 1690

**Pesticides and spraying****AVCARE Ltd**

National Association for Crop Protection & Animal Health

Locked Bag 916

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Ph: (02) 6230 6399; Fax: (02) 6230 6355

E-mail: [avcare@ozemail.com.au](mailto:avcare@ozemail.com.au)

**National Registration Authority**

PO Box E 240

KINGSTON ACT 2604

Ph: (02) 6271 6384

Web: [www.affa.gov.au/nra](http://www.affa.gov.au/nra)

For training in pesticide application Chemsafe has been replaced by ChemSmart. Contact the address below to find nearest accredited trainer.

**ChemSmart Training Queensland**

PO Box 17

GRANGE QLD 4051

Ph: (07) 3352 5033; Fax: (07) 3352 5042

E-mail: [chemsmart@powerup.com.au](mailto:chemsmart@powerup.com.au)

**Queensland government services (page 7)****Land vegetation management officers**

Land vegetation management officers are available for expert assistance with vegetation and tree management; including the retention and management of remnant vegetation, vegetation management planning, tree use on farms including windbreak design and species selection, clearing, non-industrial farm forestry and forest enrichment. Your local office of the Department of Natural Resources can put you in contact with your nearest land vegetation management officer, where available.

**Land conservation extension officers**

Land conservation extension officers are available in some districts to provide expert assistance in planning farm layouts and providing advice on land management. Your local office of the Department of Natural Resources can put you in contact with your nearest land conservation officer, where available.

**Water extension advice**

Department of Natural Resources officers (DNR) can provide advice on most aspects of water use on farms including dam construction and maintenance, stream licensing, bore development, irrigation selection, water quality and farm drainage problems. Your local DNR office can put you in contact with your nearest office where this advice is available.

**Farm financial counselling service**

In Queensland, DPI provides business advisory services to producers who are in difficulty from continuing environmental and economic pressures. Trained counsellors can help in the

analysis of financial situations and the development of business plans. Your local DPI office or the DPI Call Centre, telephone 13 25 23, can put you in touch with your nearest financial counsellor.

**Other information sources**

**DPI web site:** [www.dpi.qld.gov.au](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au)

**DPI Call Centre.** Queensland residents can ring the Call Centre on 13 25 23 (for the cost of a local call) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays, to access DPI's information services and products. Callers outside Queensland can ring (07) 3404 6999.

**Farmfax**

The new Farmfax telephone number is 1902 220 042 (charges apply, \$2.50 or \$5 depending on what is being faxed).

**Downy Mildew Forecasting Service**

Growers can receive spray advice regarding downy mildew outbreaks from the Downy Mildew Forecasting Service from 1 June to 1 October by ringing (07) 5466 2207.

## References

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### DPI information products

#### Books (page 11)

*Farm Chemical Storage Guide*, Whitehead, J. & Coleman, E.A., (1999), Department of Primary Industries, Queensland.

#### Other products (page 12)

DPINotes are available on: [www.dpi.qld.gov.au/DPINotes/Welcome.html](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/DPINotes/Welcome.html)

#### Other books (page 12)

The 1998 edition of the *Australian Vegetable Growing Handbook* edited by J. Salvestrin is now available. Phone (02) 6960 1550 or fax (02) 6969 1600 for details.

#### Annual publications (page 13)

*Brisbane Markets Business Directory*

Available from:

##### Brisbane Market Authority

PO Box 8

BRISBANE MARKETS QLD 4106

Ph: (07) 3379 1062; Fax: (07) 3379 4903

Web: [www.brisbanemarket.com.au](http://www.brisbanemarket.com.au)

*Prices and Throughput for the Brisbane Market 1998*

Available from:

##### Market Information Services

PO Box 229

BRISBANE MARKET QLD 4106

Ph: (07) 3379 4576; Fax: (07) 3379 4103

Mobile: 041 771 2427

*Melbourne Markets Business Directory*

Available from:

##### Melbourne Market Authority

PO Box 1

542 Footscray Road

FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011

Ph: (03) 9258 6100; Fax: (03) 9687 7714

E-mail: [info@mma.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mma.vic.gov.au)

*Sydney Markets Users Guide*

Available from:

##### Sydney Market Ltd

PO Box 2

SYDNEY MARKETS NSW 2129

Ph: (02) 9325 6200; Fax: (02) 9325 6288

E-mail: [sydma@sydneymarkets.com.au](mailto:sydma@sydneymarkets.com.au)

Web: [www.sydneymarkets.com.au](http://www.sydneymarkets.com.au)

## Articles

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The following articles have been published in *Onions Australia*.

*Forecasting onion downy mildew in the Lockyer Valley*, Harper, S.M. (1998), *Onions Australia*, Vol 15: 39–43.

*Going to school on onion white rot*, Davis, R.D. (1999), *Onions Australia*, Vol 16: 18–19.

*Hitting the target*, Battaglia, R.G. & Harper, S.M. (1998), *Onions Australia*, Vol 15: 24.

