



Fresh Banana for Consumption from the People's Republic of China

Musa spp.

TITLE

Import Health Standard: Fresh Banana for Consumption from the People's Republic of China

COMMENCEMENT

This Import Health Standard comes into force on the date of issue.

REVOCATION

Nil

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Import Health Standard is issued under section 24A of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Dated at Wellington this 24th. day of December 2015

Peter Thomson
Director, Plants, Food and Environment
Ministry for Primary Industries
(acting under delegated authority of the Director General)

Contact for further information
Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)
Regulation and Assurance Branch
Plant Imports
PO Box 2526,
Wellington 6140
Email: plantimports@mpi.govt.nz

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of the import health standard (IHS) but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

This IHS specifies the requirements for the importation of fresh banana fruit for consumption into New Zealand from the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Background

The New Zealand Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides the legal basis for excluding, eradicating and effectively managing pests and unwanted organisms.

Each IHS issued under the Act specifies requirements to be met for the effective management of risks associated with importing goods that may pose a biosecurity threat to New Zealand.

This IHS includes requirements that must be met in the exporting country, during transit and importation, and post clearance, if specified, before biosecurity clearance can be given.

Additional information to the requirements is included in guidance text boxes.

Who should read this Import Health Standard?

This IHS applies to importers of fresh banana fruit for consumption into New Zealand and outlines the import requirements that must be met.

Why is it important?

It is the importers responsibility to ensure the requirements of this IHS are met. Consignments that do not comply with the requirements of this IHS may not be cleared for entry into New Zealand and /or further information may be sought from importers.

Importers are liable for all associated expenses.

Equivalence

Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) may consider a pre-export application for an equivalent phytosanitary measure to be approved, different from that provided for in this IHS, to maintain at least the same level of protection assured by the current measures in this IHS.

Equivalence will be considered with reference to the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM), Publication No. 24: *Guidelines for the determination and recognition of equivalence of phytosanitary measures* (2011).

Document History

Refer to Appendix 2 for the amendment record for this IHS.

Part 1: General Requirements

1.1 Application

- (1) This IHS specifies the requirements for the importation of fresh banana fruit for human consumption from the People's Republic of China (PRC).
- (2) Fresh banana fruit for consumption is defined as the commercially produced export grade "hand of bananas" comprising fruit of *Musa spp.*
- (3) Each "hand" consists of two transverse rows of fruit ("fingers") without stem, leaves, roots or any other plant part, and free of soil and trash; cleaned, packed and transported to New Zealand for consumption.

1.2 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) The following documents are incorporated by reference under section 142M of the Act:
 - a) [International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPM\)](#);
 - b) [MPI Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities \(BORIC\)](#);
 - c) [Schedule of Regulated \(Quarantine\) Weed Seeds](#).
- (2) Under section 142O(3) of the Act it is declared that section 142O(1) does not apply, that is, a notice under section 142O(2) of the Act is not required to be published before material that amends or replaces any material incorporated by reference has legal effect as part of those documents.

1.3 Definitions

- (1) Definitions that apply to this IHS are listed in Appendix 1.

1.4 General

- (1) Fresh produce imported into New Zealand must meet the requirements of this IHS before receiving biosecurity clearance and must be treated in accordance with Part 3: *Pre- export Requirements for Specified Regulated Pests*.
- (2) Importers must provide MPI with the details of each sea-freight consignment 48 hours prior to arrival.
- (3) All consignments must be free from viable regulated pests. If any viable regulated pests are intercepted in a sample on arrival in New Zealand, the consignment will be:
 - a) treated, resorted, reshipped or destroyed; and
 - b) depending on the regulated pest intercepted, the pathway may be suspended.
- (4) Only clean, inert/synthetic material may be used for protection, packaging and shipping materials.
- (5) Consignments without an import permit (if required) or certification, or accompanied by incorrect certification, will be held in a transitional facility until correct documentation is presented.
- (6) Subject to this IHS, fresh produce must only be imported for consumption and must not be used for other end purposes (such as propagation).

Guidance

- A biosecurity clearance, under section 26 of the Act, may be issued when the products meet all the requirements of this IHS, provided the applicable requirements of section 27 of the Act are met.
- Pests are classified as regulated (quarantine or regulated non-quarantine) or non-regulated by MPI and can be found by searching MPI [BORIC](#) database.

- MPI will inspect documentation, and may inspect the consignment in accordance with official procedures.
- Actions would not normally be taken if non-regulated pests are intercepted on arrival.
- Further information about biosecurity clearance can be found on the MPI website using this link: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/steps-to-importing/>.

