

Queensland Fruit Fly

ICA-13: Unbroken Skin Condition
Version 1.0

REVISION REGISTER

Date of Issue	Amendment Details
01/02/2011	Version 1: new document

© State Government of Victoria, Department of Primary Industries 2011

This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968.

ISBN 978-1-74264-648-0 (print)

ISBN 978-1-74264-649-7 (online)

For further clarification or advice on any area covered in this publication, please contact Plant Standards on (03) 9210 9390 or at www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb

Authorised by the Victorian Government
Department of Primary Industries
Plant Standards
621 Burwood Highway, Knoxfield, Victoria 3156

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Contents

1. Purpose	5
2. Scope.....	5
3. References	5
4. Definitions	5
5. Responsibility	7
6. Requirement	8
7. Sorting.....	8
7.1. Identification and Control of Nonconforming Fruit	8
7.2. Packing	9
7.2.1. Identification of Conforming and Nonconforming Fruit.....	9
7.3. Packed Product Inspection	9
7.3.1. Sample Selection	9
7.3.2. Examination of the Sample	9
7.3.3. Identification of Sample Packages.....	10
7.3.4. Action Following Identification of Nonconforming Fruit	10
7.3.5. Rejected Product	11
7.3.6. Packed Product Inspection Records	11
7.4. Dispatch	11
7.4.1. Package Identification	11
7.4.2. Assurance Certificate.....	12
7.4.3. Assurance Certificate Distribution	12
8. Accreditation	12
8.1. Application for Accreditation.....	12
8.2. Audit Process	13
8.2.1. Initial Audit	13
8.2.2. Compliance Audits	13
8.2.3. Re-Accreditation	13
8.3. Certificate of Accreditation.....	13
8.4. Non-conformances and Sanctions.....	14
8.4.1. Non-conformances	14
8.4.2. Incident Reports	14
8.4.3. Suspension and Cancellation	14
8.4.4. Prosecution	14
9. Records and Document Control	15

9.1. ICA System Records 15

9.2. ICA System Documentation 15

10. **Attachments** 15

1. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to describe:

- (a) the principles of operation, design features and standards required; and
- (b) the responsibilities and practices of personnel;

that apply to the certification of unbroken skin condition of approved fruits under an Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) arrangement.

2. Scope

This procedure covers all certification of unbroken skin condition of approved fruits from businesses operating under an ICA arrangement in Victoria.

Approved fruits means fruit of durian, jaboticaba, jackfruit, longan, lychee, mangosteen, rambutan and pomegranate.

This procedure is applicable where the requirements specified in section 6. Requirements are a specified condition of entry of an interstate quarantine authority for fruit fly.

Certification of unbroken skin condition for approved fruits under this procedure may not be an accepted quarantine entry condition for all intrastate and interstate markets.

Some intrastate and interstate markets may require additional certification for pests and diseases other than fruit fly as a condition of entry.

It is the responsibility of the business consigning the produce to ensure compliance with all applicable quarantine requirements.

Information on intrastate and interstate quarantine requirements can be obtained from the Plant Standards Branch for your district.

3. References

PSW-02 Guidelines for Completion of Plant Health Assurance Certificates

Plant Health and Plant Products Act 1995 (the Act)

4. Definitions

Accredit	means to accredit persons to issue Assurance Certificates under the <i>Plant Health and Plant Products Act 1995</i> .
Approved Fruit	means fruit of durian, jaboticaba, jackfruit, longan, lychee, mangosteen, rambutan and pomegranate.
Assurance Certificate	means a Plant Health Assurance Certificate [FDU 384].
Authorised Inspector	means a person authorised under the Act.

Authorised Signatory	means a person whose name and specimen signature is provided as an authorised signatory on the application for accreditation.
Broken Skin	means any pre-harvest crack, puncture, pulled stem or other break of the skin that penetrates through to the flesh and has not healed with callus tissue.
Business	means the legal entity responsible for the operation of the facility and ICA arrangement detailed in the business' application for accreditation.
Callus Tissue	means new tissue formed to heal an earlier injury or wound.
Certification Assurance	means a voluntary arrangement between the Department of Primary Industries and a Business that demonstrates effective in-house quality management and provides assurance through documented procedures and records that produce meets specified requirements.
Certified/Certification	means a Plant Health Certificate issued by a department of Agriculture of another state or territory or a Plant Health Assurance Certificate issued by an accredited business.
Consignment	means a discrete quantity of packages consigned to the one business at the one time covered by a single Plant Health Assurance Certificate or Plant Health Certificate.
Durian	means fruit of the species <i>Durio zibethinus</i> .
Facility	means the property where the produce is grown and pre-harvest treatment is carried out, and where the grading and packing operations are carried out.
Flesh	means the tissues that are normally eaten, and for mangosteens , the flesh shall include the pith of the shell.
Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA)	means a system of Certification Assurance developed to meet the requirements of State and Territory governments for the certification of produce for quarantine purposes.
Jaboticaba	means fruit of the species <i>Myrciaria cauliflora</i> .
Jackfruit	means fruit of the species <i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> .
Longan	means fruit of the species <i>Euphoria longan</i> .
Lychee	means fruit of the species <i>Litchi chinensis</i> .
Mangosteen	means fruit of the species <i>Garcinia mangostana</i> .
Package	means the complete outer covering or container used to transport and market the product.
Packed product	means fruit in packages following grading and packing and ready for marketing.
Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC)	means certification issued by an Authorised Signatory of an accredited business.