*Investigating varieties, growth and development*, Duff, A.A. & O'Donnell, W.E. (1999), *Onions Australia*, Vol 16: 7–8.

*New herbicide helps Queensland growers*, Gilbert, A. & Henderson, C.W.L. (1999), *Onions Australia*, Vol 16: 31–32.

*Onion downy mildew forecasting service for the Lockyer Valley*, MacManus, G. (1999), *Onions Australia*, Vol 16: 27.

*Osaka, Japan—sweet onion breeding and agronomy*, Jackson, K.J. (1999), *Onions Australia*, Vol 16: 10–11.

*Successful alliums '97 tour*, Jackson, K.J. (1998), *Onions Australia*, Vol 15: 9.

*Sweet onions for Queensland*, Duff, A.A., Jackson, K.J. & O'Donnell, W.E. (1998), *Onions Australia*, Vol 15: 15–21.

*Which nozzle and what volume? Getting the most out of your fungicide sprays*, Battaglia, R.G. (1999), *Onions Australia*, Vol. 16: 33–34.

### Conference proceedings

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The following papers are published in the proceedings from the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Edible Alliums Conference, held in Adelaide in 1997.

Duff, A.A., Jackson, K.J. & O'Donnell, W.E. (In Press), *Tebuconazole (Folicur) shows potential in the control of white rot (Sclerotium cepivorum) in garlic in subtropical Queensland, Australia*, Proceedings "Second International Symposium on Edible Alliaceae, Adelaide, Australia."

Jackson, K.J. and Duff, A.A. and O'Donnell, W.E. (In Press), *Development of a suite of onion varieties for the subtropical region of the Lockyer Valley in S. E. Queensland, Australia*, Proceedings "Second International Symposium on Edible Alliaceae, Adelaide, Australia."

### Useful internet sites

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The following Internet sites are additional to those mentioned elsewhere in this update.

#### **Australian Farmers Guide to the Internet**

[www.farmwide.com.au/farmersguide](http://www.farmwide.com.au/farmersguide)

#### **Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service (AQIS)**

[www.aqis.gov.au](http://www.aqis.gov.au)

#### **Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry Australia (Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry)**

[www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au)

#### **Department of Primary Industries, Queensland**

[www.dpi.qld.gov.au](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au)

#### **Energy and Water Efficiency in Vegetable Production**

[http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/scripts/htmlgen.exe?DOCUMENT\\_EH208](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/scripts/htmlgen.exe?DOCUMENT_EH208)

#### **Horticulture Australia**—web site for Horticultural Research & Development Corporation (HRDC) and Australian Horticultural Corporation (AHC);

[www.horticulture.com.au](http://www.horticulture.com.au)

#### **National Registration Authority**

[www.affa.gov.au/nra](http://www.affa.gov.au/nra)

#### **Oregon State University: Vegetable Production Guide**

[www.orst.edu/Dept/NWREC/vegindex.html](http://www.orst.edu/Dept/NWREC/vegindex.html)

#### **Produce and Postharvest Related Sites**

<http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu/Links/index.html>

#### **Texas A&M University: Plant Answers**

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/PLANTanswers/web.html>

#### **United States Department of Agriculture**

[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

#### **University of California IPM Online**

[www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu)

**University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>

**University of Georgia, The Onion Project**

<http://www.vga.edu/onion/>



# Problem solver

# **HANDY GUIDE**

Note these changes for control of pests and diseases of onions. This information is taken from the DPI's *Infopest* CD, V2.4.

Chemical	Controls	Trade names	WHP*
<b>ADD TRADE NAMES</b>			
carbaryl	cutworms, green vegetable bug, Rutherglen bug, wingless grasshoppers	Bugmaster Flowable	3
carbaryl	earwigs, green vegetable bug, Rutherglen bug, wingless grasshoppers	Flowable Carbaryl	3
chlorothalonil	downy mildew	Check-out, Crotop	14
chlorothalonil	downy mildew	Echo	7
chlorpyrifos	cutworm	Bar 500 EC, Chlorpyrimax, Cyren Kensban, Optem, Pest One, Protector	0
chlorpyrifos	wingless grasshopper	Chlorfos	0
chlorpyrifos (bait)	crickets	Chlorpyrimax, Cyren, Kensban, Optem,	0
copper ammonium carbonate	downy mildew	Liquicop	1
copper hydroxide	downy mildew	CPR Hydrox	1
copper oxychloride	downy mildew	Coperoxy	1
dicofol	twospotted mites	Kelthane, Mitofol	7
mancozeb + metalaxyl	downy mildew, purple blotch	Axiom, Optica	7
phorate	onion maggot, thrips	Zeemet	70
sulphur	mites	Sulphur Spray	0
<b>DELETE TRADE NAMES</b>			
copper		Blue Mantel	
mancozeb		Dek	
mancozeb + sulphur		Mancozeb Plus	
zineb		Cyneb	

\* WHP: Withholding period (days)

These are all the changed items that we are aware of. If there are any additional changes, please contact our Customer Service officer on 1800 677 640 or send fax details to (07) 5444 9694.