1.5 Exporting country systems and export plans

- (1) Importers may only import fresh produce subject to an IHS.
- (2) Importers may only import from a country where the NPPO has provided evidence of the national systems/programmes and export standards.
- (3) This evidence is to be used for regulatory oversight of the export industry in accordance with ISPM 7: *Phytosanitary Certification System*, and to the satisfaction of a Chief Technical Officer.
- (4) Once satisfied, MPI and the NPPO of the exporting country may commence negotiation of a country-specific export plan that demonstrates how *Basic*, *Targeted* and *MPI-Specified Measures* will be achieved.
- (5) The negotiated and agreed export plan is subject to audit by MPI.

Guidance

- Refer to Part 3: *Pre-export Requirements for Specified Regulated Pests*, for specific measures.
- Requests from exporting countries to negotiate an export plan for the import of the product into New Zealand will be prioritised according to MPI resources available at the time of application.
- Countries with a completed negotiated and agreed export plan will be listed on the MPI website using this link: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/food/fresh-fruit-and-vegetables/registers-and-lists/>.

1.6 Transport requirements

- (1) All consignments of fresh produce must be packaged and shipped in a secure manner to prevent contamination by regulated pests.
- (2) If a consignment is either opened, stored, split up or has its packaging changed while in any other country *en route* to New Zealand;
 - a) a phytosanitary certificate for re-export is required, in accordance with ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary certificates*, and must accompany each consignment.

Guidance

- A phytosanitary certificate for re-export is not required for a consignment held under bond, as a result of the need to change conveyances, and is kept in the original shipping/air container and packaging.
- Fresh produce covered by correct documentation may be transhipped within New Zealand provided they are packaged in sealed pest proof containers and transported directly to a MPI approved transitional facility for final MPI clearance.
- Fresh produce in-transit to another country may be off loaded at the international airports and seaports of New Zealand for reloading onto another aircraft or vessel provided that the following conditions are met:
 - the fresh produce are held in pest proof containers.
 - the consignment shall be stored separately from other plant material to the satisfaction of an inspector.
 - the consignment shall remain at the airport or wharf of arrival.

Part 2: Specific Requirements

2.1 Phytosanitary requirements

2.1.1 Phytosanitary inspection

- (1) The NPPO must:
- ensure that the consignment meets the requirements of Part 1: *General Import Requirements*;
 - sample and visually inspect each consignment using 10x magnification, according to official procedures for all the regulated pests specified in Part 3: *Pre-export Requirements for Specified Regulated Pests*;
 - verify that the measures for fruit flies, arthropods and fruit pathogens (where applicable) have been applied as per Part 3.2: *Basic Measures*, Part 3.3: *Targeted Measures*, and Part 3.4: *MPI-Specified Measures*;
 - if visually detectable pests are found which are not listed in this IHS, the certifying NPPO must establish their regulatory status prior to issuing the certificate;
 - verify that the number of packages containing fresh banana fruit is consistent with the number treated (where applicable) and traceability labelling is complete.

Guidance

- A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if viable regulated pest(s) are detected, unless the consignment is treated in order to eliminate these.
- If a visually detectable pest is not listed in BORIC, the certifying NPPO may contact MPI to establish the regulatory status of the pest.
- Information about the regulated pests for New Zealand is available in [BORIC](#).

2.1.2 Phytosanitary declarations

- (1) The NPPO must issue a phytosanitary certificate to accompany each consignment of fresh banana fruit exported to New Zealand with the following declarations:
- "This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by New Zealand and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of New Zealand, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests".

AND

- "The plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have undergone the prescribed measures for the management of specified quarantine pests required by New Zealand".

AND (where applicable)

- "The plant products described herein have been sourced from {Name of Pest Free Area} recognised as a pest free area for specified pests by New Zealand".
- (2) Full details of end point measures, as listed in Part 3.3: *Targeted Measures* and Part 3.4: *MPI-Specified Measures*, **must** be included in the disinfestation and /or disinfection treatment area of the phytosanitary certificate or as an endorsed attachment to the phytosanitary certificate;
- all details of measures including duration, temperature, chemical (active ingredient) and concentration must be recorded.
- (3) Where the consignment is treated in transit, the words "treated in-transit" must be included in the disinfestation and /or disinfection treatment area of the phytosanitary certificate.

Guidance

- Regulated pests that require specific measures are found in Part 3: *Pre-export Requirements-Specified Regulated Pests*.

