



Commitments for hosting a Diagnostic Residential

Program purpose

The purpose of the NPBDN Diagnostic Residential Program (referred to as Diagnostic Residentials) is to improve the national plant biosecurity diagnostic capability and capacity by developing the skills of individuals. It allows plant biosecurity diagnosticians to gain essential skills and knowledge through experiences they would not otherwise have access to in their own laboratory. The program also allows participants to share their ideas and build networks, leading to collaborations between laboratories.

The program forms an integral component of the professional development framework for the National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostic Network (NPBDN).

Overview

Diagnostic Residentials involve plant biosecurity diagnostician(s) spending time in another laboratory, workplace, or by participating in relevant activities that improve the national capability to identify plant pests.

Projects should show benefit to NPBDN and address a known diagnostic gap or improve identification capability for one of the following.

1. A National Priority Plant Pest (NPPP). List available at agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/national-priority-plant-pests-2019.
2. A plant pest on the Priority list of exotic environmental pests and diseases. Information available at agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/environmental/priority-list.
3. A High Priority Pest of plant industries. These are listed in Biosecurity Plans for industries. <https://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au/industries/>.
4. An emerging plant pest.

The length of each Diagnostic Residential varies depending on the activities and the specified outcomes. Typically, past residentials have been 5-14 days long. After the project is carried out, recipients must meet their reporting requirements and train at least two people in their home laboratory or organisation on the skills learned

Commitments of host laboratory

A host laboratory or organisation's ('the host') endorsement of an application for the NPBDN Diagnostic Residential Program indicates that the following have been considered and agreed to.

- The time and resources involved in planning for and hosting a Diagnostic Residential.
- The most appropriate timeframe for the Diagnostic Residential to be carried out. This includes both the seasonal requirements to carry out the defined project and the host resourcing requirements to carry out their required workload.
- Any known restrictions relating to COVID-19 have been factored into the project design.
- The host will complete and return the feedback form provided for the Diagnostic Residential.

Contact

If you would like further information or would like to discuss the commitments further, contact the NPBDN Coordinator at NPBDN@phau.com.au or (02) 6215 7700.