Biosecurity Update – Inspection of Tomato-Potato Psyllid (TPP) host tubers, carrier produce and dormant nursery stock for freedom of green material (PS-62)

12 December 2025

Current situation

Agriculture Victoria has finalised and released further market access arrangements to assist potato and sweet potato growers, carrier produce growers, and nurseries to self-certify produce for movement to sensitive markets in interstate jurisdictions. Today, 'PS-62: Inspection of Tomato-Potato Psyllid host tubers, carrier produce and dormant nursery stock for freedom of green material' has been released.

This procedure covers certification of post-harvest inspected *Solanaceous* and *Convolvulaceous* tubers, carrier produce, and dormant nursery stock for interstate movement by a business operating under an accreditation arrangement. This procedure applies only to relevant commodities being sent to Queensland.

- Carrier produce includes cut flowers, foliage, fruit and vegetables that are not from *Solanaceae* or *Convolvulaceae* plant families, that are not exempted.
- Queensland exempts carrier fruit or vegetable, that are not Solanaceous and Convolvulaceous, that are
 prepared, stemmed, processed, graded, sorted or packed in a packing house and are free of green plant
 material.
- Dormant nursery stock includes plants from all families that are dormant and free of any green vegetative plant material such as leaves or green buds.

Implications for businesses

Now that restrictions are in effect, 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).

To support continued trade of plants and produce, Queensland has implemented a transition phase until 11.59pm 22 December 2025 providing Victorian businesses additional time to become accredited.



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

Process for accreditation

- Once your application is processed, you will receive links to the required eLearning module.
- The eLearning modules and assessments replace the usual face-to-face initial audit, streamlining the accreditation process.
- After successfully completing the module and assessments, you will be issued a Certificate of Accreditation.

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 or not 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 Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC) books on behalf of the business need to complete an Authorised Signatory form.
- 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.
- You cannot operate under an accreditation until you receive a Certificate of Accreditation from Agriculture Victoria. The certificate will be emailed to you once you have completed the training.

For more information and to apply visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/tpp.

About TPP

TPP is a small sap-sucking insect that affects *Solanaceae* and *Convolvulaceae* crops, causing direct feeding damage, and may transmit the bacterium *Candidatus* Liberibacter solanacearum (CLso) 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.

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 interstate quarantine requirements.

New South Wales: 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")

- Tasmania: <u>Importing Plants (Nursery Stock)</u> (search for 'Import Requirement 46 Tomato Potato
 Psyllid Hosts and Carriers') and <u>Group Permits (Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania</u>
- South Australia: https://interstatequarantine.org.au/new-condition-17-entry-conditions/ (includes PDF link and recent changes)
- Queensland: https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/biosecurity/plants/priority-pest-disease/tomato-potato-psyllid
- Northern Territory: https://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

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: Tomato potato psyllid information for businesses | 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 the above webpage. Visit the Agriculture Victoria website for more details about TPP: www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

For questions about this update, email: market.access@agriculture.vic.gov.au