Pomegranate	means fruit of the species <i>Punica granatum</i> .
Queensland fruit fly	means all stages of the species <i>Bactrocera tryoni</i> .
Rambutan	means fruit of the species <i>Nephelium lappaceum</i> .
Skin	means the outer layer(s) of the fruit that encloses the flesh.

5. Responsibility

The position titles used reflect the responsibilities of staff under the agreement. These positions may not be present in all businesses, or different titles may be used for staff who carry out these responsibilities. One person may carry out the responsibilities of more than one position.

The **Certification Controller** is responsible for:

- representing the business during audits and other matters relevant to ICA accreditation;
- ensuring the business has current accreditation under this procedure;
- training staff in their duties and responsibilities under this procedure;
- ensuring the business and its staff comply with their responsibilities and duties;
- ensuring all preparation of fruit for certification of unbroken skin condition is carried out in accordance with this procedure;
- overseeing and supervising the sorting and packing process;
- investigating and rectifying any problems following detection of a nonconformity;
- instigating corrective action following rejection of packed product.

Sorters/Packers are responsible for:

- ensuring nonconforming fruit are identified and controlled to prevent mixing with conforming fruit.

The **Packed Product Controller** is responsible for:

- sampling and inspecting packages;
- identifying all sample packages;
- taking corrective action following identification of nonconforming fruit in any sample package ;
- maintaining records of packed product inspection.

The **Authorised Dispatcher** is responsible for:

- ensuring all packages containing fruit covered by an Assurance Certificate issued by the business are identified;
- maintaining copies of all Assurance Certificates issued by the business.

The **Authorised Signatories** are responsible for:

- ensuring that, prior to signing and issuing an Assurance Certificate, produce covered by the certificate has been prepared in accordance with this procedure and that the details on the certificate are true and correct in every particular.

6. Requirement

Fruit certified for unbroken skin condition under this procedure must comply with the following requirements -

1. Unbroken skin which means the skin has no pre-harvest crack, puncture, pulled stem or other break that penetrates through to the flesh and has not healed with callus tissue; and
2. for rambutan to Western Australia only must not be over-ripe which means -
 - (a) the skin has a dull appearance and a lack of lustre;
 - (b) the skin is a dark maroon colour;
 - (c) the flesh is not firm and not translucent;
 - (d) the flesh has a winey and over-ripe taste.

The Department of Primary Industries and interstate quarantine authorities maintain the right to inspect certified produce at any time and to refuse to accept a certificate where produce is found not to conform to specified requirements.

7. Sorting

The business shall implement sorting systems during the grading and packing process to ensure fruit meets specified requirements (refer 6).

Any fruit which does not conform to the specified requirements shall be regarded as nonconforming and shall be rejected for certification under this Procedure.

The Certification Controller shall supervise the sorting operation to ensure that any fruit that does not conform to these specified requirements is clearly identified and segregated to prevent mixing with conforming product.

Businesses should avoid packing durians or jackfruits for certification with partial cracks or splits in the skin which may open further after packing and penetrate through to the flesh thereby exposing the fruit to infestation by fruit fly.

7.1. Identification and Control of Nonconforming Fruit

The business shall ensure that no mixing of conforming and nonconforming fruit can occur during the sorting and packing operation.

All fruit that are found to be nonconforming (ie. do not meet the requirements listed in 6. Requirement) shall be segregated to prevent mixing with conforming product.

Examples of segregation of nonconforming fruit shall include -

- (a) locating nonconforming fruit in a defined and separate area to conforming fruit and maintaining separation until the fruit is graded and packed; or
- (b) placing nonconforming fruit in bins or other containers which are clearly marked or significantly different in appearance to distinguish them from conforming fruit.

Other methods may be used provided nonconforming product is segregated.

