



**Notice reference number**

**Sample notice**

**Notice of presence of Panama disease tropical race 4 (notice)**

Pursuant to section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 (Qld), I give notice that:

- I know; or
- I reasonably believe there is a significant risk that Panama disease tropical race 4 is present
- on land; and/or
- in or on a plant.

**Information notice**

- I have attached an information notice as required by section 58 (5) of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 (Qld).

**Where the notice relates to land**

Real property description

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| Property street address |
| Lot on plan             |

**Where the notice relates to a plant**

Real property description or other identifying information

|                |
|----------------|
| Not applicable |
|                |

**Person/s notified**

Full name

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| Name of property owner or occupier |
|------------------------------------|

- Occupier of the land       Owner of the land       Person with possession or control of the plant

**Person/s notified must**

- Destroy any plants that pose a biosecurity risk related to Panama disease tropical race 4 in accordance with the risk minimisation requirements outlined in section 12 of the Queensland biosecurity manual.
- Comply with the stated processes and procedures set out in Appendix 1 of this notice to minimise the biosecurity risk posed by Panama disease tropical race 4.

**Warning**

Failure to comply with this notice may constitute a failure to discharge a general biosecurity obligation pursuant to section 24 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Qld).

The maximum penalty for a person is:

- for an aggravated offence – 3000 penalty units or 3 years imprisonment.
- for an offence that is not an aggravated offence – 750 penalty units or 6 months imprisonment.

**Effective**

This notice remains in force until repealed or amended by the chief executive or an inspector in accordance with section 24AA of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* (Qld).

**Inspector details**

I, the undersigned, am an inspector appointed under section 242 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Qld).

Full name

Signature

Date

**Issuing authority details**

Biosecurity Queensland  
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries  
GPO Box 46  
Brisbane Qld 4000

Customer Service Centre  
13 25 23

## Appendix 1

### Panama disease tropical race 4 risk minimisation processes and procedures

Note: Reference numbers are a unique identifier for each requirement and may not be in sequential order.

A list of definitions is provided at the end of this document.

Ref:

#### **1 Use of the land subject to a Notice of presence of Panama disease tropical race 4 (affected land)**

- 1.2 These processes and procedures pertain to a property that is used for growing bananas for sale. At the time of giving the notice, no other purposes have been identified.
- 1.4 The following processes and procedures apply to the person to whom the notice has been given under section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 (Qld).
- 1.5 Where, after the giving of the notice, it is proposed that the property is to be used for any other purpose, including other agricultural purposes the person must inform an inspector appointed under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Qld) at least 30 days before that use commences. An inspector must also be informed about the cessation of any uses.
- 1.6 The person must inform, in writing, an inspector appointed under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Qld) where the affected land is to be occupied by another person. This includes where the affected land is to be sold or leased.

#### **2 Restricting access to affected land**

- 2.2 Within 24 hours of receiving a notice the person must place signage around the perimeter of the affected land stating that the land is affected by Panama disease tropical race 4 (the disease). The signage must be of sufficient size and visibility, and at intervals and locations adequate to clearly indicate that there must be no unauthorised access to the land.
- 2.3 Within three months of the date of the notice, a combination of built or natural barriers such as fences and river frontage must be sufficiently constructed to prevent access by unauthorised vehicles and people to all dirty zones of the affected land.
- 2.4 Fencing and barriers must be maintained to ensure that unauthorised access is prevented for as long as the notice is in force.

#### **3 Zoning**

- 3.1 Zones must be established within the affected land. The types of zones include:
  - a. Destruction zones: the areas of affected land where banana plants that pose a biosecurity risk related to Panama disease tropical race 4 have been destroyed. Access to destruction zones is permitted only if an authorised officer is notified at least two business days prior to the access occurring and the access is consistent with section 12A of the Queensland biosecurity manual or section 10 of this notice.
  - b. Dirty zones: the areas of affected land where in-field farm operations occur and are exposed to contamination by the disease. Dirty zones must be signposted and

fenced or have other natural barriers to restrict access to clean zones and land not subject to a notice.

- d. Clean zones: the areas of affected land that are not subject to contamination by the disease, and are used as clean corridors to ensure on-farm traffic remains within dirty zones. Clean zones include clean access roads which allow public access to the affected land. Clean zones must be signposted and fenced or have other natural barriers to restrict access to dirty zones.

3.2 Clean access roads and parking areas must be:

- a. built using clean construction machinery; and
- b. built and maintained in a manner to ensure the surface remains free from plant material, soil or other growing mediums; and
- c. either sealed or built from clean material imported from outside the affected land; and
- d. designed to include sufficient turning and parking areas for vehicles; and
- e. accompanied with fencing and signage that restricts movement between the clean access road and surrounding dirty zones.

