

# **Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group**

## **Briefing Notes**

The Tasmanian Agricultural Productivity Group Limited (TAPG) was formed in 1989. It is the only single body in the State representing intensive agriculture, fresh and processed food producers and associated service industries. The organization is entirely funded from member contributions.

TAPG is in a unique position as it represents the full range of primary, secondary and related activities in agriculture and forestry industries. No other specialist industry body has this vertical integration of membership. This allows for issues facing industry to be addressed by the Board with access to expertise from the continuum of growing, processing, marketing and their related industry services.

## **Aims of the Group**

TAPG is an industry funded group which works with Government, statutory authorities, industry segment groups, other representative groups and individuals to:

- Ensure the ongoing productivity and growth of the Tasmanian agriculture, forestry, food and related services.
- Provide a cooperative forum for the promotion, recognition and ongoing development of all sectors of Tasmania's agricultural, forestry, food and related industries.
- Reinforce public confidence in the safety and quality of Tasmanian produce.
- Promote the application of safe, efficient, sustainable and appropriate environmental practices.
- Provide a multi-sector approach to issues affecting the Tasmanian agricultural industry.

## **Activities**

- Submission in response to the Aerial and Ground Spraying Regulations
- Submission in response to Protection of Agricultural Land Policy
- Conducted the Sustainable Soils Management Field Days and Seminar Week
- Conducted an Industry Forum on Controlled Traffic Farming (CTF)
- Established the CTF Interest Group Network and related Newsletter
- Submission in response to Draft Discussion Paper: A National Scheme for Assessment, Registration and Control of Use of Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals
- Representation at National Workshop on AGVET Chemicals – Canberra

- Established TAPG Rapid Response Group as a working party of the Board, conversant with AGVET issues and empowered to respond to rapidly emerging chemical related issues or policy proposals
- Assisted the Tasmanian Irrigation Development Board in a number of forums designed to assist growers to take up water rights
- Promoted primary production through our organizational role with Devonport's "Taste the Harvest Festival"
- Developing a role as a "Partner Group" with the Tasmania Together Board
- Sponsoring "Boutique" producers within the wider agriculture industry
- Providing industry representation on both the Macquarie and Ringarooma Water Management Consultative Groups
- In partnership with Dairy Tas & TFGA instigated an Industry Workshop aimed at reducing the incidence of MCPA traces in the Duck River at Smithton
- High level representation on the Steering Committee for the "Innovative Farming Practices Project. This project was responsible for developing improved infrastructure to support agricultural production in Tasmania through the establishment of a CORS (Continuous Operating Reference System) network throughout Tasmania, and increased awareness and knowledge in the agricultural sector of how innovative and precision farming techniques utilizing satellite positioning technology can lead to improvements in on-farm efficiency, productivity and environmental performance.
- In conjunction with AgriFood Skills Australia, facilitated a series of seminars and workshops around "sustainability" May – August 2011
- Inaugural membership of the Food Industry Advisory Committee established by the Minister for Economic Development.
- Membership of the Rural Industry Training and Education Inc.
- Membership of the Primary Industry Biosecurity Action Alliance
- Joint sponsorship of further Controlled Traffic Farming developments in partnership with Cradle Coast NRM and the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture.
- Established the Tasmanian Fresh Vegetable Marketing Group as a standing committee of TAPG. This group will take over the promotional/coordinating work previously carried out by the State sponsored Vegetable Industry Marketing Committee. It will also play a role in preserving the integrity of the IP generated by the now defunct VIMC.

## **Membership**

**Agricultural Ground Sprayers Association of Tas (AGSAT)**

**Agronico Pty Ltd**

**Ashgrove Farm Cheese**

**Bayer Crop Science**

**Botanical Resources Aust (BRA)**

**Kraft Foods (Aust)**

**Cherry Hill Cool Stores**

**Macquarie Franklin**

**Dobmac Agricultural Machinery**

**Ford Aviation Pty Ltd**

**Forest Enterprises Aust**

**Forestry Tasmania**

**Moore's Farm Fresh Vegetables Pty Ltd**

**GlaxoSmithKline**

**Greenhams**

**Gunns Limited**

**Harvest Moon (Forth Farm Produce)**

**Hills Transplants Pty Ltd**

**Impact Fertilisers**

**Incitec Pivot Ltd**

**McCains Foods (Aust) Pty Ltd**

**National Foods**

**Nufarm**

**Peracto**

**Perfecta Exports Pty Ltd**

**Premium Fresh Tasmania**

**Private Forests Tasmania**

**Rabo Bank**

**RM Consulting Group**

**Roberts Limited**

**Rural Development Services**

**Serve-Ag Pty Ltd**

**Simplot Australia**

**Syngenta Group Protection Pty Ltd**

**Tasmanian Alkaloids Pty Ltd**

**Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association**

**Tasmanian Helicopters Pty Ltd**

**Webster Fresh**

**Tasmanian Poppy Growers Association**

**T.P. Jones & Co**

**Fonterra Australia**

**D.P.I.W.E**

**Charlton Farm Produce**



## **Board of Directors**

✓ Vegetable Processing	David Stirling	Simplot
Plantation Forestry	Jim Wilson	Gunns
Other Crop Processing	Rick Rockliff	Tas Alkaloids
Minister's Representative	Cindy Hanson	Adviser to Minister
✓ Fresh Vegetables	Mark Kable	Harvest Moon
Rural Banking	Greg Bott	Rabo Bank
Regulatory Affairs	Peter Wilkinson	Nufarm
✓ Vegetable Processing	Les Murdoch (Chairman)	McCains
Agribusiness Services	Graeme Palmer	Serve-Ag
Dairy Processing	Mark Smith	Dairy Tas.
✓ Primary Production	Andrew Heap	TFGA
✓ Primary Production	Keith Rice	Tas Poppy Growers
TIA (Honorary)	Michael Hart	TIA
Executive Officer	Terry Brient	Company Secretary

**(The Group is a registered "not for profit" company with ASIC. Liability of members is limited to an amount not exceeding fifty dollars.)**