0001.150





# Onion Information Kit Annual Update 1998

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**Disclaimer:** This information booklet is distributed by the Department of Primary Industries as an information source only. The information and other material incorporated by reference is provided solely on the basis that the reader will be responsible for making his/her own assessment of the content and seek professional advice.

## Introduction

Welcome to the 1998 edition of the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit Annual Update*. This is a special service provided to registered purchasers of the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit* published in August 1997.

This booklet is designed to update you with significant changes to the content of the kit since it was published. It does this by providing the specific changes page by page.

The booklet is designed to fit into the front pocket of your kit so that it is available for reference whenever you use the kit.

Thank you for being an Agrilink customer. We look forward to continuing to serve you with quality information products.

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*Before you*  
**START**

## **Overview of the 1997/98 season**

---

Near perfect growing conditions were recorded for the 1997 onion crops apart from the late planting which was harvested under very hot conditions. The predicted planting was about 600 ha.

The early onion crops for 1998 were planted under very hot conditions in February and March and in some instances these conditions dramatically reduced crop establishment. As a result of the extreme early season temperatures, some plantings had minor *Heliothis* damage. From about May onwards, growing conditions were near ideal. Early season onions have realised very good prices of \$15 to \$20 per bag.

About 30% of this year's crop were Early Lockyer white and brown onions planted from March to mid April (early season). An estimated 50% were Golden Brown, Wallon Brown and Wallon White, planted late April to early May (mid-season). A further 20% were planted late May to June (late season onions). Wallon Brown is receiving greater recognition as a mid-season onion and plantings of this variety have increased. Gladiator is superseding Gladalan as the dominant late onion variety due to its superior yield and quality aspects. Other high yielding mid-season varieties are now available; check with your local seed supplier, seed company or the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) for the variety most suitable for your needs.

The DPI's work on establishing an onion downy mildew forecasting service for Lockyer Valley farmers has started. Queensland Fruit & Vegetables Growers (QFVG) and the Horticultural Research & Development Corporation (HRDC) jointly fund this project.

## Onion downy mildew forecasting system

Onion downy mildew is perhaps the single biggest constraint to onion production in Queensland and in severe cases it can result in total crop loss. The disease becomes most prevalent under conditions of high relative humidity, low temperature and extended periods of dewy or wet conditions. Disease outbreaks are strongly dependent on these conditions and in some seasons the disease is far more prevalent than in others. However, since onions are a high value crop many growers are faced with no option other than to adopt a calendar spray program irrespective of whether the conditions are favourable for disease development.

In the Lockyer Valley, where 80% of Queensland's onions are grown, there are four major growing regions—Tenthill, Gatton, Laidley and Lowood—and each of these has different microclimates. Weather stations have been established in each region and weather data will be collected and used as a basis for forecasting when spraying is required to control downy mildew. Under a forecasting system where fewer fungicide applications may be required, improved coverage will be critical. The project has also started investigations on pesticide application parameters for onion spraying.

The forecasting model has highlighted that there was relatively low disease pressure during the 1998 season. By using the forecasting model growers were able to dramatically reduce the number of fungicide applications, particularly on the first onion planting. It is anticipated that the service will be fully operational next season.

