

R&D Report

Committee meeting regularly

Prioritised the following: -

- **Support of small grower trials on chemical controls for Nut Rot**
- **Expanded chemical trials in 2024/25 (being considered)**
- **New trials using Phosphonate Salts (being considered)**
- **Endophyte trials/tests (being considered)**
- **Weather station data review**
- **Establishment of an industry weather station network (being considered).**



GROWER TRIAL – Project CH23002

Brief Overview:

- Chestnut R&D funded project through Hort Innovation
- 2 sites – one in Victoria and one in NSW
- Chemical applications of **Difenoconazole and Pyraclostrobin.**
- One trial – at 10%, 50% and 100% flowering
- Second trial – every 30 days commencing at 1st December
- Samples collect from control and treated trees and laboratory tests undertaken.
- At end of season nuts will also be tested.
- Full Final report will be presented to industry and used to potentially develop more comprehensive trials that may lead to chemical permits/registration.



OTHER OUTPUTS OF PROJECT

- Critically evaluate past grower-based management and trial techniques.
- Review and validate the methodologies of current grower management trials.
- Design and develop scientifically sound and practical methodologies that can be utilised in a full chemical trial program commencing in September 2024.



Outputs so far

- **Grower trials commenced and sampling undertaken with what initially appear to be positive results.**
- **Review of the use of Phosphonate Salts to Control Chestnut 'Brown Rot' by *Gnomoniopsis castaneae* in Fruit Orchards of *Castanea sativa*. Objective – detail the methodology**
- **Review of Fungicide control of *Gnomoniopsis smithogilvyi*, causal agent of chestnut rot in Australia.**
Objective – detail the methodology
- **Validation of bioassays for infield sampling and testing using LAMP technology. (yet to commence)**
Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification (LAMP)