#### **4 Decontamination sites**

4.1 Where decontamination sites are required to decontaminate risk items moving from the dirty zones they must:

- a. be established on the affected land and tailored to meet the operational and maintenance requirements of the affected land practices, including zoning and decontamination requirements; and
- c. have suitable equipment for cleaning such as high pressure sprayer, low pressure sprayer, scrubbing brushes/brooms, footbaths, basins, detergents and sanitisers known to be effective for the disease; and
- d. control and contain wastewater on-farm to prevent it from directly entering waterways, or entering clean zones or land not subject to a notice.

#### **5 Movement of risk items from dirty zones of the affected land**

5.1 In order to move risk items from the dirty zones of the affected land:

- a. All risk item must be:
  - i. dismantled to the extent necessary; and
  - ii. free of plant material, soil on which banana plants are growing, have been grown or may have been grown and other growing mediums on which banana plants are growing, have been grown or may have been grown; and
  - iii. disinfected; and
  - iv. dealt with after being decontaminated in such a way that prevents the risk item from becoming contaminated prior to the movement.

and

- b. Where the risk item is an appliance:

- i. an authorised officer must be advised at least two business days in advance of the requirement to move the appliance; and
  - ii. if an authorised officer determines there is a requirement to inspect the appliance, an inspection must be completed by an authorised officer prior to the appliance being moved from the dirty zones on the affected land; and
  - iii. the decontamination and movement of the appliance must be recorded on a register which includes, the date, time, appliance identification/ registration, location of where the appliance is being moved from and to, and the name and signature of the person who completed the decontamination and movement; and
  - iv. the records must be kept for a period of 12 months and made available to an authorised officer on request.
- 5.2 Where the requirements of 5.1 cannot be fully or reasonably met and the risk item is to be moved from one dirty zone of affected land to another dirty zone of affected land and that move includes traversing a clean zone or land not subject to a notice:
- a. The risk item must be:
    - i. decontaminated to the extent possible; and
    - ii. moved in a way (such as in a sealed container or wrapped in plastic) so that it does not contaminate clean zones or land not subject to a notice; and
    - iii. moved using the most direct route appropriate for the movement, without pause or deviation; and
    - iv. moved during favourable weather conditions (not in heavy rain or windy conditions).
- and
- b. Disposable items used in the movement must be retained in the dirty zones of the affected land or disposed of in a way that minimises the biosecurity risk.
- and
- c. Where the risk item is an appliance:
    - i. an authorised officer must be advised at least two business days in advance of the requirement to move the appliance; and
    - ii. if an authorised officer determines there is a requirement to inspect the appliance, an inspection is completed by an authorised officer prior to the appliance being moved from the dirty zones of the affected land; and
    - iii. the decontamination and movement of the appliance must be recorded on a register which includes, the date, time, appliance identification/ registration, location of where the appliance is being moved from and to, and the name and signature of the person who completed the decontamination and move; and
    - iv. the records must be kept for a period of 12 months and made available to an authorised officer on request.

## **7 Movement of fruit for human consumption from affected land**

- 7.1 In order to move whole fruit from the affected land the fruit must be:
  - a. grown above the ground on trees or plants; and

- b. harvested from healthy vigorous plants; and
  - c. transported to the packing facility in a clean condition; and
  - d. harvested and processed in a way that ensures it is kept free of plant material (excluding fruit), soil and other growing mediums; and
  - e. packed clean into:
    - i. new cartons; or
    - ii. re-useable crates that can be and have been decontaminated.
- 7.2 All fruit, cartons, crates, pallets and other shipment containers must be free of plant material, soil and other growing mediums before being moved off affected land.
- 7.3 All waste must be:
- a. retained on the dirty zones of the affected land; or
  - b. disposed of in a way that minimises the biosecurity risk (for example containment and transfer to a quarantine waste facility).

Note - Additional requirement: Some interstate jurisdictions may require certification to meet interstate fruit movement requirements.

## 8 People movement

- 8.1 All people must be trained in the biosecurity practices of the affected land, including the requirement to decontaminate risk items before they are moved from dirty zones to clean zones.
- 8.2 The movement of people from the dirty zones of the affected land must be managed in a way to minimise the biosecurity risk (for example, grossly contaminated clothing is removed, contained in a sealed bag and laundered at the first opportunity).
- 8.3 Adequate facilities must be provided so that the movement of people from the dirty zones of the affected land can be managed in a way to minimise the biosecurity risk (for example, provide plastic bags so that grossly contaminated clothing can be contained).

## 9 Waste management

- 9.1 All waste material (including leaves, bells, discarded fruit, pseudostem material, bunch stalks, bunch bags, string, decontamination water, and soil) must be disposed of in a way that minimises the biosecurity risk.

