



## Bananas from the Philippines update

February 2026

Issue 3

This newsletter is to keep you updated on the assessment of alternative measures for the importation of bananas from the Philippines.

For more information on the assessment, please visit our website: [agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines](https://agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines). You can read previous issues of the newsletter [here](#).



### Update on the planned Philippines technical visit

We are planning to undertake a technical visit to the Philippines in late March 2026\*. The purpose of the visit is to gather information on the Philippines' commercial production, pest management and export practices for bananas.

We listened to industry feedback, and we will include a technical expert in banana production systems, and a tropical plant pathologist in the delegation for the visit.

Whilst in the Philippines, we plan to visit several plantations and packing houses that currently export Cavendish bananas, in multiple banana growing provinces on Mindanao. These provinces are where most bananas are produced in the Philippines. We have requested that we see different companies and different scales of operation.

We will use the information obtained on the visit, in conjunction with information from multiple other sources, to inform our assessment of alternative measures for bananas from the Philippines.

*\*Note: This visit was originally planned for late 2025. However, due to the declared State of Emergency in the Philippines at the time, the trip was postponed to early 2026.*



### Engagement report on the in-person information sessions

In October and November 2025, we held in-person information sessions in Qld, NSW and WA on the assessment of alternative measures. These sessions were independently facilitated by Articulous.

Articulous captured the discussions at each session, including the questions and concerns raised by attendees. They have summarised this information in an engagement report that is now available on our [website](#).



#### In this issue

- Update on the Philippines technical visit
- Engagement report on the in-person information sessions
- Issues paper



*We are committed to ongoing communication and consultation with stakeholders throughout the assessment process.*

*We will share regular updates about the assessment in this newsletter.*

*If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, or you know someone who would like to be added, please contact us at [plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au](mailto:plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au)*



## Issues paper

The key next step in the assessment process is the publication of an issues paper. We plan to do this in the first half of 2026, noting timing is subject to change. The issues paper will:

- outline the assessment process in more detail
- provide background information on the Philippines' requests
- include information on what we will consider during the assessment
- include details on how and when we will engage with stakeholders.

## More information

- **Webpage:** [agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines](https://agriculture.gov.au/banana-Philippines)
- **Register to receive regular updates:** If you would like to receive regular updates on the bananas from the Philippines assessment, including this newsletter, please contact [plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au](mailto:plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au)
- **Register to receive biosecurity advices:** Subscribe to 'Biosecurity Risk Analysis Plant' via our online subscription service to receive Biosecurity Advices and other notifications relating to plant biosecurity policy: <https://subscribe.agriculture.gov.au/subscribe>
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### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

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