



SAFE FOOD QUEENSLAND'S HORTICULTURE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK STEERING COMMITTEE

COMMUNIQUE – 24 November 2023 meeting

Safe Food Production Queensland's Horticulture Regulatory Framework Steering Committee (the committee) held its second meeting on Friday 24 November. The aim of the Committee is to design a regulatory framework for the implementation of the three new national horticulture primary production and processing standards (melons, berries, and leafy vegetables) in Queensland.

The Committee was formed by Safe Food Production Queensland to support the development of a best practice regulatory approach to effectively manage food safety risks in horticulture along the supply chain, which minimises the impost on both industry participants and government agencies.

Anne Gerardi, a senior manager from The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) presented to the group about the history of GFSI, the work currently being undertaken along with plans for the future of the organisation.

The purpose and objectives of the framework being co-design by the Committee were reviewed and the committee discussed how recognition of programs to reduce regulatory burden and what key information needs to be considered for this to occur.

The newly established Queensland Horticulture Industry Technical Advisory Group (HITAG) is due to meet in December to discuss the details of the recognition model in more detail.

The Committee's next meeting will be in January 2024.

Stakeholders can stay informed on key developments on the implementation of the new Horticulture Standards within Queensland by subscribing here -

<https://www.safefood.qld.gov.au/horticulture-scheme-subscribe-form/>