# Biosecurity Update – Irradiation treatment for Tomato-Potato Psyllid

8 December 2025

#### **Current situation**

'ICA-55: irradiation treatment', covers the requirements to treat for tomato-potato psyllid (TPP) providing an additional treatment option for businesses trading to interstate markets. Fresh fruit, vegetables, and cut flowers treated under ICA-55 for TPP can move safely across state borders. ICA-55 also sets out:

- How irradiation facilities should operate.
- The design and safety standards they must meet.
- The responsibilities of businesses and staff applying for certification of irradiated products.

#### **About TPP**

TPP is a small sap-sucking insect that affects *Solanaceae* and *Convolvulaceae* crops, causing direct feeding damage, and may transmit the bacterium <u>Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum (CLso)</u> which leads to zebra chip disease in potatoes. Infestations can significantly reduce crop yield and quality, making early detection and management critical for growers. Victoria remains free of CLso.

TPP was detected in Melbourne's northern suburbs in October 2025. This follows an earlier detection on the Bellarine Peninsula in 2024. While not widespread, this has resulted in interstate trade **restrictions that came into effect from Monday 8 December 2025.** Growers and businesses will need to comply with these restrictions if they are sending plants and produce interstate.

Agriculture Victoria is working with interstate counterparts to expedite market access arrangements to allow continued trade for businesses.

## Implications for businesses

With the detection of TPP outside the Restricted Area, businesses in Victoria need to comply with **destination jurisdiction entry requirements for TPP** when moving plants or produce interstate. Please contact the relevant destination state for specific requirements (see next section). There are different interstate requirements for hosts or carriers of TPP.

Consignments originating from Victoria may be subject to inspection, treatment and certification requirements by destination states. Depending on the destination state, you may need either:



- a Plant Health Certificate (issued by an Agriculture Victoria Authorised Officer), or
- a Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC) (issued by an approved accredited business).

There will be a two week 'grace' period during which education and awareness will be the focus of compliance activities by Biosecurity Tasmania. During this period importers/exporters are urged to familiarise themselves with the import requirements and make necessary arrangements to ensure you meet all conditions. A new version of the *Plant Biosecurity Manual Tasmania 2024 edition* with the revised IR46 will be issued in due course.

It is essential to stay updated via the Agriculture Victoria website as conditions and accreditation options evolve.

### Interstate quarantine requirements

For host and carrier produce lists and requirements for each jurisdiction, visit the Agriculture Victoria information for businesses webpage: <u>Tomato potato psyllid information for businesses | Tomato potato psyllid | Priority pest insects and mites | Pest insects and mites | Biosecurity | Agriculture Victoria.</u>

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

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

### Drought relief for accreditation fees

As part of the Victorian Government <u>Drought Support Package</u>, the <u>Duties and Fees Relief package</u> is helping to reduce the cost of doing business for Victorian primary producers.

For 2025-26, fees and charges remain at 2024-25 rates. From 1 October 2025 Agriculture Victoria waived specific plant biosecurity fees and charges. Other service delivery will be maintained at the standard rate for fees and charges.

Service delivery fee waivers, related to the changes in market access for TPP, will be applied to arrangement application fees, arrangement audits, including associated travel and issuance of non-conformance reports from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026.

More information about plant biosecurity fees can be found at:

https://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

Agriculture Victoria has held a number of webinars on movement restrictions and accreditation processes for industry sectors. Recordings of all webinars are available on the Agriculture Victoria information for businesses webpage: <a href="Tomato potato psyllid information for businesses">Tomato potato psyllid information for businesses</a> | Tomato potato psyllid | Priority pest insects and mites | Pest insects and mites | Biosecurity | Agriculture Victoria.

Packing shed posters for fruit and vegetable growers are also available on that webpage.

Visit the Agriculture Victoria website for more details about TPP: www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

For questions about this update, email: <a href="market.access@agriculture.vic.gov.au">market.access@agriculture.vic.gov.au</a>