



MEDIA RELEASE

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Fruit Growers Victoria Welcomes Independent Review of Horticulture Code of Conduct

Fruit Growers Victoria (FGV) has welcomed the announcement of an independent review of the Horticulture Code of Conduct, launched on 28 January 2026 by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins.

The review, to be undertaken by Mr Chris Leptos AO, provides an important opportunity for growers and industry stakeholders to share their experiences and help strengthen the framework that governs trade between growers and traders across Australia's horticulture sector.

FGV Chairman Mitchell McNab said the review is a timely step in ensuring the Code continues to reflect the realities faced by growers.

"The Horticulture Code of Conduct plays a critical role in providing transparency, fairness and confidence in the way growers and traders do business," Mr McNab said.

"We strongly support this independent review and encourage Victorian growers to have their say. This is a real opportunity to make sure the Code is working as intended and continues to protect the interests of growers now and into the future."

The Horticulture Code of Conduct is a mandatory industry code under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 and sets out requirements for horticulture produce agreements, dispute resolution processes, and transparency in transactions between growers and traders.

FGV encourages all members and industry stakeholders to contribute feedback via the Government's "Have Your Say" platform. <https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/horticulturecodereview>

Submissions close at 5:00pm (AEDT), Friday 27 February 2026.

END

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