



A new Web-tool enables growers of Horticultural crops to easily calculate their Carbon Footprint.

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Electricity used for irrigation and refrigeration to cool produce, Fuel used in farming operations, Nitrogenous Fertilizers and Crop Residues are the major on-farm contributors to GHG emissions in Horticulture.

The HortCarbon Info Web Tool provides business managers with an accurate, repeatable and established methodology to quantify the level, as well as the changes to their business carbon footprint, based on current recognised Australian Greenhouse emission standards.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Johns Test Farm in 2022

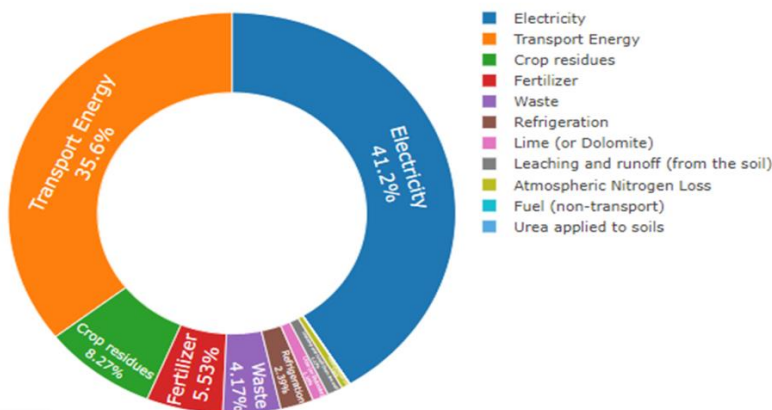


Image at left shows an example of results from a typical vegetable industry HortCarbon Info analysis.

The user can easily compare GHG emissions by input. Results also highlight **GHG per Ha/per Tonne of produce per job/ per \$M turnover** (See below)

The user can compare their results to a similar sized farm and other agricultural sector businesses.

Management decisions which can (and are **being used to**) reduce GHG emissions in horticulture are as follows: -

- **On-farm solar** (plus batteries where appropriate).
- **Variable speed drive (VSD)** electric motors on irrigation pumps.
- Other **Water Use Efficiency (WUE)** techniques.
- **Improved management of nitrogen fertilizer** rates and timing.
- **Upgrading** (or replacing cool rooms) using **compressors** with improved efficiency.
- **Air** or drop door **curtains & electric openers on cold room** doors to reduce **loss of chilled air**.
- **New cold room** installations can be **better insulated** (including under slab) to improve efficiency.
- **Use of lower Global Warming Potential (GWP) refrigerants** in cool rooms.
- **Improved efficiency air conditioners & lighting** in pack sheds, offices and machine cabs

Example vegetable farm analysis output results.

All analysis results are reported using the standard measure (Tonne of CO2 equivalents)

Total planted area **75 Ha**

Example Actual Emissions

per Ha = 5.15

per Tonne sold produce = 0.43

per full time job = 129.5

and

Per \$ Turnover = 3858.53



HortCarbon Info is free and publicly available.

Easy to use.

HortCarbon Info is a unique Web-too, accurate & uses current Australian emission standards. User data remains completely confidential – it is deleted as soon as you close the Web-tool.

HortCarbon Info has already been used by a number of Granite Belt, Lockyer Valley and Sunshine Coast Horticultural business managers. Supermarkets are encouraging business analysis.