Subtropical banana information kit
Reprint – information current in 2004

REPRINT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ!

For updated information please call 13 25 23 or visit the website www.deedi.qld.gov.au

This publication has been reprinted as a digital book without any changes to the content published in 2004. We advise readers to take particular note of the areas most likely to be out-of-date and so requiring further research:

• Chemical recommendations—check with an agronomist or Infopest www.infopest.qld.gov.au
• Financial information—costs and returns listed in this publication are out of date. Please contact an adviser or industry body to assist with identifying more current figures.
• Varieties—new varieties are likely to be available and some older varieties may no longer be recommended. Check with an agronomist, call the Business Information Centre on 13 25 23, visit our website www.deedi.qld.gov.au or contact the industry body.
• Contacts—many of the contact details may have changed and there could be several new contacts available. The industry organisation may be able to assist you to find the information or services you require.
• Organisation names—most government agencies referred to in this publication have had name changes. Contact the Business Information Centre on 13 25 23 or the industry organisation to find out the current name and contact details for these agencies.
• Additional information—many other sources of information are now available for each crop. Contact an agronomist, Business Information Centre on 13 25 23 or the industry organisation for other suggested reading.

Even with these limitations we believe this information kit provides important and valuable information for intending and existing growers.

This publication was last revised in 2004. The information is not current and the accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed by the State of Queensland.

This information has been made available to assist users to identify issues involved in subtropical banana production. This information is not to be used or relied upon by users for any purpose which may expose the user or any other person to loss or damage. Users should conduct their own inquiries and rely on their own independent professional advice.

While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility for decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained in this publication.
Want more information? This chapter helps to direct you to the other important providers and sources of subtropical banana information. Names are provided solely for assisting readers to make contact. Inclusion of a person or organisation does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of Primary Industries or the authors, nor does it endorse a particular person or organisation over others not mentioned. Lists of names are based on the best knowledge available to the authors at the time of printing. The authors regret any omissions.

Banana grower associations

The Australian Banana Growers’ Council is the specialist grower organisation which services banana growers throughout Australia. This organisation is the peak industry body providing industry representation on national issues, organising special levy collection and providing a range of services. The secretariat for the organisation is:

Australian Banana Growers’ Council
PO Box 414
BRISBANE QLD 4001
Ph: (07) 3220 0407; Fax: (07) 3221 5182
Email: kmabgc@odyssey.com.au Web: www.abgc.org.au

Other organizations involved in the banana industry on a state or regional basis are:

Banana Growers Queensland Limited
PO Box 1078
TULLY QLD 4854
Ph: (07) 4088 6145; Fax: (07) 4088 6146
Email: heather.hine@bgq.com.au
Organic grower associations

These organisations provide information about certification standards and processes; they do not provide general advisory service about organic fruit production. Special services are also provided to members after joining. Kits containing information on membership and certification standards and processes are available for purchase.

Biological Farmers of Australia (BFA)
PO Box 3404
TOOWOOMBA VILLAGE FAIR QLD 4350
Ph: (07) 4639 3299; Fax: (07) 4639 3755
Email: bfa@icr.com.au

Bio-Dynamic Agricultural Association of Australia
c/- Post Office
POWELLTOWN VIC 3797
Ph: (03) 5966 7333; Fax: (03) 5966 7433

National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia Ltd (NASAA)
PO Box 768
STIRLING SA 5152
Ph: (08) 8370 8455; Fax: (08) 8370 8381
Email: nassa@dove.mpt.net.au

The Organic Food Chain Pty Ltd
PO Box 2390
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350
Ph/Fax: (07) 4637 2600

QBAN registered banana nurseries

Contact the Secretary, Banana Industry Protection Board (BIPB) (Ph: 07 3239 3233 to obtain a list of currently registered QBAN nurseries.

Planting permits/material suppliers

Contact the DPI plant health inspectors at the Maroochy Research Station at Nambour to obtain a list of currently registered planting permits and material suppliers Ph: (07) 5444 9604).
Regulatory Officers, NSW Agriculture
Coffs Harbour
Ann Webster, Ph: (02) 6650 3111
Kempsey
Michael Cagnacci, Ph: (02) 6562 6244
Grafton
David McIver, Ph: (02) 6640 1600
Alstonville
Peter Regan, Ph: (02) 6626 2449
Mullumbimby
Terry Grant, Ph: (02) 6684 2100
Murwillumbah
Greg Wassell, Ph: (02) 6672 2770

Windbreak and native vegetation

For information on windbreak design and species selection, land clearing and the management of remnant native vegetation, contact the organisations below or your local landcare group.

