

International Macadamia Symposium 2023



IMS'23

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Macadamias South Africa (NPC)  
(SAMAC)



**“The Global Industry in  
Numbers – Australia”**

Clare Hamilton-Bate, CEO  
Australian Macadamia  
Society (AMS)

# Australian Macadamia Society

Representative body for the macadamia industry in Australia

Engagement with all sectors of industry:

growers, handlers & processors, supply chain, input suppliers, service providers, researchers & extension

Program Delivery:

Industry Marketing Program

Industry Development Program

Industry Communication Program



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# Australian Macadamia Growing Regions

East Coast of Australia - from Nambucca Heads to Mackay

Production by Volume (2022):

67% Queensland

33% New South Wales

<1% Western Australia



Northern Rivers	Nambucca	South-east Queensland	Gympie	Bundaberg	Tropical QLD
30%	3%	10%	7%	49%	1%



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# Australian Industry in Numbers



800 Growers – from small family farms to large corporate agribusiness



Farm size range from <5 Ha to >3,000 Ha



41,000 Ha planted (28,000 Ha bearing)



Farmgate value (2021-22) A\$203M  
(US\$130M)



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# Australian Crop 2022-23

48,500T @ 3.5% moisture  
(2021-22 : 53,000T @ 3.5% moisture)

Lower than average nut size & kernel recovery, but excellent quality, low reject levels & increased % premium grade

Influencing factors – seasonal climatic conditions impacting yield, economic decisions re harvest & orchard management.



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# Challenges - Climate

Three wetter than average seasons (La Nina)

2022 flooding in three major growing regions

Outlook late 2023 – El Nino - drier & hotter



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# Challenges – Pests

Pest of primary economic impact:

fruitspotting bugs  
(*Amblypelta lutescens* and *A. nitida*)

Other native pests (significant if uncontrolled):

macadamia seed weevil  
(*Kuschelorhynchus macadamiae*)

macadamia lace bug (*Ulonemia spp.*)

*Leptocoris spp.* & macadamia nut borer  
(*Cryptophlebia ombrodelta*)



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# Challenges – Diseases

Diseases causing significant impact include:

*Phytophthora* and flower blights (*Botrytis*,  
*Cladosporium*, *Pestalotiopsis* complex)

Other important diseases include:

husk rots (*phomopsis* and *anthracnose*)

branch dieback (*botryosphaeria*)

husk spot (*Pseudocercospora macadamiae*)

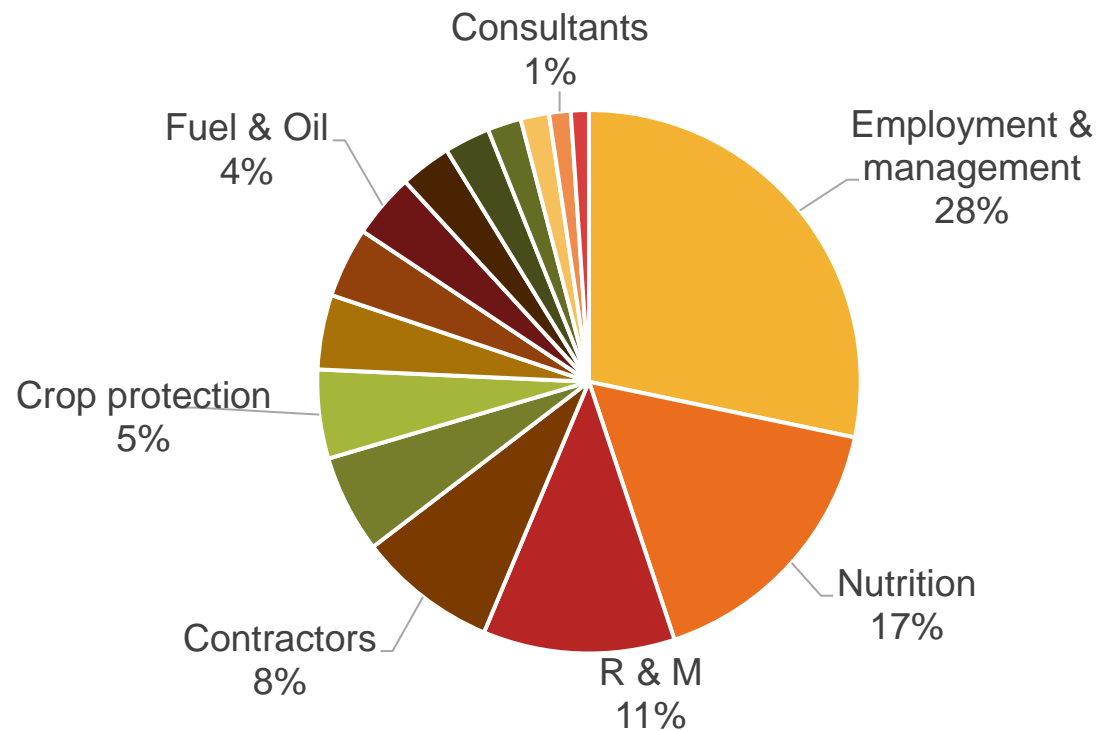


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# Challenges - Economic

Low Farm Gate Price + Increasing input Costs



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# Productivity (Benchmarking)

Productivity range <1 T/Ha to >5 T/Ha

Average (2022)

3.41 T/Ha @ 10% moisture

Saleable kernel recovery of 35.7%

Focus on inputs (expenditure) and  
productivity trends



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# Industry R&D Investment

Statutory Grower Levy:

25c / kg of saleable kernel @ 3.5% moisture

Macadamia Annual Investment Plan (levy)

AU\$2.5M annual R&D funding

AU\$2.5M annual Marketing funding

Additional non levy funded R&D = AU\$2.5M



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QUESTIONS ?