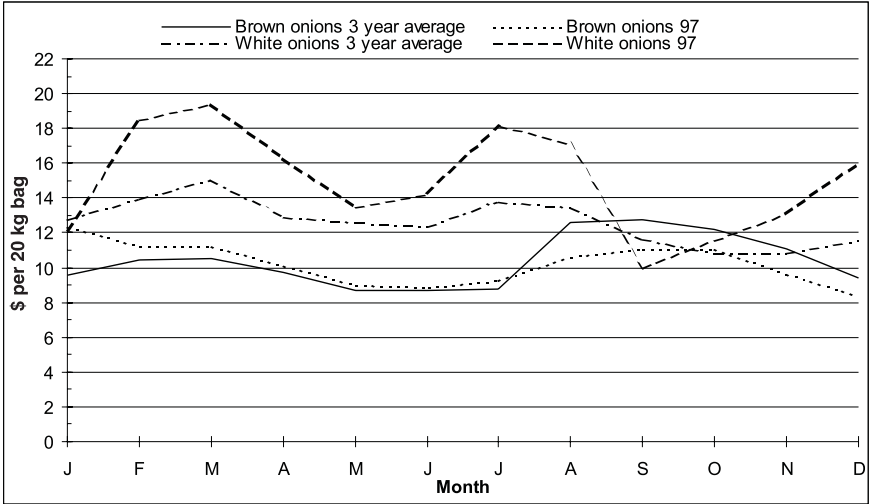
## Specific updates

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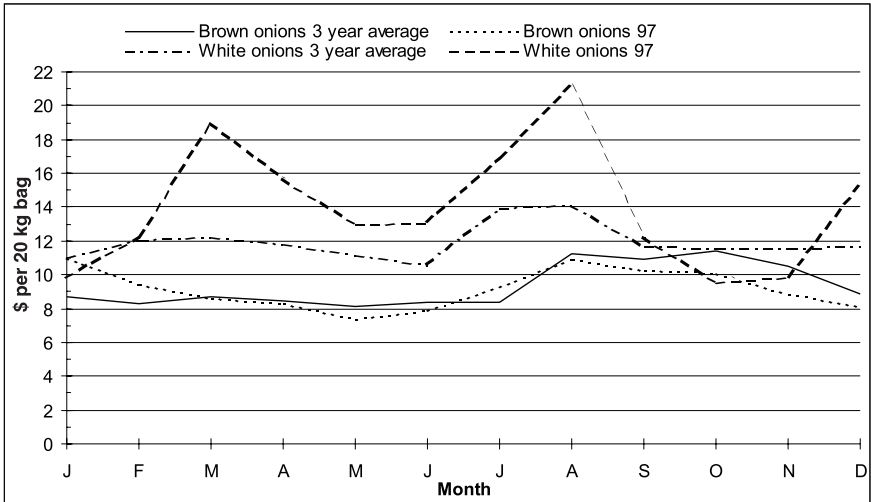
### Prices and throughputs (page 3)

Prices and throughputs for the 1997 season in the Brisbane and Sydney markets are shown in Figures 1 to 3. For comparison, the three-year average for 1994 to 1996 is also graphed.

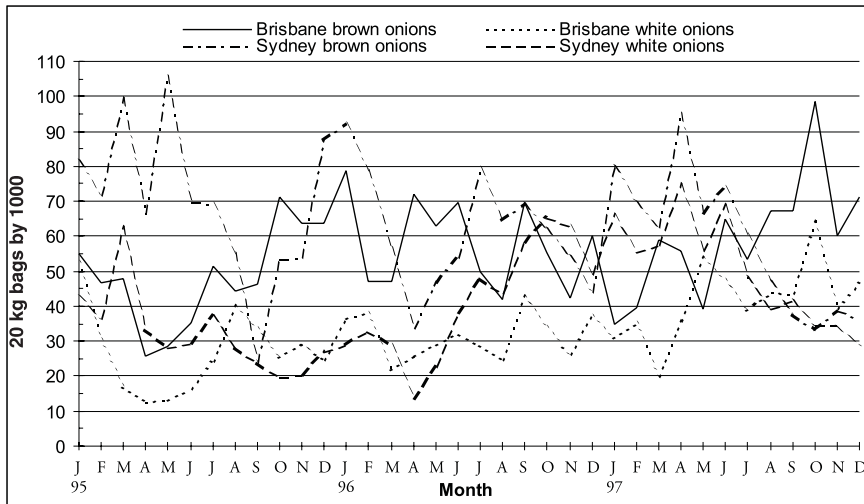




**Figure 1.** Average price, 1994 to 1996 and 1997 average price on the **Brisbane** market for brown and white onions



**Figure 2.** Average price, 1994 to 1996 and 1997 average price on the **Sydney** market for brown and white onions



**Figure 3.** Throughput for 1995 to 1997 on the **Brisbane** and **Sydney** markets for brown and white onions

### Production costs (page 5)

The cost of growing a 40 t/ha crop is now about \$1860. Harvesting costs, including drying, bagging and freight, add a further \$5540.



# Common **QUESTIONS**

## **Overview**

---

Some additional questions, particularly related to chemical use and quality standards have been raised since the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit* was first published. Following are some questions that the DPI's extension officers have been asked recently and their answers.

### **How do I get spray accreditation?**

Spray accreditations can be obtained by attending a course provided by an accredited Chemsafe Training Queensland trainer. *Contacts and references* on page 23 gives a contact to help you find your nearest trainer.

### **Do I need training in the safe use of chemicals?**

In some states you cannot buy chemicals unless you have a current spray accreditation. Currently, by law in Queensland, you only need training in safe use of chemicals if you are a contractor spraying on other people's land or you want to buy restricted chemicals.

However, most customers now see it as highly desirable for their growers to be able to demonstrate safe responsible use of chemicals. One of the best ways to demonstrate this is to obtain a Chemsafe accreditation. Remember spray accreditations must be renewed every five years.

### **How should I store my chemicals?**

Chemicals need to be stored in accordance with the AS2507 standard. This does not mean you will have to spend a fortune on elaborate storage facilities. You do, however, need to be aware of several safety, environmental and food safety factors whenever you deal with chemicals. Further information on correct use of chemicals is covered in the chemical user

course. Agsafe or Chemsafe accredited trainers also understand these requirements and employees of farm chemical resellers with Agsafe accreditations are also a useful source of information.

### **How do I calibrate my spray equipment?**

To work efficiently equipment needs to be calibrated and results of this calibration should be documented. You will learn the correct method of calibration at the spray accreditation course.

### **Do I need to keep a diary of spraying records?**

Yes you do! Records of chemical application are now one of the most important pieces of documentation you will need to be able to prove what you have done with chemicals. All the onion merchants and agents supplying the retail sector now expect you to keep spray records showing **at least** what was applied, how much, by whom, and when the application took place.