Ashley J. Sewell
P O Box 131
LANDSBOROUGH QLD 4550
Mob: 0404 859 294

Greening Australia
Enquiries from growers will be directed to the landcare officer in your area.

General enquiries:
GPO Box 9868
BRISBANE QLD 4001
333 Bennets Rd
NORMAN PARK QLD 4170
Ph: (07) 3902 4444; Fax: (07) 3902 4422
Email: general@qld.greeningaustralia.org.au
Web: www.greeningaustralia.org.au

NSW Agriculture, Orange office
For 24 hour answering service:
Ph: 1800 028 374; Fax: 1800 642 065
The Cashier, NSW Agriculture
Locked Bag 21
ORANGE NSW 2800
Web: www.agric.nsw.gov.au

Plant, soil and water testing laboratories

Many growers’ produce stores sell soil and leaf sampling kits.

Casco Agritech Laboratory Services
PO Box 549
214 McDougall Street
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350
Ph: (07) 4633 0599; Fax: (07) 4633 0711
Email: castwb@casco.com.au
Web: www.casco.com.au

Crop Tech Pty Ltd
410 Langbeckers East Road
Bundaberg QLD 4670
Ph: (07) 4155 6344; Fax: (07) 4155 6656
Email: croptech@croptech.com.au
Web: www.croptech.com.au

Dr W Holloway
14 Enterprise Street
BUNDABERG QLD 4670
Ph: (07) 4153 1440; Fax: (07) 4153 5247

Incitec Ltd
Nigel Bodinnar, Technical Services Manager
Incitec Pivot Ltd
GPO Box 1322L
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Mob: 0408 500216; Fax: (03) 54393209
Email: nigel.bodinnar@incitecpivot.com.au

Equipment manufacturers/suppliers

Tree & plant Injection Systems Manufacturers
Queensland, Australia
Ph: (07) 5455 4944 Fax: (07) 5455 4944
Web: www.treeinjectors.com

Banana wholesalers

Contact the Association of Australian Banana Wholesalers (AABW) to obtain contact details of wholesalers in Australia.

Association of Australian Banana Wholesalers (AABW)
Mr Tony Imeson, Secretary
Melbourne Markets
Mailbox Box 113
542 Footscray Road
WEST MELBOURNE  VIC  3003
Ph: (03) 9689 3233; Fax: (03) 9689 9233
Email: vicchamber@freshstate.com.au

Inspections for interstate produce shipments

Contact the nearest horticultural office of your state department of agriculture for the names of local inspectors. To find your nearest horticultural DPI office in Queensland, phone the DPI Call Centre on 132523 between 8 am and 8 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays, for the cost of a local call.

Market information (prices & quality)

General market issues
Vegetable Market Price Reporting, Market Intelligence, Historic Data, Outturn Reporting and Product Assessment.

Ausmarket consultants
Trevor Brewer
PO Box 229
BRISBANE MARKET  QLD  4106
Ph: (07) 3379 4576; Fax: (07) 3379 4103
Mob: 041 771 2427
Email: info@ausmarket.net.au
Web: www.ausmarket.net.au

Participating services in Ausmarket Consultants include separate businesses within Australia’s terminal markets under independent trading names. Ausmarket Consultants will refer clients to service providers in the other main markets. Many of the participating services in the Ausmarket Consultants group are also involved in National Quality Management Programs initiated and co-ordinated by other companies and organisations.

