



Bananas from the Philippines update

August 2026

Issue 5

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.

You can read previous issues of the newsletter [here](#).



Issues paper submissions received

We recently released an [issues paper](#) on the assessment process. We invited your comments on the issues paper and to contribute scientific information relevant to this assessment.

We received 6 submissions. These are now available to read on our website, where we have permission to publish.

We are carefully considering all comments as we prepare the draft report. We will respond to those who provided feedback before releasing the draft report. This is the next key step in the assessment process.

We expect to release the draft report for a minimum 60-calendar day public consultation period. We anticipate releasing the report in early 2027, noting this timing is subject to change. We will provide you with as much notice as possible ahead of the expected release date.

We will publish the proposed release date on our webpage and send a newsletter to notify you.

Information session recording available



In June we held virtual information sessions to discuss the BIRA, issues paper and technical visit report, and to answer your questions. We have [published a recording](#) of one of these sessions on our webpage for anyone who was unable to attend.

We will continue to [publish responses to additional stakeholder questions](#) on a dedicated 'Questions and Answers' webpage.



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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



Expert Advisory Group update

As we have told you previously, we are establishing an Expert Advisory Group comprising of experts in banana pests and diseases, production practices and pest management systems to provide independent, expert advice on this assessment.

We are making good progress in establishing the Expert Advisory Group and are on track to have members appointed by Q3 2026

More information

- **Webpage:** 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
- **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>
- To unsubscribe, please contact plantstakeholders@aff.gov.au

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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