### **What level of quality assurance (QA) do I need?**

You will need different levels of quality assurance (QA) depending on to whom you supply your onions. If you supply direct to a retailer in some instances you may need a full quality management system which is accredited by a third party. If you supply to a processor you will need to meet their requirements. There is more information on QA under *Key issues* on page 16.



# Growing the **CROP**

## Overview

---

This section briefly updates changes to *Growing the crop* relating to varieties, planting, trace elements, labelling and interstate quarantine. More information on some of these areas appears in *Key issues* on page 15.

## Specific updates

---

Two new onion varieties are now grown in the Lockyer Valley.

**Table 1.** *Onion varieties grown in the Lockyer Valley (page 5)*

Variety	Seed source	Plant	Harvest	Notes
Cavalier	Commercial	Late April early May	Mid to late September	Vigorous hybrid variety, mild
Predator	Commercial	Mid to late May	Mid to late October	Vigorous hybrid variety, harder and more pungent than earlier varieties

## Plant the seed (page 10)

When air-seeders are used for planting, growers need to ensure that only very high germination seed is planted. Low germination seed will result in a thin planting and greater unevenness in the harvested onion.

## Control weeds (page 11)

**Table 3.** *Pre-emergent herbicides to control weeds in onions*

Include:

glyphosate — ipa	Glyphosate, Nomix, Ranger, Ricochet, Round-up, Sanos, Squadron	Controls grasses and some broadleaf weeds
------------------	--	---

Taken from the DPI's *Infopest* CD, V2. Consult the chemical label for rates.

## Control grass weeds (page 15)

**Table 4.** *Herbicides to control emerged grasses in onions*

Include:

clethodim	Select	Controls grasses
-----------	--------	------------------

Taken from the DPI's *Infopest* CD, V2. Consult the chemical label for rates.

## Herbicides—post-emergent (page 17)

**Table 5.** *Post-emergent herbicides to control weeds*

Delete: Unyonox.

Include:

methabenzthiazuron	Tribunil, Trump	Controls broadleaf weeds and grasses
--------------------	-----------------	--------------------------------------

Taken from the DPI's *Infopest* CD, V2. Consult the chemical label for rates.

## Trace elements (page 20)

Applications of boron may be required where soil levels are below 2.0 mg/kg (in CaCl<sub>2</sub>). This should be confirmed by tissue testing at the three to four leaf stage. Boron deficiency may be corrected by three foliar applications of Solubor or other boron fertiliser as per label directions.

## Labelling (page 26)

A key food safety requirement is traceability. All onions need to be identified and documentation maintained to support a trace-back system. Traceability is important as a means of finding the cause of a problem when it occurs, so those growers know how their produce has been handled once it has left the farm.

Traceability is helpful for:

- tracing the source of a possible contamination
- pinpointing areas of poor stock rotation in the marketing chain
- allowing isolation of only a small amount of the farm if there is a problem.

Apart from grower details such as name and address, a 'traceability' code, for example a 'packed on' date, harvest code or batch number needs to be incorporated so that the date of harvesting/grading and block they were grown in can be established for any size package sold. The sample label includes a 'packed on' date, but any code that will allow you to trace the onions in that bag back to the block they were grown in will do.



*Figure 7. A sample label including a traceability code*

## Interstate quarantine requirements (page 28)

These requirements change frequently, so we have included the contact details for each state on page 24 of this update. Inspection for garlic rust is required for movement into South Australia.



# Key **ISSUES**

## Overview

---

The gross margin for south-east Queensland has been updated, two new varieties have been added and some new information on marketing included.

## Specific updates

---

### Gross margin information for south-east Queensland (page 10)

The gross margin for onions grown in south-east Queensland has been re-worked at a price of \$350 per tonne for a 40 t/ha crop. The results are shown below.

Gross margin per hectare	\$4 047.69
Break-even yield at \$350 per tonne	21 tonnes per hectare
Break-even price at 40 t/ha	\$185.06 per tonne
Gross per megalitre of irrigation water	\$1 012 /ML

*Actual gross margin when price or yield changes*

		Price per tonne					
		Low		Medium		High	
Yield	t/ha	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$400	\$600	\$1000
Low	20	- \$1 532	- \$657	\$218	\$1 968	\$5 468	\$12 468
	30	- \$1 367	- \$55	\$1 258	\$3 883	\$9 133	\$19 633
Medium	40	- \$1 202	\$548	\$2 298	\$5 798	\$12 798	\$26 798
	50	- \$1 037	\$1 150	\$3 338	\$7 713	\$16 463	\$33 963
High	60	- \$872	\$1 753	\$4 378	\$9 628	\$20 128	\$41 128
	70	- \$707	\$2 355	\$5 418	\$11 543	\$23 793	\$48 293



## Varieties (page 11)

Two new onion varieties, Cavalier and Predator, are now grown in the Lockyer Valley. See Table 1 page 12.

## Fungicides (page 30)

There is a new chemical for control of onion white rot\*. For other new fungicides, refer to the *Problem solver handy guide* updates at the end of this booklet.

