Biosecurity Update – Market access arrangements for the treatment or inspection or secure packing of carrier nursery stock for Tomato-Potato Psyllid (TPP) (NSW and SA)

19 December 2025

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Current situation

Agriculture Victoria has finalised and released additional market access arrangements to assist nurseries to self-certify produce for movement to sensitive markets in interstate jurisdictions. Today, 'PS-59: Treatment or inspection or secure packing of carrier nursery stock for Tomato-Potato Psyllid' has been released.

This procedure applies to accredited businesses responsible for preparing carrier nursery stock for interstate entry under requirements intended to prevent the movement of TPP. It covers the certification of:

- treatment, inspection or secure packing required under **New South Wales** entry conditions, and
- inspection or secure packing required under **South Australian** entry conditions.

The procedure describes the actions and responsibilities necessary to ensure carrier nursery stock complies with these jurisdictional entry conditions before dispatch.

Carrier nursery stock is defined as any plant or planting material from the Plantae kingdom. Seeds, tubers, and bulbs that do not have green plant material attached are exempt. This definition includes food and non-food carrier nursery stock.

Plants and planting material from the *Convolvulaceae* and *Solanaceae* family of plants cannot be certified under this arrangement.

Implications for businesses

From 8 December, businesses sending plants or produce interstate must meet the destination state's entry requirements. Depending on the destination, consignments may require:

- a Plant Health Certificate, or
- a Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC) from an accredited business.

Businesses should monitor Agriculture Victoria's website for updates.

Process for accreditation

The process for business accreditation will take about 5 - 10 working days after a complete application is submitted. The processing time depends on applicants providing correct and complete information and rapidly responding to communications from Agriculture Victoria.

- The accreditation process requires multiple steps by Agriculture Victoria and the applicant.
- Required eLearning modules replace the initial audit.
- A Certificate of Accreditation is issued after assessments are passed.
- You cannot operate under an accreditation until the certificate is issued.

Please note the following when working through the accreditation process:

- You must complete part 1 and part 2 and/or part 3 of the application form depending on whether you have a current arrangement with Agriculture Victoria.
- Ensure you complete all sections of the application form and include any required attachments.
- All potential staff from a business who may sign PHAC books on behalf of the business need to complete an **Authorised Signatory form** and submit it with your application.
- You must pass the assessment to receive accreditation. The assessment is challenging to maintain
 rigour in the process, and successful completion requires reading all content in the modules. You may
 need to take the assessment multiple times if you don't pass on your first attempt.
- Businesses authorising multiple staff should submit signatory certificates together to speed up processing.

For more information visit: agriculture.vic.gv.au/tpp

About TPP

Tomato potato psyllid is a sapsucking insect affecting *Solanaceae* and *Convolvulaceae* crops. It can spread the bacterium that causes **zebra chip** in potatoes, though Victoria and Australia, remain free of the bacterium. TPP detections in Melbourne (2025) and the Bellarine Peninsula (2024) have triggered new interstate movement restrictions from **8 December 2025**.

Agriculture Victoria is working with other states to restore market access.

Interstate quarantine requirements

Businesses must check host/carrier lists and rules for each state. You will find the information on this web page: <u>Tomato potato psyllid information for businesses | Tomato potato psyllid | Priority pest insects and mites |</u>
Pest insects and mites | Biosecurity | Agriculture Victoria.

Also check the current import conditions for TPP in each state:

- New South Wales: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/dpi/biosecurity/plant-biosecurity/market-access-and-trade/nsw-movement-zones/movement-conditions-for-plants,-plant-products-and-related-items (search for "TPP")
- Tasmania: nre.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/biosecurity/importing-plants (search for "Import Requirement 46 Tomato Potato Psyllid Hosts and Carriers")
- **South Australia:** <u>interstatequarantine.org.au/new-condition-17-entry-conditions/</u> (includes PDF link and recent changes)
- Queensland: www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/biosecurity/plants/priority-pest-disease/tomato-potato-psyllid
- **Northern Territory:** daf.nt.gov.au/publications/publications-search/publications-database/primary-industry/plants/plant-health-manual.pdf (search for "Condition 23 for TPP")

Drought relief for accreditation fees

Under the Victorian Government Drought Support Package:

- Plant biosecurity fees remain at 2024–25 levels.
- From **1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026**, specific fees (application, audits, travel and non-conformance reports) are waived for TPP-related market access activities.

More information about plant biosecurity fees can be found at: agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/moving-plants-and-plant-products/fees-and-charges-for-plant-biosecurity-services

Reporting an unusual plant insect pest or disease

Report any unusual plant pest or disease immediately using our <u>online reporting form</u> or by calling the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

Please take multiple good quality photos of the pests or damage to include in your report where possible, as this is essential for rapid pest and disease diagnosis and response.

Your report will be responded to by an experienced staff member, who may seek more information about the detection and explain next steps.

More information

Webinars, packing-shed posters (<u>Collateral</u>) and detailed guidance are available on the Agriculture Victoria TPP webpage: <u>agriculture.vic.gov.au/tpp</u>