

National Banana Freckle Eradication Program



Quarantine and Movement Controls

The following quarantine restrictions apply in the Northern Territory for the purpose of eradicating Banana Freckle. For further information on Banana Freckle or the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program please visit www.banana.nt.gov.au or contact the Banana Freckle Hotline on 1800 771 163 or email banana@nt.gov.au

The following activities are not permitted:

- 1. Bringing any banana plants into a red zone.
- 2. Moving banana plants or fruit out of a red zone.
- 3. Moving banana plants within a red zone, unless it is for the purpose of disposal at the local rubbish tips or you hold a permit issued by the Chief Inspector of Plant Health to do so.
- 4. Growing, planting, cultivating or propagating banana plants within a red zone.
- 5. Exporting any banana plants or fruit from the Northern Territory.

Failing to comply with these prohibitions may result in prosecution and significant penalties.

Destruction – Treatment of Host Plants

In accordance with the *Plant Health Regulations*, owners of banana plants in red zones must, on or before 30 April 2015:

- 1. Cut down all banana plants on their property. For effective destruction, cut each plant at approximately 30 cm above ground level.
- Immediately after the plant has been cut down, treat the remaining stump (this is referred to as the Rhizome) with a commercially registered herbicide. Only use the herbicide in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 3. You must leave the remaining stump (or Rhizome) in the ground for at least one month after the plant has been cut down.
- 4. If a banana plant starts growing again at any time (even after 30 April 2015), you must treat it as detailed above no later than one month after it starts to grow.
- 5. If you are having difficulty with regrowth of plants contact **Banana Freckle Hotline on 1800 771 163** or email **banana@nt.gov.au**. We will send a Destruction Team to further treat the stump.
- 6. Ring the **Banana Freckle Hotline on 1800 771 163** or email **banana@nt.gov.au** to let us know your plants have been destroyed. We will update our records.
- 7. A Plant Health Inspector may still inspect your property to confirm that all banana plants have been destroyed.
- 8. Banana plants can be disposed at any local rubbish tip within a red zone. Alternatively, banana plants can be left on site to decompose, or be composted or used as mulch.
- 9. For assistance to destroy banana plants, please ring the **Banana Freckle Hotline on 1800 771 163** or email **banana@nt.gov.au**. An appointment will be made for a Destruction Team to come and assist you.

For full details of the quarantine restrictions relating to Banana Freckle, please refer to www.banana.nt.gov.au

Help make the NT Banana Freckle free

Call the Hotline on 1800 771 163 or email banana@nt.gov.au