



Crop
PROTECTION

Crop Protection

The Cost of Neglect

Who pays the price when the Government doesn't fund the APVMA?

Australia is the only OECD nation with an agricultural chemical regulator entirely funded through an industry fees and levies cost recovery model.

Despite this, the Australian Government is not meeting its funding obligations to the APVMA in a way that reflects growing demands on the Regulator to deliver public good functions such as chemical reviews, compliance and enforcement. Ultimately this leaves farmers footing the bill which means consumers will pay.

As fruit and vegetable prices soar (up 6.3 per cent year-on-year), 35 per cent of horticultural farms report major crop losses to pests and disease before produce even reaches supermarket shelves. CropLife members invest tens of billions of dollars annually in research, development and commercialisation of innovations that underpin the productivity and sustainability of farming.

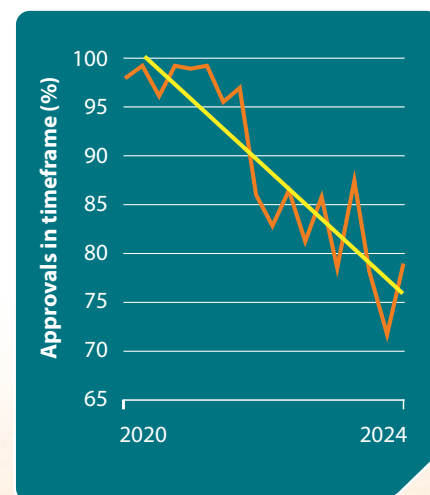
Yet, consecutive governments have failed to implement policies that support regulatory efficiency to bring these technologies to market. While the APVMA has implemented operational reforms to maintain public confidence, this increased focus on delivering public good outcomes is missing long-term sustainable funding.

The Government's recent \$5.2 million boost is welcome, but permanent funding is needed to fix the structural funding flaw.

Unlike other global regulators, the APVMA is funded almost entirely by industry through application fees and levies on sales. Without action, this will drive up input costs and impact farm productivity needed to drive down cost of living pressures at the checkout.

It's not fixed until the Government provides funding.

APVMA processing times drop below minimum statutory requirements



On-time assessment of major pesticide applications continue to drop due to Government not funding the demands it's putting on the APVMA.