2.1.3 Phytosanitary certification

- (1) Importers must ensure that a completed phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country's National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) accompanies each consignment.
- (2) The phytosanitary certificate must be issued in accordance with:
 - a) ISPM 7: *Phytosanitary Certification System*; and
 - b) ISPM 12: *Phytosanitary Certificates*; and
 - c) ISPM 23: *Guidelines for Inspection*.
- (3) The phytosanitary certificate must contain sufficient detail to enable identification of the consignment and its component parts. Information must include country/place of origin and meet the requirements listed in Part 2.1: *Phytosanitary Requirements* and Part 3: *Pre-export Requirements for Specified Regulated Pests*.

Guidance

- A phytosanitary certificate should not be issued if viable regulated pest(s) are detected, unless the consignment is treated in order to eliminate these.
- Country/place of origin is defined as country where the plants, from which the plant products are derived, were grown or place of origin; where the commodity was grown or produced.

Part 3: Pre-export Requirements for Specified Regulated Pests

3.1 Regulated pest list

- (1) The full list of regulated and non-regulated pests for New Zealand can be found in BORIC (<http://archive.mpi.govt.nz/applications/boric>).

Guidance

- A list of regulated pests associated with bananas from China will be included in the Export Plan and is available on request to MPI.

3.2 Basic Measures

- (1) Fresh banana fruit must be sourced from production sites that produce fruit commercially using standard cultivation, pest-control, harvesting, inspection and packing activities.

3.3 Targeted Measures

- (1) The negotiated and agreed export plan must record the procedures used for the application of Targeted Measures.
- (2) Targeted Measures must be applied in addition to the Basic Measures used as part of commercial production.

3.3.1 Pests requiring Targeted Measures

- (1) There are no pests requiring Targeted Measures on this commodity.

3.4 MPI- Specified Measures

- (1) The negotiated and agreed export plan must record the procedures used for the application of MPI- Specified Measures.
- (2) MPI- Specified Measures must be applied prior to export to New Zealand in addition to the Basic Measures and any Targeted Measures as part of commercial production.
- (3) The following pests may require one (or more) MPI- Specified Measures to be applied prior to export to New Zealand.

3.4.1 Pests requiring MPI- Specified Measures

- (1) Fruit flies of economic importance to New Zealand that are associated with fresh banana fruit include:
 - a) *Bactrocera dorsalis*

3.4.2 Pest Free Areas

- (1) The NPPO must operate and manage pest free areas in compliance with ISPM 26: *Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)* (IPPC 2006).
- (2) The official operating manual for the management of pest free areas must be reviewed by MPI prior to the export country receiving approval for export.

- (3) No additional measures are required where 'country freedom' status is recognised for the export country.
- (4) The management of the pest free area is subject to audit by MPI.

3.4.3 Maturity as a measure

- (1) Fresh banana fruit harvested, packed and shipped in the mature hard green stage are considered as non-host for fruit flies of economic importance to New Zealand.

Appendix 1: Definitions

Definitions have the same meaning as defined by the Act and ISPM 5: *Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms* (2012), unless set out below:

BORIC

Biosecurity Organisms Register for Imported Commodities: MPI database which informs on the quarantine status for an organism as either regulated or non-regulated for New Zealand.

Consignment

One or more lots imported by one importer, on one conveyance at one time, and covered by one phytosanitary certificate.

Note 1: Commercial consignments are unaccompanied consignments covered by an airway bill/bill of lading intended for resale.

Note 2: Private consignments are accompanied consignments imported as personal property.

Country/place of origin

Country/place of origin is defined as country where the plants, from which the plant products are derived, were grown or place of origin; where the commodity was grown or produced [IPPC].

FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

IPPC

International Plant Protection Convention.

ISPM

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (IPPC).

NPPO

National Plant Protection Organisation – the official organisation established by a government to discharge the functions specified by the IPPC.

Non-regulated pest

Non-regulated organisms are those organisms for which phytosanitary actions would not be undertaken if they were intercepted/ detected. These may include new organisms which could not establish in New Zealand.

Pathway

A series of activities that, when carried out according to documented procedures, form a discrete and traceable export system.

Pest

Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plant or plant products [IPPC].

Regulated pest

A quarantine pest or a regulated non-quarantine pest (ISPM 5: *Glossary of phytosanitary terms*).

Viable

Any organism that is capable of development and/or reproduction, including pest, plants, seeds and other organisms that have not been through a de-vitalisation or sterilisation treatment.

Appendix 2: Amendment Record

The following table provides a summary of the last amendment to the IHS for fresh banana fruit for consumption from PRC.

Schedule:	Details:	Date: