

## **Vegetable Research & Innovation Board Constitution**

### **Composition**

The Vegetable Research & Innovation Board:

- was established in December 2005 by the Fresh Vegetable, Fresh Tomato, Process Vegetable and Potato Product Groups, Onions New Zealand and the New Zealand Asparagus Council
- membership is at the sole discretion of each group
- is comprised of seven members, one appointed by each of the contributing groups and an independent chair appointed by agreement of the 6 members appointed by the contributing groups
- current members are: Mike Dunbier (Chair), Stuart Davis (Fresh Vegetables), Paul Munro (Onions New Zealand) Murray Turley (Potatoes), Alan Newton (Process Vegetables), Wim Zwart (Fresh Tomatoes) and Peter Falloon (Asparagus).

The R&I Manager (currently Dr Sonia Whiteman) is an employee of Horticulture New Zealand.

### **Funding**

Funding for the Vegetable Research & Innovation Board and associated R&I Manager is by agreement among the contributing groups. The current commitment is until the end of the 2010/11 financial year and the current share of contributions is as follows:

### **Board Operations**

- Board resolutions will be on the basis of one member one vote.
- The quorum of the Board will be 4 members.
- The Board may hold meetings by conference call and/or make decisions by circular resolution or email responses.

### **Terms of Reference:**

The Board has been delegated responsibility by the Vegetable Product Groups for the overall governance of the Vegetable Research and Innovation Platforms:

#### *Sustainable production systems.*

Systems that use best practice technologies throughout value chains to meet or exceed community expectations for:

- Maintenance of productive capacity
- Minimising ecosystem impacts
- Providing for economic and social sustainability

#### *Innovative vegetable products.*

Using specialised knowledge to develop and successfully market innovative, customised products satisfying international consumer needs for:

- Lifestyle products

- Nutritionally superior products
- High value niche products

*Integrated and efficient value chains.*

Managing value chains within the industry so that they are internationally competitive and operate with such efficiency that they enhance the business results of all participants enabling:

- Consistency of quality paddock to plate
- Optimal speed to market
- Competitive access to target markets
- Delivery of best commercial outcomes
- Added value to products
- Continually enhanced capacity to innovate

**Responsibilities of the Board in conjunction with the Manager**

i) Advises the CEO of Horticulture New Zealand of the performance of the R&I Manager

II) In conjunction with the Manager:

- Grow the focus on strategic research and innovation across the Vegetable Product Groups.
- Recommend a research and innovation strategy and from this an investment portfolio across the Vegetable Product Groups.
- Coordinate the operation of this portfolio with key research providers.
- Develop with key investment agencies proposals to grow strategic investment into vegetable research and innovation and coordinate these proposals.
- Communicate vegetable industry research and innovation strategies and outcomes to key industry stakeholders.
- Manage the vegetable research and innovation portfolio for the achievement of outcomes desired by growers.
- Coordinate with other related portfolios, especially those Product Groups within Horticulture NZ and the wider horticulture industry.