## 10 Maintenance of destruction zones

- 10.1 The person must ensure the destruction zone remains free of banana plants. Regrowth of banana plants or new banana plants in the destruction zone must be:
- a. destroyed using chemical means in accordance with the label or permit; and
  - b. left to die in situ.
- 10.3 Fencing around the destruction zone must be maintained to prevent the entry of animals and to restrict access by persons, vehicles and machinery for as long as the notice is in force.

- 10.4 Where a gate is included in the fence, it must be locked at all times and the key must be:
- a. stored in a secure location at the property; and
  - b. made available to an authorised officer on request.
- 10.5 Risk items must not leave the destruction zone without being decontaminated.
- 10.6 The destruction zone must remain undisturbed other than for the completion of any activities required by this section or section 12A of the Queensland biosecurity manual.

## 11 Record keeping

- 11.1 Records that provide accurate and clear information of the risk minimisation processes and procedures undertaken on the affected land must be established and maintained. These records must include:
- a. Biosecurity plans that articulate how the processes and procedures of this notice are implemented, including biosecurity incident response procedures.
  - b. Banana planting records that, as a minimum, record the type of planting material used, whether it was soil free, details of where and when the material was sourced and locations of where and when the material was planted.
  - c. Appliance movement registers, excluding routine movements within the dirty zone, including details of the date, time, appliance identification/registration, location of where the appliance is being moved from and to, and the name and signature of the person who completed the decontamination and move.
  - d. Staff training registers where they pertain to biosecurity requirements.
  - e. An inventory of appliances that have been in contact or may have come in contact with plant material or soils in which banana plants are growing, have been grown or may have been grown or other growing mediums in which banana plants are growing, have been grown or may have been grown.
  - f. Fruit and other produce consignment information.
  - g. Destruction activities undertaken, including regrowth management.
- 11.2 These records must be kept for a period of 12 months and made available to an authorised officer on request.

## 12 Weed control

- 12.1 Weed control must be performed in conditions and ways that minimise the possibility of soil and dust dispersal.

## 13 Emergency access

- 13.1 The person must undertake prior planning with emergency providers to develop procedures for emergency access. This will include electricity providers, local council, ambulance, police, State Emergency Services, and Fire and Emergency Services.
- 13.2 The person must request the property be listed on any appropriate databases identifying the presence of the disease and the need for precautions. This will include electricity providers, ambulance, police and any other organisations that make records relating to future emergency access.

- 13.3 Where possible, emergency access must be restricted to clean zones.
- 13.4 Where practical, all normal biosecurity procedures relating to decontamination must be followed. Where this is not possible, decontamination must occur at the earliest possible time.
- 13.5 Where emergency access is required, the person must notify an inspector appointed under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Qld) at the earliest possible time.

#### 14 Earthworks

- 14.1 Earthworks must not be undertaken on the affected land without prior notification to an inspector appointed under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Qld).

#### 15 Farm-based animal movement

- 15.1 Livestock, poultry and domestic animals must be managed in a way to minimise the biosecurity risk.

#### 16 Irrigation removal

- 16.1 Where irrigation is to be decommissioned and removed from the ground it should be in a way to minimise soil dispersal.
- 16.2 Any irrigation hardware removed must:
- stay on the dirty zones of the affected land; or
  - be disposed of in a way that minimises the biosecurity risk (for example containment and transfer to a quarantine waste facility).

### Definitions

**affected land** means land that a notice under s. 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 applies to.

**appliance** includes machinery, tractors, harvesters, sprayers, planting equipment, trailers, farm implements, pumps, quad bikes or vehicles or any of their parts.

**authorised officer** means an authorised person or an inspector appointed under Chapter 10 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

**clean water** means water that has not come into contact with agricultural soil, or banana plants, or has been treated to remove contaminating organisms (e.g. bore water, rain water that is collected directly into a tank, town water, chlorinated river water, or water from the Mareeba-Dimbulah Irrigation Scheme).

**decontaminated** means free of contaminating substances including plant material, soil and other growing mediums and disinfected.

**disinfect** means application of a sanitiser product known to be effective to minimise the spread of Panama disease tropical race 4, that has been prepared with clean water and in accordance with the label instructions or permit requirements.

**earthworks** means the process of excavating and embanking earth for engineering or agricultural construction and/ or operations, excluding general farming practices and existing maintenance.

**inspector** means a person appointed under s. 242 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

**risk items** means items including appliances that have been in contact or may have come in contact with plant material or soils in which banana plants are growing, have been grown or may have been grown or other growing mediums in which banana plants are growing, have been grown or may have been grown.