

Question on Notice

No. 442

Asked on 2 April 2019

MR S KING ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise on the type of businesses and their produce that have successfully received funding in Round 2 of the Growing Queensland's Food Exports program?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The types of businesses that have received funding under Round 2 of the Growing Queensland's Food Exports pilot program are Queensland based commercial food businesses who are either export ready, or are currently exporting. There are a range of projects that involve both fresh and processed products. As the program focus was on horticulture, eight of the nine projects funded were horticulture based products.

Round 2 recipients and their project export development activities include:

- Gatton-based Qualipac is a grower, packer and marketer of vegetables. In this project, Qualipac is also collaborating with Sutton Farms and Gibb Brothers who are leading vegetable producers from the Lockyer Valley and Southern Downs. They are focussed on developing export supply chains to deliver high quality sea freight lettuce and Kabocha (pumpkin) to Japan and Taiwan;
- The Buderim Group at Yandina is a long term food processing company which is establishing a new direction for export development and growth. They are collaborating with leading Sunshine Coast ginger producer, Templeton Ginger, to develop new value-added preservative-free ginger products for the Chinese market;
- Mundubbera's Ironbark Citrus is an innovative export leader in growing and marketing high value mandarins for export markets. They are focussing on building exports of high-value premium mandarins to the Philippines. By better understanding the market, they will be able to target specific products and promotional activities;
- The Atherton Tableland's Natural Evolution company is an innovative business focussed on developing high value food products from waste or out-of-specification produce. The company has been successful in launching a number of products in Australia and overseas. Products include banana and sweetpotato flour, broccoli powder and banana based skin care products. They aim to grow international sales by establishing an on-line Queensland market place for sales of long shelf life agri-food products such as its banana and sweetpotato flour products. Exports to the key markets of China and Hong Kong will be enhanced by better understanding the markets and establishment of best practices in supply chain management;
- Gin Gin and Dry has established a dried fruit and vegetable processing facility to address the region's need to produce high value value-added products from waste or out-of-specification produce. They have focussed on enhancing their sugar-free dried tropical fruit products to better meet Chinese consumer preferences. Gin Gin and Dry will also explore the best supply channels to maximise export potential to targeted market segments;

- The Granite Belt's Kominos Wines has long been an advocate for the food and wine produced in the Granite Belt. They have hosted a number of interested overseas buyers and aim to capitalise on those contacts to grow Queensland wine exports to China and Taiwan. By better understanding the target markets, Kominos Wines will establish wine style preferences and target communication messages to achieve increased interest in, and sales of, Queensland wines;
- Australian Gulf Seafoods is a newly established business with a focus on globally selling seafood from the pristine waters of the Gulf of Carpentaria. They are working towards increasing exports of premium mud crab and fish to Asian countries such as China, Hong Kong and Singapore. Export growth and exposure of their seafood range will be achieved through better understanding the markets and establishment of key supply chain partners;
- Bundaberg Sugar is an innovative global company which has diversified into horticultural crops such as sweet potato production and marketing. The company sees a great opportunity for Australian sweet potatoes on the world market and will explore export supply chain viability for sweet potato products into Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Bundaberg Sugar will explore developing best practice guidelines for long sea-freight supply chains and maximisation of shelf life in market.