Export associations

Australian Horticultural Exporters Association
Institute of Horticultural Development
Private Bag 15
FERNTREE GULLY DC  VIC  3156
Ph: (03) 9210 9380; Fax: (03) 9210 9381
Email: ahea@ahea.net.au
Web site: www.ahea.net.au

Chemical and spraying information

AVCARE LIMITED
National Association for Crop Protection and Animal Health
Level 2, AMP Building
1 Hobart Place
CANBERRA  ACT 2601
Locked Bag 916
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Ph: (02) 6230-6399; Fax: (02) 6230-6355
Email: info@avcare.org.au
Web: www.avcare.org.au

ChemCert Australia
P0 Box E10
KINGSTON ACT 2604
Ph: 02 6273 2308
Web: www.chemcert.org.au

ChemCert Training Queensland Inc
University of Queensland, Gatton Campus
GATTON QLD 4343
Ph: (07) 5460 1295; Fax: (07) 5460 1283
Mob: 0427 732 886
Email: chemcertqld@bigpond.com

ChemCert (NSW) Ltd
249 Bronte Road
WAVERLY NSW 2024
Ph: (02) 9387 4714; Fax (02) 9387 4746
Mob: 0407 938 704 (Julie McAlpin, Executive Manager)
Email: chemcertnsw@bigpond.com
Web: www.chemcert.com.au
SMARTtrain  
NSW Agriculture and TAFE  
Contact your local TAFE institute or NSW Agriculture office  
www.lg.tafensw.edu.au/smarttrain  

Victoria: Ph: (03) 5622 2055  
Fax: (03) 5622 2199  
Email: chemcertvic@sympac.com.au  

South Australia: Ph: (08) 8226 0514  
Email: Johnson.Meredie@sa.gov.au  

Tasmania: Ph: (03) 6331 2131  
Email: tritb@bigpond.com.au  

Western Australia: Ph/Fax: (08) 9341 5325  
Email: farmcarewa@bigpond.com.au  

Northern Territory: Ph: (08) 8973 8346  
Email: chemcertnt@kthnrct.nt.gov.au  

Infopest–pest on CD-ROM  
Department of Primary Industries  
Animal & Plant Health Services  
GPO Box 46  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
Ph: (07) 3239 3967; Fax: (07) 3211 3293  
Email: infopest@dpi.qld.gov.au  

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority  
PO Box E240  
KINGSTON ACT 2604  
Ph: (02) 6272 5852; Fax: (02) 6272 4753  
Email: contact@apvma.gov.au  
Web: www.apvma.gov.au  

NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)  
General Enquiries: Ph: 131 555  
Web: www.epa.nsw.gov.au  

Government technical services  

Banana technical enquiries  
(commercial growers only)  

Horticulture extension and plant health officers  
Department of Primary Industries  
Maroochy Research Station  
PO Box 5083 (SCMC)  
NAMBOUR QLD 4560  
Ph: (07) 5441 2211; Fax: (07) 5441 2235  

NSW Agriculture  
Arthur Akehurst  
PO Box 823  
MURWILLUMBAH NSW 2484  
Ph: (02) 6672 2770; Fax: (02) 6672 3571  
Or  
Peter Newley/Greig Ireland  
PO Box 530  
COFF’S HARBOUR NSW 2450  
Ph: (02) 6650 3111; Fax: (02) 6651 2780  

The DPI Call Centre  
The DPI Call Centre provides help in accessing the range of DPI information products and services. The Centre operates from Monday to Friday, 8 am to 8 pm. You can access this service from anywhere in Queensland for the cost of a local call. The DPI Call Centre number is 132523.  

Forestry extension officers  
In Queensland, forestry extension officers are available for expert assistance with tree use on farms including windbreak design and species selection, clearing, timber production and forest enrichment. Your local office of the Department of Natural Resources (Queensland) can put you in contact with your nearest forestry extension officer.  

Land conservation extension officers  
Land conservation extension officers are available to provide expert assistance in planning farm layouts and providing advice on land management.
Your local office of the Department of Natural Resources (Queensland) can put you in contact with your nearest land conservation officer.

New South Wales
Department of Land and Water Conservation
PO Box 796
MURWILLUMBAH NSW 2484
Ph: 02 66 725488
COFFS HARBOUR NSW
Ph: 02 6653 0117

Water advisory officers
Water advisory officers are available for expert assistance on all aspects of water use on farms including dam construction and maintenance, stream licensing, bore development, irrigation selection and design and water quality. They also provide advice on farm drainage problems. Your local office of the Department of Natural Resources (Queensland) can put you in contact with your nearest water advisory officer.

Farm financial counselling service
In Queensland, DPI provides business advisory services to producers who are in difficulty from continuing environmental and economic pressures. Trained counsellors can help in the analysis of financial situations and the development of business plans. Your local DPI office can put you in touch with your nearest financial counsellor.

