



# Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme Australia

## NIASA: **BANANA** NURSERY STOCK SPECIFICATION

Best Management Practice Guidelines for Banana Nursery Stock Production as an Appendix to the

## NIASA BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE GUIDELINES



Setting the Standards

Banana Nursery Stock Specification



Setting the Standards



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# BANANA NURSERY STOCK SPECIFICATION

## 1 Introduction

Nursery production of 'high health' banana planting material and establishing an industry specification is recognised within Australia as playing an important role in supporting the Australian banana production industry. Purchasers of banana planting material, and regulatory authorities, require assurance that plants purchased and moved between interstate and intrastate biosecurity zones meet an industry standard and that appropriate steps have been taken to minimise the risk of introduction of serious pathogens into the production environment.

The Quality Banana Approved Nursery (QBAN) Scheme, previously administered by the Queensland Government and overseen by the Australian Banana Growers Council (ABGC), has been recognised as the Australian banana industry's scheme to provide clean planting material to industry members.

The incorporation of these **Banana Nursery Stock Specifications** into the NIASA Guidelines does not mean a business will automatically be granted QBAN accreditation upon compliance to these NIASA requirements.

Achievement of QBAN accreditation requires a business to first attain compliance to the NIASA Guidelines and these **Banana Nursery Stock Specifications**. A NIASA – Banana Nursery Stock Specification certified business can then apply to ABGC for QBAN accreditation which will be awarded by ABGC if appropriate.

This certification arrangement allows for a business to be certified in one or more activities associated with banana production, those being:

- PART A - Sourcing or collection of material for tissue culture initiation; **and/or**
- PART B - Tissue culture production requirements; **and/or**
- PART C - Banana nursery plant production requirements.

In order for a business to be eligible to apply to ABGC for QBAN accreditation, the business **must**:

- implement the requirements specified within this Appendix and other requirements of NIASA (e.g., production nursery requirements for businesses accredited under PART C) based on the scope of the activity or activities conducted (PART A and/or PART B and/or PART C); **AND**
- be found at audit to have implemented mandatory procedures (indicated through use of the term **must**) within this Appendix to a **Satisfactory standard**.

In circumstances where movement controls regulations are in place, for example for moving banana plants and plant material (including suckers, bells or pieces of corm for tissue culture initiation) from, within or into a biosecurity zone, a business **must** also hold certification under BioSecure HACCP and comply with any relevant Entry Condition Compliance Procedure (ECCP) for that movement, **OR** alternatively meet movement requirements imposed within or between jurisdictions through agreed independent arrangements provided for by those jurisdictions.