Chemical (days)	Trade name	Controls	WHP
tebuconazole	Folicur	White rot	NA

\*From the DPI's *Infopest* CD, V2. WHP: Withholding period; NA: Not applicable.

## Forecasting for downy mildew (page 31)

The introduction of the downy mildew forecasting system is covered in the overview of the 1997/98 season on page 6 of this update.

## Marketing (page 33)

There has been a move towards buyers demanding some level of QA in vegetable marketing. Some possible levels of QA designed to meet the requirements of different customers are detailed below:

### 1. Approved supplier to certified packing shed/merchant/marketing group

This level will require several measures to be documented, some of which may already be in place. These may include:

- property map
- crop history (spray diary)
- calibration and records
- chemical user training
- correct storage of chemicals
- pest control
- packing record
- product specification
- completed food safety check-list.

## **2. Supply via a certified merchant**

A merchant may have a quality management/food safety system and you will need to be an approved supplier to this system. If you have a large packing/washing operation you may also need a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan in place for the shed to cover food safety.

## **3. Direct supply**

If you supply someone like a retailer who requires a full Quality/Food Safety Management System (Q/FSMS) such as SQF 2000, ISO9 002, HACCP or Woolworths Vendor Quality Management Scheme (WVQMS), you will need to implement one of these systems and be certified by a third party organisation. Likewise, if you intend to do this in the future, you will need to meet your particular customers' supply requirements.



# *Problem* **SOLVER**

## **Specific updates**

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There have been no changes to *Problem solver*.



# *Contacts and* **REFERENCES**

## **Contacts**

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Australia now has 10-digit telephone and fax numbers, including the STD code. To find the changed numbers for many of the contacts listed in the *Agrilink Onion Information Kit*, consult the latest telephone directory.

## **Specific updates**

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### **Grower associations (page 2)**

**Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers** has an e-mail address and Web site

e-mail: [qfvg@qfvg.org.au](mailto:qfvg@qfvg.org.au)  
[www.qfvg.org.au](http://www.qfvg.org.au)

The new address for Bio Dynamics Association of Australia is:

**Biodynamic Agricultural Association of Australia**  
c/- Post Office  
POWELLTOWN VIC 3793  
Ph: (03) 5966 7333; Fax: (03) 5966 7433

**Biological Farmers of Australia** has an e-mail address:

e-mail: [bfa@icr.com.au](mailto:bfa@icr.com.au)

**National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia Ltd** has an

e-mail address: e-mail: [nasaa@dove.mpt.net.au](mailto:nasaa@dove.mpt.net.au)

## **Seed suppliers (page 4)**

### **Henderson Seeds**

Adam Winter

PO Box 7586

TOOWOOMBA MC QLD 4352

Ph: (07) 4697 8115; Fax: (07) 4697 8244; Mobile: 0417 077 857

e-mail: awin@ozemail.com.au

Head office: Ph: 1800 80 2295; Fax: (03) 9850 6794

### **Yates Vegetable Seeds Ltd**

c/- TAS Seeds

PO Box 66

COOPERS PLAINS QLD 4108

Ph: (07) 3277 5611; Fax: (07) 3277 0829

## **Lockyer Valley onion seed producers (page 4)**

Delete:

**Des Reisenleiter**

GATTON QLD 4343

## **Manufacturers of harvesting or grading machinery (page 5)**

### **Glenore Grove Engineering & Hardware**

FOREST HILL QLD 4342

Fax: (07) 5466 5405

### **Stark Engineering & Hardware**

FOREST HILL QLD 4342

Fax: (07) 5465 4190; Mobile: 018 889 148

## **Postharvest handling and packaging (page 5)**

### **Cardiff's Refrigeration**

LAKE CLARENDON QLD 4343

Fax: (07) 5466 5417

**Bins (page 5)****Hoods Sawmill**

Beavan Street

GATTON QLD 4343

Fax: (07) 5462 3617

**Market price information (page 6)****Market Contact Network****Brisbane:** Trevor Brewer

Ph: (07) 3379 4576; Fax: (07) 3379 4103; Mobile: 018 068 141;

e-mail: Ausmarket@bigpond.com

**Sydney:** Chris Cope

Mobile: 015 108 639; Fax: (02) 9907 1140

At markets: Ph: (02) 9746 3437; Fax: (02) 9746 1075

e-mail: cqs@accsoft.com.au

**Melbourne:** John Popiliess

Mobile: 0411 117 578; Fax: (03) 9645 9908

At markets: Ph: (03) 9689 3444

e-mail: info@datafresh.com.au

For information on **market prices**, contact:

**Ausmarket Consultants**

D Block Brisbane Market

PO Box 229

BRISBANE MARKETS QLD 4106

Ph: (07) 3379 4576; Fax: (07) 3379 4103

[www.users.bigpond.com/ausmarket](http://www.users.bigpond.com/ausmarket)