Library and literature search services
DPI’s Central Library in Brisbane provides a range of special information services that may be of interest to growers. These include:

- access to the library’s extensive book and journal collection
- on-line public access catalogue (OPAC) terminals. (These provide access to the DPI library catalogue and to material held in the State Library of Queensland in Brisbane only.)
- literature searches from CD-ROM and the Internet (fee charged).

General enquiries can be directed to:
BRISBANE: Ph: (07) 3239 3126
Fax: (07) 3239 3128
Or to the following DPI library staff:
Robin Gallagher and Pat Abbott
Ph: (07) 3239 3124; Fax: (07) 3239 3131

Other information sources

The Department of Primary Industries has a specialist team providing information and expertise to assist you to make trade and business decisions. For enquiries, please contact:

Ms Devinka Wanigesekera
General Manager—Rural Market Development
GPO Box 46
BRISBANE QLD 4001
Ph: (07) 3239 0524; Fax: (07) 3221 3896
Email: rmd@dpi.qld.gov.au

Farmsafe Qld Ltd
PO Box 785
THURINGOWA CENTRAL QLD 4817
Ph/Fax: (07) 4774 0522
Free call: 1800 818 006
Email: jcuppes@farmsafe.com.au
Web: www.farmsafe.com.au

Workcover New South Wales
Ph: 13 10 50
Publication orderline: 1800 658 134
Web: www.workcover.nsw.gov.au

Agricultural booksellers

These booksellers specialise in agricultural books.
DPI Publications
GPO Box 46
BRISBANE QLD 4001
Ph: 1800 816 541; Fax: (07) 3239 6509
Email: books@dpi.qld.gov.au
NSW Agriculture, Orange office
For 24 hour answering service:
Ph: 1800 028 374; Fax: 1800 642 065
The Cashier, NSW Agriculture
Locked Bag 21
ORANGE NSW 2800
Web: www.agric.nsw.gov.au

D & A Information Services
PO Box 163
MITCHAM VIC 3132
Ph: 03 9210 7777; Fax: 03 9210 7788
Email: service@dadirect.com.au

Granny Smith's Bookshop
PO Box 27
SUBIACO WA 6008
Ph: (08) 9388 1965; Fax: (08) 9388 1852
Email: granny@aoi.co.au

Johima Books
PO Box 4048
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124
Ph: (02) 9687 1922; Fax: (02) 9687 1027

Landlinks Press
PO Box 1139
COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066
Freecall: 1800 645 051; Ph: (03) 9662 7666
Fax: (03) 9662 7555

Morescope Publishing
638A Burwood Road
EAST HAWTHORN VIC 3123
Ph: (03) 9882 9922; Fax: (03) 9882 9239
Email: mscope@internex.net.au

NRE Information Centre
PO Box 500
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Ph: (03) 9637 8080; Fax: (03) 9637 8150

**Contacts through the Yellow Pages**

The following Yellow Pages headings cover the main topics for which contacts may be needed. Check the listings under the appropriate heading.

**Chemicals/fertilisers**
Chemicals, agricultural  
Chemical suppliers  
Fertilisers  
Insecticides, herbicides and fungicides  
Lime  
Soil conditioners and treatments

**Consultants**
Farm and agricultural advisory services  
Horticultural consultants

**Economics and marketing**
Fruit and vegetable wholesalers  
Grain and produce  
Transport services

**Equipment, irrigation, machinery**
Agricultural machinery  
Engineers  
Farm equipment and supplies  
Instruments—scientific  
Irrigation
REFERENCES

DPI information products

Banana books and booklets


Other books relevant to banana growing


Insect pests of fruit and vegetables, Swaine, G., Ironside, D.A. & Corcoran, R.J. (eds) (1993), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.


Forced air cooling (2nd edn), Watkins, J.B., & Ledger, S.N. (1990), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.

Buying the farm for horticulture—site it right (1986), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.


Videos

Buying the farm for horticulture—site it right (1986), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.

Banana bunchy top virus (1991), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ91006.

Banana leaf diseases, (1995), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ95001.

How to get the most from your spray unit, Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ93009.

How to construct and maintain contour banks and waterways, (1991), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ93003.

Playing it safe with pesticides, (1989), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ93013.
Panama disease—the banana industry under threat, (1991), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ91002.