7.2. Packing

A business which packs both conforming (ie. meets the requirements listed in 6. Requirement) and nonconforming fruit shall implement systems to identify the condition status of fruit after packing to prevent mixing of conforming and nonconforming fruit.

7.2.1. Identification of Conforming and Nonconforming Fruit

Examples of acceptable methods of identifying the condition status of conforming and nonconforming fruit after packing include -

- (a) using packaging that differs significantly in appearance; or
- (b) immediately marking each package of conforming fruit in a manner that clearly identifies the fruit as conforming to the requirements specified under this procedure

7.3. Packed Product Inspection

The Packed Product Controller shall continually monitor the grading and packing process by selecting a sample for examination from the packed product.

The Packed Product Controller shall advise the Certification Controller of any problems or potential problems detected in these samples so that corrective action can be implemented.

Packed Product Inspections may be carried out as an:

- (a) in-line inspection during grading and packing; or
- (b) end-point inspection following assembly of a consignment.

The Packed Product Controller shall ensure that packed product is stacked in an orderly fashion so that produce packed since the last sample package can be easily identified.

7.3.1. Sample Selection

The Packed Product Controller shall select a minimum of one package in every 50 packages or part thereof.

- **In-Line Inspection**

Samples shall be selected at random from the final packed product as it leaves the packing line.

- **End-Point Inspection**

Samples shall be selected at random from the consignment following consignment assembly.

7.3.2. Examination of the Sample

The Packed Product Controller shall carry out 100% inspection of the fruit from each sample package for compliance with the requirements in 6. Requirement.

Each fruit in the sample package shall be removed

Each fruit in the sample package shall be removed and examined for broken skin and, where applicable for rambutan to Western Australia, ripeness.

Broken skin includes any pre-harvest crack, puncture, pulled stem or other break of the skin that penetrates through to the flesh and has not healed with callus tissue.

Not over-ripe means -

- the skin has a dull appearance and a lack of lustre;
- the skin is a dark maroon colour;
- the flesh is not firm and not translucent;
- the flesh has a winey and over-ripe taste.

7.3.3. Identification of Sample Packages

Sample packages shall be sequentially numbered during the day of packing.

The Packed Product Controller shall identify each sample package with a Packed Product Sample (PPS) number by placing either a stamp or sticker bearing the lettering PPS No. (Packed Product Sample Number) on the exposed end of the package, then marking on or below the identifier the sequential sample number and their initials.

Where consignments are palletised, the sample packages examined by the Packed Product Controller shall be stacked on the pallet with the PPS No. visible on the outside of each pallet packed for certification under this procedure.

An example of a Packed Product Sample stamp or sticker is shown as Attachment 3.

7.3.4. Action Following Identification of Nonconforming Fruit

The Certification Controller shall be notified of any rejection. The Certification Controller shall advise the grading and packing staff of the non-conformance and conduct an investigation to identify the cause.

- **In-Line Inspection**

If any sample package contains a fruit that does not meet the requirements, the Packed Product Controller shall:

- (a) reject the sample package;
- (b) withdraw and isolate all product packed since the previous sample package was selected; and
- (c) stop the packing line.

Once problems have been identified and rectified, grading and packing may recommence.

The Packed Product Controller shall note in the "Comments" section of the Packed Product Inspection Record next to the entry for the sample package which failed inspection, the reason for failure and the number of withdrawn packages (Attachment 2).

Following resumption of grading and packing, the Packed Product Controller shall select an additional three (3) sample packages from the withdrawn packages.

The Packed Product Controller shall carry out 100% inspection of the fruit in the additional sample packages for conformance with the specified requirements (see 6).

Additional sample packages shall be given the next three (3) Packed Product Sample (PPS) numbers after the package that initially failed inspection. The inspection results shall be entered on the Packed Product Inspection Record.

If all three additional sample packages are found to conform, the withdrawn packages and the three sample packages may be accepted and returned to the product assembly point.

If any of the additional sample packages contain nonconforming fruit, all withdrawn packages shall be rejected.

- **End-Point Inspection**

If any sample package contains a fruit with broken skin the entire consignment shall be rejected.

The Packed Product Controller shall note in the “Comments” section of the Packed Product Inspection Record next to the entry for any sample package which failed inspection, the reason for failure and the number of packages in the rejected consignment.

7.3.5. Rejected Product

All rejected packages shall be isolated and clearly identified to prevent mixing with conforming packages.

Packages rejected for broken skins must be either:

- regraded, repacked and reinspected in accordance with this section prior to certification under this procedure;
- treated and certified in accordance with an alternative quarantine entry condition; or
- consigned to markets for which there are no quarantine restrictions concerning fruit fly.

