



Participant Information Sheet– General (Specific)

Project Title: An integrated pest and disease management extension program for the olive industry (OL17001)

Project Summary:

You are invited to participate in a survey being conducted by Associate Professor Robert Spooner-Hart, Hawkesbury Research Institute, Western Sydney University, as part of the above-named project. The project aims to provide Australian olive growers with access to current, practical information and advice for implementing integrated pest and disease management (IPDM) strategies in their groves. It will have a focus on the sustainable management of three major pests/diseases for the industry: black scale, olive lace bug and anthracnose. It will deliver this information via grower IPDM workshops across production areas, online tutorials, written and web-based pest and disease information, and training for industry consultants and pest scouts. The industry pest and disease survey is an integral part of the project and, in addition to providing baseline data on the industry pest and disease situation, will assist in designing project workshops and extension materials.

How is the study being paid for? Hort Innovation, using the Hort Innovation olive industry research and development levy, and contributions from the Australian Government.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be asked to complete a 30 question survey regarding olive pests and diseases in your grove. The survey will be made available via the AOA's olivebiz.com website, and will be available for three weeks, from 25 May to 15 June 2018. We aim to conduct a similar survey at the end of the project, in approximately 2.5 years' time. You may participate in none, either or both, but for accuracy and consistency of data, we would encourage both.

How much of my time will I need to give?

We anticipate completing the questionnaire should take a maximum of 30 minutes

What benefits will I, and/or the broader community, receive for participating?

The survey forms an important part of the first phase of the project, -in order to provide a baseline of information on current olive pests and diseases, as well as to optimise provision of the project's extension services. The survey will provide a clear picture of the current pest and disease situation in Australian olives, to assist in production of extension material for the industry, including provision of field days/workshops. Furthermore, you have the opportunity together with other participants, to provide us with feedback as to how industry would like to receive extension materials developed in the project. **Will the study involve any risk or discomfort for me? If so, what will be done to rectify it?**

We do not envisage any risk or discomfort associated with the surveys. Participation is voluntary and anonymous.

How do you intend to publish or disseminate the results?

A consolidated summary of the results of the survey will be made available to industry via project reports which will be disseminated by Hort Innovation and the AOA. Please note that this survey is anonymous. The survey data will not report any individual responses but responses will be consolidated to provide an overall industry perspective of olive pests and diseases. The results will be reported to the industry via Hort Innovation's website horticulture.com.au including progress reports of this project as well as the final project report which is anticipated to be available in November 2020.

Will the data and information that I have provided be disposed of?

Please be assured that only the researchers will have access to the raw data you provide and that your data will not be used in any other projects. Please note that minimum retention period for data collection is five years post publication. The data and information you have provided will be securely disposed of.

Can I withdraw from the study?

Participation is entirely voluntary and you are not obliged to be involved. If you do participate you can withdraw at any time without giving reason. If you do choose to withdraw prior to submitting, no data will be recorded, after you have submitted answers to the questionnaire, any information that you have supplied will only be used to build up a consolidated industry picture of pests and diseases.

Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you can tell other people about the study by providing them with the Project Leader's contact details.

What if I require further information?

Please contact Associate Professor Robert Spooner-Hart should you wish to discuss the research further before deciding whether or not to participate.

Associate Professor Robert Spooner-Hart
r.spooner-hart@westernsydney.edu.au
Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment
Western Sydney University
Locked Bag 1797 Penrith NSW
Phone +61245701429; Mobile 0414953129

What if I have a complaint?

If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Ethics Committee through Research Engagement, Development and Innovation (REDI) on Tel +61 2 4736 0229 or email humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au.

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome.

This study has been approved by the Western Sydney University Human Research Ethics Committee. The Approval number is H 12696.

Consent

I understand that by undertaking and submitting this survey, I am giving my consent for my responses to be used in the current project. I understand I may choose to withdraw any time during the survey by simply exiting, and my responses won't be recorded. However, once I hit submit, I will be unable to withdraw my data because my responses cannot be identified (and therefore cannot be removed from the dataset).

Please click here if you consent, and this will take you to the survey.