Black Sigatoka disease, (1995), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane, QZ95002.

CD and software packages

Prime notes on CD-ROM, Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.

Infopest—pest management information system CD, Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.

Australian Rainman 2.2 (decision support computer package), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.

Information products from other sources

Books on general banana culture and issues


Postharvest diseases of horticultural produce—Vol. 2 Tropical fruit (1995), Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane.


Books on diseases, pests and disorders


Books on organic growing


Workplace health and safety information

This information is available from offices the Division of Workplace Health and Safety of the Department of Training and Industrial Relations.

- Manual handling (lifting, repetitive movement, weights, team lifting, correct techniques)
- Noise
- Tractors-safe design, roll-over protection structures (rops), safe operation
- Overhead powerlines
- Agricultural bikes
- Chemical safety
- Child safety
- Skin cancer
- Heat stress
• Legislative requirements for farmers
• Welding
• Personal protective equipment
• Electrical equipment
• Machinery guarding
• First aid
• Workplace amenities.

Articles, brochures and other items

Wall chart and posters
Available from:
Maroochy Research Station
Ph: (07) 5441 2211; Fax: (07) 5442 2235
• Ladyfinger Packing Standards: Grade 1
  including a copy of the Ladyfinger Produce Specifications notes
• Six Ladyfinger Packing Guide colour posters
• Ladyfinger Sizes Chart

Available through the DPI Client Service Centre, South Johnstone.
DPI Centre for Wet Tropics Agriculture
Dr Patricia Chay-Prove
PO Box 20
SOUTH JOHNSTONE QLD 4859
Ph: (07) 4064 3911; Fax: (07) 4064 2249
Posters available include:
• Banana pests
• Bunchy top
• Queensland banana quarantine areas
• Panama disease
• Yellow Sigatoka
• Banana leaf spot regulations
• Anti-resistance strategies for systemic fungicides in north Queensland bananas
• Packing guide for the B21 banana carton
• Grading for hard green bananas
• Banana rust thrips
• Nematode management and monitoring.

Relevant legislation

Copies of relevant legislation are available from the Government Publishing Service Bookshop listed in the Yellow Pages.
• Plant Protection Act 1989
• Agricultural Chemicals Distribution and Control Act 1966 and Regulations 1970
• Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995 and Regulations 1997
• Banana Industry Protection Act 1989

General journals and magazines

Queensland Fruit & Vegetable News
The official journal of the Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers. It is posted free on request to all Queensland fruit and vegetable growers. Available from:

Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers
PO Box 19
BRISBANE MARKETS QLD 4106
Ph: 1800 654 222
Email: qfvg@qfvg.org.au
Web: www.qfvg.org.au

Good Fruit & Vegetables
Available from:
Good Fruit & Vegetables
PO Box 160
PORT MELBOURNE VIC 3207
Ph: Subscriptions: 1800 035 351

Banana newsletters

Bananatopics
A newsletter for Queensland banana growers, funded by the Banana Industry Protection Board and the Horticultural Research & Development Corporation, published by the DPI. The newsletter is free to Queensland growers who have a current banana planting permit. For others it is available from:
Centre for Wet Tropics Agriculture  
Client Service Centre  
Dr Patricia Chay-Prove  
PO Box 20  
SOUTH JOHNSTONE QLD 4859  
Ph: (07) 4064 3911; Fax: (07) 4064 42249

BGF Bulletin  
This is a monthly newsletter produced by the Banana Growers Federation and the NSW Banana Industry Council.

It is available by subscription from:  
BGF Bulletin  
PO Box 31  
MURWULLIMBAH NSW 2484  
Ph: (02) 6684 3405

Banana Protection  
An annual publication of the Banana Industry Protection Board. The publication is free to Queensland growers who have a current banana planting permit. For others it is available from DPI plant health inspectors.

Australian Bananas (soon to be published quarterly)  
Australian Banana Growers’ Council Inc.  
GPO Box 414  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
Phone: (07) 3220 0407; Fax: (07) 3221 5182

InfoMusa  
The international magazine on banana and plantain. This is published by INIBAP and is available on subscription from:  
InfoMusa, INIBAP  
Parc Scientifique Agropolis II  
34397 Montpellier Cedex 5  
FRANCE  
Ph: +33 (0) 4 67 61 0334  
Email: inibap@cgnet.com