

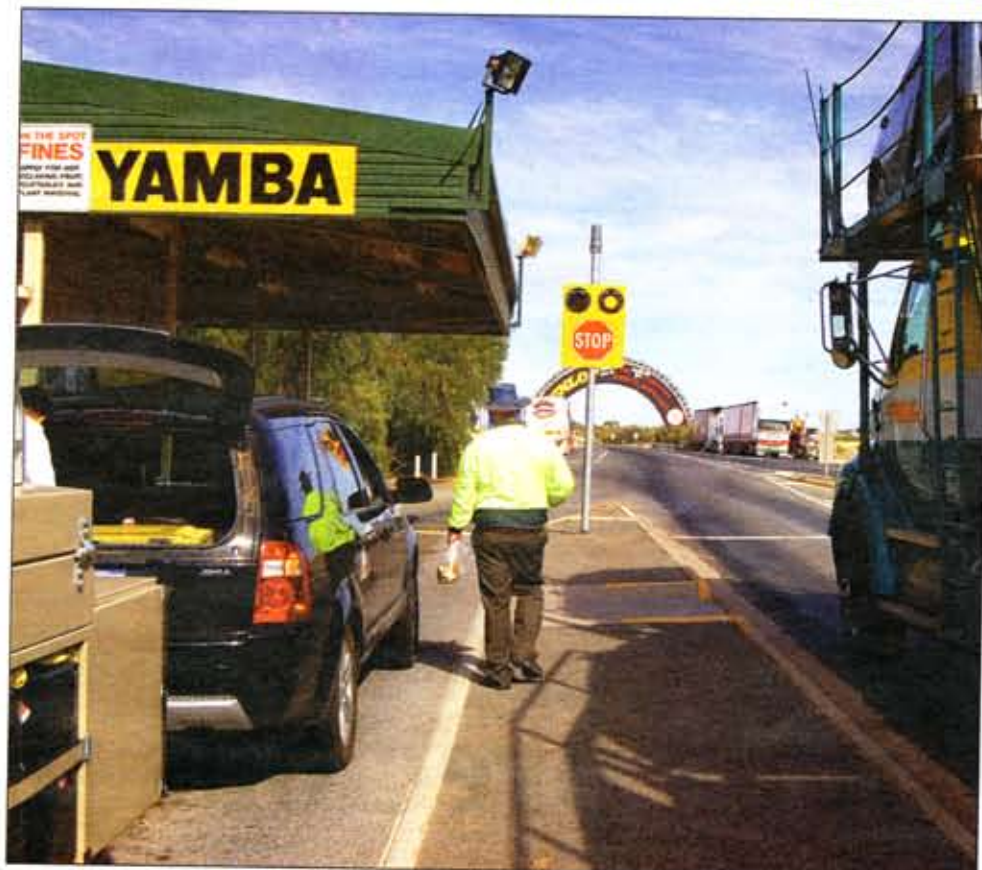


# YAMBA ROADBLOCK – 50th Anniversary

ADVERTISING FEATURE



THEN: The Yamba roadblock in 1957.



NOW: The Yamba roadblock as it is today.

## Yamba's milestone day to remember

The Yamba roadblock will officially celebrate 50 years of operation and service to the state at 11 o'clock this morning.

Minister for Agriculture Rory McEwen will unveil a commemorative plaque at the Sturt Highway office to celebrate the milestone.

Master of ceremonies for the event will be Primary Industry and Resources SA (PIRSA) agriculture and wine executive director Don Plowman.

Former roadblock inspectors and family members of deceased workers will attend and be presented with a certificate of appreciation to mark their dedication and

service in protecting South Australia against the outbreak of fruit fly. The 13 current Yamba roadblock inspectors will be dressed in commemorative shirts and caps.

Special guests at the event will include Riverland Police Local Service Area Commander Chief Inspector Bob Fauser and Senior Sergeant Jim Leaney, who was

the last police officer to perform duties at the Roadblock on April 30, 1970.

Riverland horticultural advisor and inaugural roadblock inspector Rev Cant will recount the experiences he has had since setting up the roadblock in 1957.

Over 160 invited guests will then attend a luncheon at the Renmark Community Hotel.

### Yamba Roadblock

1957–2007

Commemorating  
50 years  
of frontline protection  
in keeping  
SA Fruit Fly Free

Do not travel  
into South Australia  
with fruit and vegetables

www.pir.sa.gov.au



QUARANTINE MATTERS



Government of South Australia  
Primary Industries and Resources SA

**CITRUS GROWERS of SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Citrus Growers of South Australia acknowledge the consistent work carried out by the South Australian government in keeping our state free of fruit fly and other pests and diseases. Maintaining the roadblocks, together with the continuous awareness campaign has been extremely successful, allowing our region's growers greater market opportunities and returns.

We would like to congratulate and thank all the staff and police who have worked at Yamba over the past 50 years, it has been a great achievement.

