Overview – ECR Program

- Aim and purpose
- Methodology
- ECR project summaries
- Analysis
- Next steps
- Workshop survey
Support participation and capacity development for young agribusiness researchers and industry personnel

Design & implement a suite of early career researcher small studies, supported by existing researchers acting as mentors, to investigate issues relevant across the Mango Agribusiness projects to enhance researcher skills

Evaluate and collate learnings from the ECR small study program to present a recommendation for how this model can be used in future projects to build research capacity within partner countries and Australia
Methodology

- Defined list of appropriate and achievable ECR small studies published to recruit ECR and mentors
- ECR applications reviewed, awarded and new projects initiated 2018
  - 8 ECRs, 5 mentors
  - 12 month timeframe
  - $5000 budget allocation + travel costs
- Workshop 1: learning & ideas
- Draft final reports January 2019
- ECR & Mentor questionnaire
- Workshop 2: present research findings
- Final reports and recommendations 2019
Researcher: Tran Thi Ut Linh
SRA: Mango Information
Study: Evaluation of online and social media communications to connect mango researchers in Vietnam

Researcher: Colin Leung
SRA: Mango Information
Study: Engaging with Chinese consumers: A QR code case study
Researcher: Claire Settre  
**SRA:** Mango Markets  
**Study:** Mango market segmentation analysis in Shanghai and Guangzhou

Researcher: Le Minh Hung  
**SRA:** Mango Biosecurity  
**Study:** Evaluation of technical issues and commercial constraints in the export of Vietnam mangoes to China
ECR case studies (cont.)

**Researcher:** Samantha Frolov  
**SRA:** Mango Biosecurity  
**Study:** Evaluation of technical issues and commercial constraints in the export of Australian mangoes to China.

**Researcher:** Ivory Myka Galang  
**SRA:** Mango Biosecurity  
**Study:** Evaluation of technical issues and commercial constraints in the export of Philippine mangoes to China.
**Researcher:** Yiru Chen  
**SRA:** Mango Quality  
**Study:** Monitoring temperature and quality of Australian mango exports to China, evaluating the rapid assessment methodology

**Researcher:** Leizel B Secretaria  
**SRA:** Mango Quality  
**Study:** Evaluation of ‘Carabao’ mango quality in export supply chain from Phillipines to China

ECR case studies (cont.)
Q1: List 3 positive outcomes/experiences that you have been exposed to by participating in the ECR program

Q2. List 3 challenges you have faced whilst participating in the ECR program

Q3. List 3 suggestions to improve the ECR program for future participants
Analysis: ECR responses

Positive Experiences

1. Networking
2. Research findings
3. Peer to peer learning: industry, mentor

Challenges

1. Non-participation from collaborators & industry
2. Research project hurdles
3. Competing deadlines
Analysis: Mentor responses

Positive Experiences
1. ECR engagement
2. Working with industry
3. Research findings

Challenges
1. Limited resources: time, money
2. Program lacked structure
3. Limited interaction with ECR
Analysis: suggested improvements

**ECR**
- Greater resources
- More ECR group time
- Training & development workshops for ECR’s
- Better structure/planning

**Mentor**
- Increased ECR ↔ mentor interaction
- Review process to provide feedback to ECR

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Next steps

- Continue ECR small study programs
- Increased program structure
- Valuable learning experiences and capacity building exposure
Workshop survey

- Do you think the following activities would be worthwhile incorporating into future ECR programs (Yes/No)
  - Professional Training and development workshops
  - ECR/Mentor group catch ups
  - Assistance to publish research findings
  - Performance review
  - Open recruitment process

- How worthwhile has the ECR exercise been in this SRA program? (1-5 scale)

- How likely would you be recommend an ECR program to an early career colleague? (1-5 scale)

- What benefit would a future ECR program be to the next Mango AGB project?