



Department of
**AGRICULTURE
 FISHERIES &
 FORESTRY -
 AUSTRALIA**



4 September 2001

PLANT BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2001/18

**IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS – IMPORTATION OF BANANAS
 FROM THE PHILIPPINES**

This Plant Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (PBPM) provides stakeholders with details of a series of technical workshops to be held around Australia in September and October 2001.

In our PBPM 2001/14 of 27 July 2001 registered stakeholders were invited to a stakeholder meeting and were advised of technical workshops and of a visit by the Risk Analysis Panel (RAP) to the Philippines. A record of the stakeholder meeting held in Brisbane on 22 August 2001 will be finalised shortly for the public file.

Three RAP members: Dr Sharan Singh, Mr Bob Paton and Mr David Peasley, who are also the Chairs of the three Technical Working Groups assisting the RAP, had an informative visit to the Philippines where they held technical discussions on banana quarantine issues and conducted field and laboratory visits. A report on this visit will be distributed to stakeholders upon finalisation.

In addition to the above consultative processes, a series of stakeholder workshops were foreshadowed in PBPM 2001/14. The purpose of these workshops will be to discuss the import risk analysis (IRA) process for Philippines bananas, including discussion of pest lists, pest categorisation and potential pest management measures. These workshops will be held in the following seven locations:

Coffs Harbour

Wednesday 19 September 2001
 Coffs Harbour Showground
 Norm Jordon Pavilion
 Time: 9am - 3pm

Carnarvon

Monday 1 October 2001
 Lotteries House
 53 Olivia Terrace
 Time: 6pm - 9pm

Brisbane

Thursday 20 September 2001
 Ground Floor Auditorium
 Primary Industries Building
 80 Anne Street
 Time: 9am - 3pm

Perth

Wednesday 3 October
 E20 Conference Room
 Baron Hay Court
 South Perth
 Time: 8am - 12 noon

Innisfail

Friday 21 September 2001
 Chjowai Conference Facility
 18 McGowan Drive
 Time: 9am - 3pm

Kununurra

Thursday 4 October 2001
 Conference Room,
 Dept of Agriculture, Durack Drive
 Time: 6pm-9pm



Centenary of Federation

Edmund Barton Building
 Barton ACT
 GPO Box 858
 Canberra ACT 2601
 ph +61 2 6272 3933
 fax +61 2 6272 5161
 www.affa.gov.au

ABN 24 113 085 695

Darwin

Friday 5 October 2001
 John English Building Conference Room,
 Berrimah Research Station,
 Makagon Rd, Berrimah
 Time: 2.30-5.30pm

Please advise Technical and Administrative Services Section by COB 17 September 2001 if you will be attending any of the above meetings. Additional workshops will be held in other locations if there is sufficient stakeholder interest.

Information discussed at the above-mentioned workshops will be considered by the RAP in its preparation of a draft IRA report. Before the draft document is released, you will have an opportunity to discuss its likely content in a further series of stakeholder meetings. Biosecurity Australia will provide timely advice of these meetings.

As indicated in PBPM 2001/14, the RAP is keen to communicate with stakeholders who have had first hand experience of banana pests and diseases or production practices in the Philippines. To facilitate this, PBPM 2001/14 encouraged stakeholders to participate in a forum to discuss such issues. Please let the Technical and Administrative Services Section know if you have information or experience of banana production in the Philippines which you would like to share with the RAP.

Subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received with respect to this import proposal will be publicly available and be listed or referred to in papers or reports prepared on the proposal. If a request for anonymity does not accompany a submission, the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of the *Privacy Act*. The contents of a submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act*.

If you wish to suggest inclusion of an additional stakeholder in our distribution list for this IRA, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list, please provide details to Technical and Administrative Services at the above address.

Information on all IRAs being conducted by Plant Biosecurity is available on the web at http://www.affa.gov.au/docs/market_access/biosecurity/plhome1.html

Brian Stynes
 General Manager
 Plant Biosecurity

Contact:	Technical and Administrative Services
Address:	Plant Biosecurity Biosecurity Australia AFFA GPO Box 858 CANBERRA ACT 2601
Telephone no:	02 6272 5094
Facsimile no:	02 6272 3307
E-mail:	plantbiosec@affa.gov.au