

Applications open for US study tour

Dried grape growers can now apply for an opportunity to learn from the biggest and best-resourced player in the industry.

Dried Fruits Australia will take a group of growers and processors on an industry study tour to California in September.

During the 10-day tour, participants will talk to leaders in research, on-farm production, processing and packaging with the aim of identifying new ideas that could improve the productivity of our industry

Funding from Hort Innovation has allowed DFA to offer a subsidised study tour to dried fruit producers, but participants will be asked to contribute to some of the costs.

Growers are encouraged to register as soon as possible, as places are limited. Applications close 5pm, Tuesday 1 August.

For more information and to apply, contact DFA on 5023 5174 or admin@driedfruitsaustralia.org.au.

Improving safety on the farm

The number of people losing their lives from on-farm incidents has significantly decreased in the past 25 years, but there is more work to be done to make farms safer.

This is the message from the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) and Farmsafe Australia during Farm Safety Week 2017, which runs from July 17 to 21.

The yearly average of lives lost from farm incidents has decreased from 146 in 1991 to 63 in 2016. This year there has been 32 tragic deaths, with the highest number resulting from injuries sustained in quad bike and farm machinery incidents.

Farmers can take practical steps to improve farm safety:

- Develop a safety plan that identifies potential hazards, and take actions to fix them.
- Always be on the look-out for new hazards and fix them as soon as possible.
- Set clear safety procedures for risky work.
- Ensure everyone who works on the farm understands and uses the safety procedures.
- Develop and communicate an emergency plan in case of any incidents.
- Fit a crush protection device to quad bikes and always wear a helmet.

**Hort
Innovation**

This project has been funded by Hort Innovation using the Dried Grape Industry research levy and funds from the Australian Government.

Disclaimer:

Dried Fruits Australia provides this information in good faith and of a general nature. Growers should make their own decisions regarding individual situations and property conditions.