

STIMBR PGP PROGRAMME

Quarterly Progress Report January to March 2012

The Stakeholders In Methyl Bromide Reduction (STIMBR) PGP programme is a multi-stranded research programme that seeks to reduce methyl bromide emissions to the atmosphere by 2020 and find alternative phytosanitary treatments.

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Of particular note during this quarter was the running of an Intellectual Assault Workshop in February 2012. The workshop brought together subject matter experts to review the proposed work programme and agree how the research can be optimised to enhance successful delivery of the contracted outcomes:

The workshop:

- Endorsed the on-going development of the methyl bromide destruction technology being investigated by Scion. The experts agreed that any investigation of other destruction / recapture technologies that had been identified should be stopped until the selected destruction technology is proven or otherwise.
- Restructured the work on fumigants (objectives 1.1, 1.2 and 1.4) to provide more robust data. This will ensure results are useful in the long term and will allow comparison of results between environments, years and fumigants. A matrix to guide fumigant research is to be developed.
- Recommended the preparation of a draft literature review on the use of phosphine for use on fresh produce.
- Identified a number of novel approaches including irradiation and heat that may be investigated later if needed.

Deleted: <#>Identified a range of additional complementary work that could be submitted as a bid to MSI (MBIE) that will provide a range of sustainable approaches to decrease the forestry industries reliance on fumigation ¶