Packages rejected for live fruit fly larvae must be either:

- (a) treated and certified in accordance with an alternative quarantine entry condition; or
- (b) consigned to markets for which there are no quarantine restrictions concerning fruit fly.

7.3.6. Packed Product Inspection Records

The Packed Product Controller shall maintain records of the results of product inspection.

Packed product inspection records shall be in the form of a Unbroken Skin Condition Packed Product Inspection Record (Attachment 3) or a record which captures the same information.

7.4. Dispatch

7.4.1. Package Identification

The Authorised Dispatcher shall ensure that, after treating and packing, each package is marked in indelible and legible characters of at least 5 mm, with:

- the Interstate Produce (IP) number of the business that operates the facility in which the produce was packed;
- the words “MEETS ICA-13”; and
- the date (or date code) on which the fruit was packed.

Where the packer uses a different identifier to the IP number of the grower, the packer must maintain a Grower Identifier Record that matches the grower identifiers used with the grower’s name or IP number so the grower can be easily identified if required.

Any packages containing fruit that has not been pre-harvest treated and inspected in accordance with the requirements of this procedure shall not be marked as stated above.

7.4.2. Assurance Certificate

The Authorised Dispatcher shall ensure an Assurance Certificate is completed and signed by an Authorised Signatory of the Business prior to consigning to a market requiring certification of unbroken skin condition for fruit fly.

Assurance Certificates shall be in the form of a Plant Health Assurance Certificate ([Attachment 1](#)).

Assurance Certificates shall include:

(a) in the “Accredited Business that Prepared the Produce” section:

- the name and address of the Accredited Business that packed the fruit;

(b) in the “Grower or Packer” section:

- the name and address of the Accredited Business that packed the fruit;

(c) in the “IP No. of Acc. Business” section:

- the IP No. of the Accredited Business that packed the fruit;

(d) in the “Additional Certification” section:

- the additional certification “

All approved fruit (except rambutans to Western Australia) -

“Inspected and found free from broken skins.”

Rambutans to Western Australia –

“Inspected and found free from broken skins and not over-ripe.”

Individual Assurance Certificates shall be issued to cover each consignment to avoid splitting of consignments.

Assurance Certificates shall be completed issued and distributed in accordance with the Work Instruction Guidelines for Completion of Plant Health Assurance Certificates [PSW-02].

7.4.3. Assurance Certificate Distribution

The **original** (yellow copy) must accompany the consignment.

The **duplicate** (white copy) must be retained by the Business.

8. Accreditation

8.1. Application for Accreditation

A Business seeking accreditation for an ICA arrangement under this Operational Procedure shall make application for accreditation at least 10 working days prior to the intended date of commencement of operation under the ICA arrangement.

8.2. Audit Process

8.2.1. Initial Audit

Prior to accrediting a business, an Inspector carries out an initial audit to verify the ICA system is implemented and capable of operating in accordance with the requirements of the procedure, and the system is effective in ensuring compliance with the specified requirements of the ICA arrangement.

On completion of a successful initial audit, applicants will be granted provisional accreditation and issued a Certificate of Accreditation.

8.2.2. Compliance Audits

Compliance audits are conducted to verify that the ICA system continues to operate in accordance with the requirements of this procedure.

Compliance audits are, wherever practical, conducted when the ICA system is operating.

A compliance audit is conducted:

- within four weeks of the initial audit and accreditation; and
- within twelve weeks of the business applying for reaccreditation; and
- in the case of a business operating for more than six months of a year, between six and nine months after accreditation or reaccreditation.

On completion of a successful audit, annual accreditation is granted to cover the current season, to a maximum of twelve months from the date of provisional accreditation (refer [8.3](#)).

Random audits are conducted on a number of businesses each year. Random audits may take the form of a full compliance audit, or audits of limited scope to sample treatment mixtures, certified produce, ICA system records or ICA system documentation.

Unscheduled compliance audits may be conducted at any time to investigate reported or suspected non-conformances.

8.2.3. Re-Accreditation

Accredited Businesses are required to re-apply for accreditation each year the business seeks to operate under the ICA arrangement. Businesses seeking re-accreditation must lodge a renewal application prior to accreditation lapsing, or if accreditation has lapsed, prior to commencing further certification of produce under the ICA arrangement.

8.3. Certificate of Accreditation

An accredited Business will receive a Certificate of Accreditation for an Interstate Certification Assurance Arrangement detailing the facility location, Operational Procedure, scope (type of produce covered) and period of accreditation.

