**A close up of a sign

Description automatically generatedBiosecurity Champion**

**Han Shiong Siah - Tropical Primary Products**

**English**

Hi I'm Han Shiong Siah from Tropical Primary Products in the Top End of Australia, and we've been in the horticultural sector for over 30 years.

We produce Durian, Mangoes, Jackfruit, Water Apples and Pomelos.

We believe strongly in applying industry best practices to everything that we do on our farm.

We have our own best management practices, traffic management plans and strong biosecurity controls which means that we are reliable and ready to trade.

Everything counts when it comes to biosecurity.

Make sure your gates are locked and have appropriate signage.

Visits are scheduled by appointments, prior movements of people are traced, wash down areas are designated and protocols and movements and procedures exist for travelling across neighbouring blocks and orchards.

You are already doing things that are adding to your own biosecurity without even realising, such as traffic management and visitors’ appointments.

But there is always more you can do to keep your farm safe.

Make sure you revisit your protocols for inspections, documentations and surveillance regularly as well.

Work closely with your industry and government agencies in regard to reliable strong biosecurity methods that can improve the productivity of your farm.

Even talking to travellers and visitors and asking them about their movements across neighbouring farms.

Ask key questions about current outbreaks that could save your business.

Being proactive and transparent about biosecurity helps keep every property safe and in turn increase the strength of the local growing industry.

If you can see anything that could be a known exotic or unknown pest and disease, then report it to your local industry liaison officer or agronomist who can assist in both identifying and the best management practices.

This is a durian farm and durian seed borer poses a serious risk to the durian industry because of how difficult it is to control once detected internally.

Durian seed borer is not found in Australia; however it is on our doorstep.

This is exactly why proactive measures are such an important strategy.

We also grow pomelos and during the citrus canker outbreak we were organised and vigilant enough to continue exporting fruit, restoring market access.

In order to do this we had to abide by a number of control measures such as regular inspections of trees by ourselves and inspectors.

Specialised treatment to prevent and minimise outbreaks.

Post-harvest treatment for fruit to allow interstate travel.

These protocol steps can lead to unrestricted market access after citrus canker is successfully eradicated.

There isn't a one size fits all solution for biosecurity.

Each farm needs to build their own biosecurity plans for their particular plants, procedures and properties.

Ask your farm industry groups if you are unsure what to do next.

Just remember we are primary producers, the farmers, feeding the world every day.

Be proud of what you do, secure our future.

You can be a champion too.