**DataFresh Melbourne Market Reporting Service**

Box 170 Melbourne Markets

FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011

Ph: (03) 9689 3444; Fax: (03) 9689 3411

e-mail: jp@datafresh.com.au

**Flemington Market Reporting Services**

Northern B Block Warehouse

PO Box 1

FLEMINGTON MARKETS NSW 2129

Ph: (02) 9764 3516; Fax: (02) 9763 1773

Market Reports: 1900 123 038 (recording); 75 cents per minute

Dial-a-fax: 1900 123 039 (\$2 per fax)

**Market Information Services**

D Block Brisbane Market

PO Box 229

BRISBANE MARKETS QLD 4106

Ph: (07) 3379 4576; Fax: (07) 3379 4103; Mobile: 0417 710 950

Infocall: 1902 262 580 (\$1.50 per minute, covers Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne)

**Horticultural consultants (page 6)****Graeme Thomas**

HAMPTON QLD 4352

Mobile: 0419 977 267

Delete: Plant Pro.

Include:

**Valley Crop Monitoring Service**

Julian Winch

20 Smith Street

GATTON QLD 4343

Ph/Fax: (07) 5462 2096; Mobile: 015 640 450

**Plant, soil and water testing laboratories****Agritech Laboratory Services**

PO Box 549

214 McDougall Street

TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Ph: (07) 4633 0599; Fax: (07) 4633 0711

**Crop Tech Research**

MS 305  
Langbeckers Road  
BUNDABERG QLD 4670  
Ph: (07) 4155 6344; Fax: (07) 4155 6656  
e-mail: CROPTECH@b130.aone.net.au

**Dr W. Holloway**

14 Enterprise Street  
BUNDABERG QLD 4670  
Ph: (07) 4153 1440; Fax: (07) 4153 5247

**Incitec Ltd**

PO Box 140  
MORNINGSIDE QLD 4170  
Ph: (07) 3867 9300; Fax: (07) 3867 9310

**Disease and nematode testing laboratories****Biological Crop Protection**

Dr G. Stirling  
3601 Moggill Road  
MOGGILL QLD 4070  
Ph: (07) 3202 7419; Fax: (07) 3202 8033; Mobile: 0412 083 489  
e-mail:biolcrop@powerup.com.au

**Pesticides and spraying**

For training in pesticide application contact Chemsafe Training Queensland to find the nearest accredited trainer.

**AVCARE Ltd**

National Association for Crop Protection and Animal Health  
Locked Bag 916  
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2050  
Ph: (02) 9922 2199; Fax: (02) 9954 0544  
e-mail: avcare@ozemail.com.au



**Centre for Pesticide Application and Safety**

University of Queensland, Gatton College  
LAWES GATTON QLD 4343  
Ph: (07) 5460 1281; Fax: (07) 5460 1283

**Chemsafe Training Queensland**

PO Box 3128  
SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101  
Ph: (07) 3844 7261; Fax: (07) 3844 7307  
e-mail: [chemsafe@powerup.com.au](mailto:chemsafe@powerup.com.au)

**Export associations (page 7)**

Changes of address:

**Australian Horticultural Exporters Association**

Institute of Horticultural Development  
Private Bag 15  
SOUTH EASTERN MAIL CENTRE VIC 3176  
Ph: (03) 9210 9380; Fax: (03) 9210 9381; Mobile: 0419 999 889  
e-mail: [ahea@ozdocs.net.au](mailto:ahea@ozdocs.net.au)  
[www.ozdocs.net.au/~ahea](http://www.ozdocs.net.au/~ahea)

**Queensland Horticultural Exporters Association**

PO Box 857  
HAMILTON CENTRAL QLD 4007  
Ph: (07) 3868 1888; Fax: (07) 3868 4722

**Information on interstate movement provisions**

Requirements for interstate movement change rapidly, to allow you to get the latest information we have included the contacts for each state below.

The DPI Call Centre (13 25 23) will be able to give you the contact details for your closest DPI plant health inspector.

**Queensland****Senior Operational Support Officer**

Department of Primary Industries

GPO Box 46

BRISBANE QLD 4001

Ph: (07) 3239 3330; Fax: (07) 3211 3293

**New South Wales****Regulatory Operations Coordinator (Plants)**

Locked Bag 21

ORANGE NSW 2800

Ph: (02) 6391 3583; Fax: (02) 6361 9976

**Australian Capital Territory****Quarantine & Inspection Officer**

Environment ACT

PO Box 1038

TUGGERANONG ACT 2901

Ph: (02) 6207 2265; (02) 6207 2268

**Victoria****Supervisor Plant Standards**

Plant Standards Centre

Box 126

FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011

Ph: (03) 9687 5627; Fax: (03) 9687 6746

**Tasmania****Quarantine Officer**

Quarantine Centre

PO Box 347

NORTH HOBART TAS 7022

Ph: (03) 6233 3036; Fax: 6234 6785

**South Australia****Program Leader—State Quarantine Inspection Service**

46 Prospect Road

PROSPECT SA 50582

Ph: (08) 8269 4500; Fax: (08) 8344 6033

**Western Australia****Senior Inspector**

Western Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service

280 Bannister Road

CANNING VALE WA 6155

Ph: (08) 9311 5333; Fax: (08) 9455 3052

**Northern Territory****Senior Adviser, Plants**

NT Quarantine & Inspection Branch

GPO Box 2268

DARWIN NT 0801

Ph: (08) 8981 8733; Fax: (08) 8941 0223

**Certified health inspectors for interstate produce**

Mr Arnold Greasley

MS 546

FOREST HILL QLD 4342

Ph: (07) 5465 4412

Mr John Fullerton

Main Road

GRANTHAM QLD 4347

Ph: (07) 5466 1203

## Queensland government services (page 7)

Change of address for onion inquiries:

### DPI, Gatton

Queensland Horticulture Institute  
Gatton Research Station  
Locked Mail Bag 7, MS 437  
GATTON QLD 4343  
Ph: (07) 5466 2222; Fax: (07) 5462 3223

### Consumer Affairs Queensland

Consumer Affairs officers manage the *Trade Measurement Act 1990* and can provide current information on marking packages and the requirements for ensuring correct weight in all packages. You can locate your nearest office or obtain information by contacting them on Ph: (07) 3836 0411; Fax: (07) 3836 0424.

### Other information sources

**DPI Call Centre.** To help you access DPI's information services and products, ring the DPI Call Centre 13 25 23 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays, for the cost of a local phone call.

**DPI web site:** [www.dpi.qld.gov.au](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au)

## Agricultural booksellers (page 9)

Agmedia no longer exists. The NRE Information Centre sells many of their titles. Additional booksellers are listed below.

### Granny Smith's Bookshop

PO Box 27  
SUBIACO WA 6008  
Ph: (08) 9388 1853; Fax: (08) 9388 1852  
e-mail: [granny@aoi.com.au](mailto:granny@aoi.com.au)  
[www.aoi.com.au/granny](http://www.aoi.com.au/granny)

**Landlinks Press**

PO Box 1139

COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066

Freecall: 1800 645 051; Ph: (03) 9662 7666; Fax: (03) 9662 7555

e-mail: sales@publish.csiro.au

**NRE Information Centre**

PO Box 500

EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Ph: (03) 9637 8080; Fax (03) 9637 8150

**NSW Agriculture**

Publications Sales Unit

Locked Bag 21

ORANGE NSW 2800

Orders: Freecall: 1800 028 374; Ph: (02) 6391 3433; Fax: 1800 642 065

A wide range of agricultural books and Agfacts is available through NSW Agriculture.


## References

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**Other books (page 12)**

A new edition of the *Australian vegetable growing handbook* edited by J. Salvestrin and published by Scope Publishing, will be available soon. Ph: (02) 6960 1550; Fax: (02) 6960 1600 for details.

*Field guide to cream gold onion disorders and their control*, Dennis, J., Ransom, L., Kemp, S. & Hill, L. (1997), Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries, Tasmania.



*Problem solver*  
**HANDY  
 GUIDE**

Note these changes for pest and disease control in onions\*:

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Controls</b>	<b>Trade name</b>	<b>Add trade name</b>	<b>Delete trade name</b>	<b>WHP</b>
benomyl	Neck and bulb rot	Benlate	*		NA
chlorpyrifos (bait)	Crickets	Bar 500EC	*		NA
chlorpyrifos	Crickets	Strike-out Seed dressing	*		NFC
chlorpyrifos	Cutworm	Bar 500EC, Strike-out	*		0
chlorothalonil	Downy mildew	Elect	*		14
copper hydroxide	Downy mildew	Copper Hydroxide, Flo-Bordo, Blue Side	*		1
copper	Downy mildew	Blue Mantel	*		1
copper oxychloride	Downy mildew	Vincop	*		1
copper oxychloride + zineb	Downy mildew	Copperneb	*		7
cuprous oxide	Downy mildew	Nordox, Norshield	*		1
dimethoate	Pests as per original <i>Problem solver handy guide</i>	Dimethomax, Romethoate	*		7
mancozeb	Downy mildew	Dek	*		7
mancozeb + sulphur	Downy mildew	Mancozeb Plus	*		7

Chemical	Controls	Trade name	Add trade name	Delete trade name	WHP
mancozeb + metalaxyl	Downy mildew, purple blotch	Zeemil	*		7
mancozeb + metalaxyl M	Downy mildew, purple blotch	Ridomil Gold	*		7
tebuconazole	White rot	Folicur	*		NA
carbaryl		Bugmaster Flowable, Carbaryl, Carbaryl Flowable		*	
dimethoate		Rogor Diostop		*	
trichlorfon		Lepidex		*	
thiometin		Ekatin		*	

\* Taken from the DPI's *Infopest* CD, V2.

WHP: Withholding period (days); NA: Not applicable; NFC: Not for consumption.

These are all the changed items that we are aware of. If there are any additional changes, please contact our Customer Service officer on 1800 677 640 or send fax details to (07) 5444 9694. You can also e-mail us on: [agrilink@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:agrilink@dpi.qld.gov.au)

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