

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 We advise readers to take particular note of the areas most likely to be out-of-date and so requiring further research: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- Financial information—costs and returns listed in this publication are out of date.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.



Queensland Government

GROWING GUIDE

Subtropical banana grower's handbook

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Disclaimer

This book is distributed by the Department of Primary Industries as an information source only. The information contained in it and other material incorporated by reference is provided solely on the basis that the reader will be responsible for making his/her own assessment of the content and seek professional advice. Readers must note that the information contained in this book has been developed for growers in Australia, and the Department of Primary Industries and its collaborators in this product give no warranty that the information is suitable for conditions outside the Australian areas for which it is written.

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The information in the *Subtropical banana grower's handbook* applies to growing Cavendish and Ladyfinger bananas in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales.

For information on growing bananas in tropical areas of Queensland refer to the *Agrilink tropical banana information kit*.

A companion colour book, *PICTURE GUIDE: Subtropical banana problem solver* shows photos of common problems and suggests what to do about them.

Please consult local information before applying information in the Agrilink kits to other banana growing areas.

About the main authors

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Using this guide

The handbook is constructed around two important principles. Firstly, it focuses on the core information that is most needed and regularly used by growers. Hence, it does not provide detailed information on all areas of growing the crop; where additional information is available and considered useful for further study, references are provided. Secondly, the information is presented in line with how it has been sought from the authors over a number of years. Hence, there are different chapters of the handbook designed to suit different needs. Here is a brief roadmap:

If you are an:

Start with:

Intending grower
(thinking about
growing subtropical
bananas)

Before you start—a checklist of the things you need to know before you start growing the crop, and will give you the best introduction into other sections of the handbook. Other useful chapters are:

Common questions—the most commonly asked questions about growing the crop

Contacts—a list of industry organisations, product suppliers

References—further reading

New grower (about to
establish a plantation,
in the process of do-
ing so, or taking over
a plantation as a new
grower)

Growing the crop—the authors' guide for establishing, producing and handling the crop and will refer to other appropriate sections of the handbook where needed. Other useful chapters are:

Key issues—detailed information on the key decisions for subtropical banana growers

Contacts—list of industry organisations, product suppliers

References—further reading

Chemical selector—list of chemicals currently registered in Australia and their registered uses

Established or more
experienced grower

Key issues—chapter contains the most detailed technical information on the key decisions for growers. Other useful chapters are:

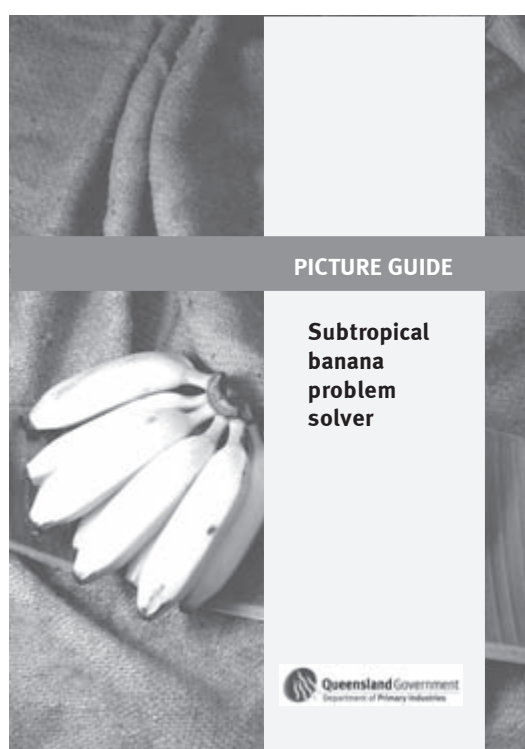
Chemical selector—list of chemicals currently registered in Australia and their registered uses

Remember that
the handbook
contains a de-
tailed index.

Limitations

There are some limitations in using this handbook. These include:

- The book does not contain colour pictures of pests, diseases or other problems that occur in subtropical bananas. These are found in the companion book—*PICTURE GUIDE: Subtropical banana problem solver*. This book has photos of problems found in growing subtropical and tropical bananas along with suggestions on how to solve them. Colour photos are also found in *Product description language—Ladyfinger bananas*.



- We do not intend that the handbook be used as the only tool in reaching key management decisions. We always recommend that you also seek independent advice from consultants.
- Chemical registrations can change. Always check the registration details on the label before using the product. Sources of updated information are contained in Chapter 5, *Contacts* and *References* (page 182).