### Potato Growers of SA

A COMMODITY GROUP  
OF SA FARMERS FEDERATION

would like to congratulate  
Yamba Roadblock on their  
50th Anniversary  
and acknowledge them  
in keeping our state free  
of fruit fly and disease



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
FARMERS FEDERATION

**SA Citrus Board**  
South Australian  
Citrus Industry Development Board

## YAMBA ROADBLOCK 50th ANNIVERSARY

### Congratulations pirsa

**KEEPING THE RIVERLAND FRUIT FLY FREE**





## YAMBA ROADBLOCK – 50th Anniversary

# Yamba: State's line of defence

The Yamba Roadblock has played a pivotal role in the protection of the state's most valuable food industries.

During its 50 years of operation, the quarantine zone has ensured fruit fly contaminated fruits and vegetables do not enter the state and subsequently cripple industries that Riverlanders depend on.

Agriculture Minister Rory McEwen said many people did not realise the roadblock's value.

"This protects our state's \$250 million fresh fruit and vegetable industry," he said.

"Our fruit fly status ensures we maintain valuable export markets.

"South Australia remains fruit fly free and it is important for our vital commercial fruit and vegetable industries and our home-grown fruit and vegetables that we keep it that way."

Mr McEwen said the 50th anniversary celebrations would be another momentous occasion in the roadblock's history.

### Yamba figures

Records at the Yamba Roadblock since 1980/1981 listed:

- Nearly eight million cars inspected.
- 227 fruit fly larvae detections.
- Around 535,000 vehicles detected carrying fruit.
- 977,000 kilograms of fruit confiscated.

He commended the level of dedication by workers in protecting the state from an outbreak of fruit fly.

"I pay tribute to the frontline Primary Industries and Resources South Australia (PIRSA) inspectors and police officers, who over the past 50 years, have helped us keep this pest out of South Australia," he said.

"The message today is just as important as 50 years ago – don't travel with fruit and vegetables

into South Australia as you may be carrying pests and diseases."

SA Citrus Industry Development Board executive officer Andrew Green said the roadblock establishment was a "critical link" enabling South Australia to be the first state to gain overseas export markets.

"The roadblocks and PIRSA's entire Plant Health Program was very much the envy of other states," he said.

"It is a credit to the State Government and PIRSA that there has only been one fruit fly outbreak in the Riverland since the roadblock was established 50 years ago."

Although primarily a protection against a South Australian outbreak of the pest, Mr Green said the Yamba roadblock had progressed to be a "South Australian icon".

"When you arrive at the Yamba roadblock you know you have arrived in South Australia and you know how important horticulture is to this state," he added.



The Yamba Roadblock was opened in 1957. It now processes between 400,000 and 600,000 vehicles annually.



Around 70 inspectors have worked at the Yamba roadblock during its 50 years of operation.

## From humble beginnings

The Yamba roadblock has come a long way since its humble beginnings as a borrowed caravan staked out by a solitary man on the Sturt Highway.

Today marks 50 years since Riverland horticultural advisor Rev Cant set up the barrier to defend South Australia from the menace of fruit fly.

"After an outbreak of Queensland fruit fly was discovered in Mildura, the threat to the fresh fruit and vegetable industry became very real," said Yamba Roadblock Commemorations project manager Peter Morrison.

"Something needed to be set up in a hurry to control and monitor fruit entering the state.

"(Yamba) was the first South

Australian roadblock to be established."

Milestones during the roadblock's history included the addition of a boom gate in 1965 to better control traffic, and the commencement of year-round operation in 1997.

Mr Morrison said around 70 inspectors had worked at the Yamba roadblock over the past 50 years, while 160 police workers patrolled the barrier during their 13 years of involvement. He said the 13 current workers have collectively served at Yamba for 137 years.

Mr Morrison said the roadblock is a valuable resource that could go unnoticed by people other than fruit growers or travellers crossing into South Australia.

He said while the traveller may not be too pleased having to surrender their fruit, the Riverland fruit grower will take comfort from the 24-hour quarantine protection provided.

"It certainly has come a long way over the last 50 years, with 982 vehicles processed over the Easter long weekend of 1957, to the 400,000 to 600,000 vehicles a year being processed now.

"The vast majority of people passing through Yamba acknowledge the need for strict quarantine restrictions.

"While we commemorate the dedication of our inspectors, we also acknowledge the co-operation of the travelling public in helping to keep South Australia and the Riverland fruit fly free."

## Thank you!



**Yandilla Park and Vitor** acknowledge the invaluable contribution the Yamba Roadblock and its staff make to maintaining the Riverland's **Fruit Fly Free** status.



## Congratulates

Yamba Roadblock on their  
**50<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary



**ROBINVALE TRANSPORT GROUP (SA) PTY. LTD**

The refrigerated produce transport professionals with daily services to Sydney, Newcastle and Brisbane.



*Congratulations to the Yamba Roadblock on their 50th anniversary and to the staff for their efforts in making the Riverland a fruit fly free status*

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