



5 April 2018

Importers and Treatment Suppliers

### HCN Fumigation Notice V3

This notice is to further clarify conditions for HCN treatment when used to treat infested produce on arrival.

There are three scenarios where bananas and pineapples are treated on arrival and each requires a different approach to get the best biosecurity outcome:

#### Container Fumigation for Hitchhiking Insects

Where pests are detected within the container when the door is opened, they need to be assessed by an inspector as to how the pest/s are dealt with. Depending on the pest, a knockdown spray, the container devanned and the empty container may need to be treated or fumigation of the container and contents with an Approved Biosecurity Treatment prior to devanning. Ant infestations need to be assessed as to the level and location of infestation as the container may need to be covered and fumigated either before or after devanning.

If on inspection of the produce, it is found to be infested, then treatment with FVT6 is required with either of the two methods below.

#### Ripening Room Fumigation

Where the consignment of containerised produce has been inspected and found to require treatment with FVT6 and the fumigation is going to occur in a ripening room, then the pallets need to be devanned, the banana carton liners plucked, cut and the pallets loaded into the ripening room for treatment. Each pallet must have a gap between it on the side of the handles to allow gas circulation.

#### Container Fumigation of the Infested Bananas or Pineapples

**Bananas** - where the consignment of containerised produce has been inspected, found to require treatment with FVT6 and the fumigation is going to occur in a container then the pallets need to be devanned, the banana carton liners plucked, cut and the pallets reloaded into two containers with space between the pallets.

**Pineapples** - the 50% load factor for FVT6 does not have to be applied when cartons/trays have no lids (normally these are from Ecuador).

This is due to HCN being sensitive to sorption by packaging and to ensure the gas distributes properly requires a load factor of no more than 50%.

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