

# Expression of Interest

sought for attendance at

## Leafhopper, Planthopper and Spittlebug Identification Workshop

New South Wales – Orange Agricultural Institute, Forest Road, Orange.  
13th – 16th March 2018

The workshop will provide a series of hands-on and theoretical sessions introducing techniques for the collection, preservation and morphological and molecular identification (theoretical only) of important groups of Membracoidea, Fulgoroidea and Cercopoidea.

### What you will learn

The workshop is designed as a practical introduction to identifying leafhoppers, planthoppers and spittlebugs mostly with a focus on the Australian fauna. However, a number of economically important plant pests from both Australia and overseas will be examined with specimens of these species provided for examination during the course of the workshop. At the end of the workshop participants will have an improved understanding of the significant diagnostic features of the leafhopper, planthopper and spittlebug families/subfamilies, become familiar with important references used for identification to subfamily, tribe and genus including use of the on-line illustrated insect keys<sup>1,2</sup>, learn how to collect and preserve specimens (including demonstration of dissection methods) and have an understanding of the process used to identify specimens using molecular barcoding techniques (this section is theoretical only).

### Provisional agenda

Tuesday 13th – Introduction and field collection/ preparation of specimens

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> – Identification of Membracoidea (Leafhoppers and Treehoppers)

Thursday 15th – Identification of Fulgoroidea (Planthoppers)

Friday 16th – Molecular identification methods (theoretical only) and identification of Cercopoidea (Spittlebugs)

### What to bring\* = Optional

- Laptop computers (essential) for accessing the online keys
- \*Personal collection and laboratory gear (such as aspirators), although basic equipment such as forceps, pins, sweep nets etc will be provided.

Please note, participant's organisations are expected to pay for travel to and from the workshop, accommodation, and expenses or allowances accumulated during the workshop. For diagnosticians from northern jurisdictions, there is the potential to apply for funding assistance from the Modern Diagnostics white paper initiative. This will be finalized after EOIs have closed.

**Presenters:** Birgit Löcker (NSW DPI), Murray Fletcher (NSW DPI), Melinda Moir (DPIRD WA), Glenn Bellis (DAWR), Linda Semeraro (Agriculture Victoria) & Mark Blacket (Agriculture Victoria).

1. Fletcher, M.J., Moir, M.L., Löcker, B., Bellis, G. 2017. Illustrated key to the Auchenorrhyncha of economic concern to Australia (Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha) (<http://www1.dpi.nsw.gov.au/keys/cicadell/index.html>)

2. Fletcher, M.J. 2009 and updates. Identification keys and checklists for the leafhoppers, planthoppers and their relatives occurring in Australia and neighbouring areas (Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha).

(<http://www1.dpi.nsw.gov.au/keys/leafhop/index.html>)



Photograph taken by: Piotr Trebicki