The Business must maintain a current Certificate of Accreditation and make this available on request by an Inspector.

A Business may not commence or continue certification of produce under the ICA arrangement unless it is in possession of a valid and current Certificate of Accreditation for the procedure, produce type and chemical covered.

8.4. Non-conformances and Sanctions

8.4.1. Non-conformances

Audits are regularly undertaken to evaluate the effectiveness of implementation of ICA requirements. If, in the opinion of the auditor, there is evidence indicating that there has been a failure to meet one or more accreditation requirements, the auditor may raise a Non-conformance Report (NCR). Actions required to address the non-conformance shall be discussed and recorded on the NCR.

If the integrity of the accreditation has been significantly compromised, the non-conformance may provide grounds for the suspension or cancellation of the accreditation, and prosecution.

8.4.2. Incident Reports

Incident Reports may be raised by interstate quarantine authorities to report the detection of a non-conformance in produce certified under this ICA arrangement. An investigation into the incident shall be conducted and findings reported back to the originator.

If the integrity of the accreditation has been significantly compromised, the incident may provide grounds for the suspension or cancellation of the accreditation, and prosecution.

8.4.3. Suspension and Cancellation

The DPI may suspend or cancel an accreditation when an accredited business is found, for example, to have:

- obtained accreditation through the provision of false or misleading information;
- not paid fees owing to the DPI;
- contravened an accreditation requirement that compromises the integrity of the arrangement; and/or
- not rectified a non-conformance.

Any action taken by the DPI to suspend or cancel an accreditation shall be provided in writing to the Business. This shall also provide guidance on the lodgement of a written appeal requesting that the decision be reviewed.

8.4.4. Prosecution

Businesses found to be operating contrary to the Act may be liable for prosecution.

9. Records and Document Control

9.1. ICA System Records

The Business shall maintain the following records:

- (a) Unbroken Skin Condition Packed Product Inspection Record;
- (b) Packed Product Inspection Record; and
- (c) a copy of each Plant Health Assurance Certificate issued by the Business.

ICA system records shall be retained for a period of at least 24 months from completion, or until the next compliance audit of the ICA arrangement, whichever is the later.

ICA system records shall be made available on request by an Inspector.

9.2. ICA System Documentation

The Business shall maintain the following documentation:

- (a) a copy of the Business's current Application for Accreditation;
- (b) a current copy of this Operational Procedure; and
- (c) a current Certificate of Accreditation.

ICA system documentation shall be made available on request by an Inspector.

10. Attachments

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Attachment 1 | Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PSF-003, example) |
| Attachment 2 | Unbroken Skin Condition Packed Product Inspection Record (PSF-357) |
| Attachment 3 | Identification of Packed Product Sample Packages (PSF-015) |

Plant Health Assurance Certificate

Consignment Details (PLEASE PRINT)

CONSIGNOR	
Name	ABC PTY LTD
Address	STREET ROAD WANGARATTA VIC

CONSIGNEE	
Name	FRESH PRODUCE
Address	MELBOURNE WHOLESALE MARKETS WEST MELBOURNE

RECONSIGNEE TO (Splitting consignments or reconsigning whole consignments).	
Name	
Address	

BRAND NAME OR IDENTIFYING MARKS (as marked on packages)	DATE OR DATE CODE (as marked on packages)
abc produce	1/02/2011

Number of Packages	Type of Packages (e.g. trays, cartons)	Type of Produce	Authorisation for Split Consignment
20	Boxes	pomegranate	

Treatment Details

Treatment Date	Treatment	Chemical (Active Ingredient)	Concentration / Duration and Temperature

Additional Certification / Codes

Inspected and found free from broken skins

Declaration

I, an Authorised Signatory of the accredited business that prepared the plants or plant produce described above, hereby declare that the plants or plant produce have been prepared in the business's approved facility in accordance with the business's Certification Assurance arrangement and that the details shown above are true and correct in every particular. I acknowledge that it is an offence under the Plant Health and Plant Products Act 1995 to issue assurance certificates without being accredited and/ or making false statements in certificates and declarations.

A. Signature	ASIGN	1/02/2011
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE	DATE

IDENTIFICATION OF PACKED PRODUCT SAMPLE PACKAGES

Marking Sample Packages After Packed Product Inspection

Following inspection, the Packed Product Controller must –

- (a) mark one end of each sample package by applying a stamp or sticker with the PPS No. (Packed Product Sample No.) and their initials as shown below;
- (b) ensure that the PPS No. stamp or sticker is visible on the exposed end of the package when the package is assembled on the pallet.

Stamp or Sticker Design (Example Only)



Completed Stamp or Sticker (Example Only)

