

NATIONAL BANANA ROADSHOW SERIES

An event for growers –
showcasing banana industry
research, development and
extension

LEARN - CONNECT - GROW - REGISTER NOW!

ATHERTON

The Atherton International Club
60 Kennedy Hwy
Wednesday, **5 August**

TULLY

The Grandstand
Tully Showgrounds
Thursday, **6 August**

INNISFAIL

Brothers Leagues Club
Cnr Campbell & Ernest St
Friday, **7 August**

Doors will open at **8:30 am** for a **9:00 am start**. The main program will conclude at 1:00 pm, followed by lunch. The optional Fundamentals hour will run from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

KEY SPEAKERS



Leon Collins

(ABGC Chair) or ABGC Rep.
Update on key industry issues.



Dr Tony Pattison

Principal Nematologist - DPI
Systems approach to managing Panama disease.



Dr Lilia Carvalhais

Senior Research Fellow - QAAFI
Exotic banana diseases threatening Australia.



Richard Piper

Entomologist- DPI
Controlling bunch pests using softer biological options.

Plus research updates on:

- **Panama disease TR4** (ABGC)
- **Variety development** (DPI & QUT)
- **Yellow Sigatoka** (DPI)
- **Sooty blotch & flyspeck** (DPI)
- **Reef water quality** (DPI & Terrain NRM)

Interactive sessions:

- **'Speed date' a researcher** - direct, one-on-one Q&A with the experts.
- **Fundamentals hour!** *Optional session on bunch pests, leaf spot, and nematodes.*

Full program available at betterbananas.com.au

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED!

Connect with local growers and industry stakeholders



REGISTER NOW!

Free and open to all commercial banana growers and industry stakeholders.

Text: Tegan (0459 846 053) or Ingrid (0497 801 980)

Online: Scan QR code



The National Banana Roadshows are delivered as part of the National Banana Development and Extension Program (BA25001). This program is funded by Hort Innovation, using the banana research and development levy, co-investment from the Department of Primary Industries and contributions from the Australian Government. Hort Innovation is the grower-owned, not-for-profit research and development corporation for Australian horticulture.

**Hort
Innovation**

**BANANA
FUND**
better bananas
National Banana Development
and Extension Program



NATIONAL BANANA ROADSHOW SERIES

2026 FNQ Roadshow Agenda

Atherton 5 August - Tully 6 August – Innisfail 7 August
Doors open at 8:30 am for a **9:00 am start!**

Presentation	Presenter
Session 1 (9:00 – 9:40 am)	
Welcome and introduction to the new National Banana Development and Extension Program	Tegan Cavallaro & Ingrid Jenkins Senior Development Horticulturist Department of Primary Industries (DPI)
Update on important industry issues	Leon Collins Chair - Australian Banana Growers' Council (ABGC) or ABGC representative
Panama disease TR4 update	ABGC
Q&A	
Session 2 (9:40 – 10:15 am)	
From Panama disease to agroecology: how overseas banana research is helping protect FNQ growers	Dr Tony Pattison Principal Nematologist - DPI
Exotic banana diseases threatening northern Australia	Dr Lilia Carvalhais Senior Research Fellow - Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation
Practical tips for on-farm biosecurity	Tegan Cavallaro - DPI
Elevator pitches for research displays	
Morning tea break (15 minutes)	
Session 3 (10:30 – 10:55 am)	
Are we there yet? An update on Panama disease race 1 (R1) and tropical race 4 (TR4) resistant banana varieties	Jeff Daniells Principal Horticulturalist - DPI
Developing Cavendish bananas with TR4 resistance	Dr Anthony James – Senior Research Fellow Queensland University of Technology
Session 4 (10:55 – 11:20 am)	
Nutrient rate trial update	Alex Lindsay Senior Research Agronomist - DPI
Water quality monitoring in banana catchments: practical water quality information for the banana industry	Alicia Buckle Project Leader, Waterway Health - Terrain NRM
Session 5 (11:20 – 11:55 am)	
Banana Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM) in FNQ: what we have learned so far	Richard Piper Entomologist - DPI
Sooty blotch and flyspeck (SBFS) complex: Current research findings	Kathy Grice Principal Experimentalist (Plant Pathology) - DPI
Update on yellow Sigatoka (leaf spot) research	David East Plant Pathologist - DPI
Session 6 (12:00 – 1:00 pm)	
'Speed date' the researchers	Small group activity
Lunch (1:00 – 2:00 pm)	
Fundamentals session – optional (2:00 – 3.00 pm) <i>Featuring banana bunch pests, leaf spot and nematodes</i>	Small group activity