

# PLANT INDUSTRIES

## TECHNICAL

Plant Industries Technical projects use established scientific principles to solve problems that affect the productivity and profitability of the industry and, where possible, to protect the environment and human health.

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**PROJECT:**           **Product Description Languages for Asian Vegetables and Minor Tropical Crops**

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Division:               Plant Industries

Location:              Darwin

Keyword(s):           product description language, Asian vegetables

Project Type:         Technical

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***Objective:***

***To produce product description languages (PDLs) and supporting material for a range of Asian vegetables and minor tropical crops.***

**Background:**

Accurate information describing the quality, packaging and handling of produce is an essential part of an efficient market chain. A need for such information was identified for marketing small volumes or minor crops from the Northern Territory. Product description languages produced in a base electronic format addressed this need in an inexpensive and flexible way. This format allows for short print runs for hard copy and flexibility in the layout of information. The Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) funded the production of a number of PDLs for Asian vegetables and minor tropical crops.

**Method:**

Suitable formats and compatible software were developed and work was undertaken with producers, transport operators, wholesalers and retailers to identify the key parameters to be included in any particular PDL. Produce draft documents for comment and testing.

**Results:**

A suitable series of template formats have been developed. A number of draft PDLs have been produced and several more are being produced.

*Acknowledgement*

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