



SOUTHERN NSW
Innovation Hub

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE,
LANDSCAPES AND COMMUNITIES

May 2023

Draft media release

Track & Trace puts biosecurity app's real-life data to the test

Today in Orange, local vignerons, biosecurity specialists and industry representatives met to measure the edge technology can deliver via real-time data to increase planning efficiency and effectiveness in a biosecurity emergency response.

NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Director Plant Biosecurity Enhancement, Shane Hetherington, said Exercise Sour Grapes 2023 is simulating a plant biosecurity outbreak to test data from the Track & Trace pilot project.

"Track & Trace used Onside Intelligence's Check-in app to gather real-life data from local vineyards from spring 2022 until the 2023 vintage," Dr Hetherington said.

"Exercise Sour Grapes 2023 is testing the technology's surveillance and early detection algorithm in delivering rapid response to biosecurity outbreaks and informing resource allocation for the NSW wine sector.

"This exercise will compare results with Exercise Sour Grapes 2019, which ran the same emergency response simulation, without the advantage of real-time data from an app."

Track & Trace is supported by NSW DPI, NSW Wine and Southern NSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub (the Hub).

The project has worked with Canberra, Tumbarumba, Orange and Mudgee vignerons who collected the real-time data in their vineyards.

NSW Wine president, Mark Bourne, said building and maintaining accurate movement data helps to protect the long-term resilience of the NSW wine industry.

"Prevention is always better than a cure. If and when a new threat emerges, we need to be able to trace back to determine where it came from and trace forward to lessen the impacts on industry and the communities in which we live and work," Mr Bourne said.

"This project is a real-life demonstration of how biosecurity can work as a shared responsibility. Industry, federal and state government agencies and a technology partner are all working together to pilot a biosecurity solution to help make us fit for future challenges."



SOUTHERN NSW Innovation Hub

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE,
LANDSCAPES AND COMMUNITIES

Hub Director, Cindy Cassidy, said developing a world-class biosecurity system is one of the four National Agricultural Innovation Agenda priorities supported by the Hub.

“Track & Trace is part of The Hub’s broader Managing Biosecurity Risks investment that is testing strategies to better engage the community and supply chain in biosecurity preparedness. This project gives us the opportunity to apply existing technologies and test systems designed to help better prepare a region to respond to biosecurity threats,” Ms Cassidy said.

“This pilot is just the beginning. We are keen to engage the community and the supply chain to support our biosecurity efforts and if this technology does prove to be effective, it could revolutionise biosecurity in NSW and Australia.”

Track & Trace is supported by funding from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry as part of the Australian Government’s Agricultural Innovation Hubs Program.

Media contacts:

For interviews with Southern NSW Hub Director Cindy Cassidy, please contact Kylie Dunstan, Southern NSW Hub Communications and Engagement Manager

e. kydunstan@csu.edu.au p. +61 417 437 922

For interviews with NSW DPI please contact Bernadette York, Strategic Programs and Partnerships

e. bernadette.york@dpi.nsw.gov.au p. +61 427 773 785

For interviews with NSW Wine Industry Association, please contact President Mark Bourne

e. president@nswwine.com.au p. +61 409 902 982

- ENDS -



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



SOUTHERN NSW
Innovation Hub
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE,
LANDSCAPES AND COMMUNITIES

This is part of a joint initiative with the Southern NSW Innovation Hub and forms part of the Australian Government’s Agricultural Innovation Hubs Program



NSW
GOVERNMENT Department of Primary Industries

NEW SOUTH WALES
wine



onside
Check-in to progress

- A media release from the Southern NSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub -