

Explanation guide

Biosecurity (Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus) Control Order (No.2) 2024

Note: this is a summary only. All activity should be guided by the order, which is [available online](#).

Why is the Control Order in place?

[South Australia's Department of Primary Industries and Regions \(PIRSA\)](#) is currently responding to detections of tomato brown rugose fruit virus (ToBRFV) in tomatoes grown at three businesses in Northern Adelaide Plains, South Australia (SA). This is the first time the virus has been confirmed in Australia.

NSW remains free of ToBRFV.

A Control Order has been put in place to prevent the introduction of ToBRFV into NSW.

What does the Control Order mean?

The Control Order puts restrictions on the movement of ToBRFV into NSW from places in Australia where there has been a detection of ToBRFV. This currently is only 3 places in South Australia.

ToBRFV carriers include:

- ToBRFV host plants, including seedlings, fruit and seeds, of tomatoes, capsicums and chillis,
- soil that has been used to grow tomatoes, capsicums and chillis within the last 24 months,
- equipment, vehicles, and packaging that have been in contact with ToBRFV host plants or soil that has been used to grow host plants.

The control order also requires:

All carriers, except equipment, vehicles and packaging, regardless of where the item has been sourced from, must be labelled with the name and postcode of the town nearest to the place where the plant was grown or the soil sourced. This includes those States and Territories that do NOT have ToBRFV. Labelling allows NSW DPIRD staff to quickly identify if the carrier is from a ToBRFV free area and will allow consignments to be assessed and released quickly.

What is an infected holding?

An infected holding is all of the land and facilities on the holding on which ToBRFV has been detected. A holding may be a single parcel of land or several parcels of land if it has worked as a single business or enterprise. The entire holding is considered to be infected even if ToBRFV has only been detected in a single glasshouse as the virus is very easily moved through contaminated tools and clothing, on skin, plants, soil and water. ToBRFV can also survive on hard surfaces and in soil without a host for many months.

What is a linked holding?

A linked holding is all of the land and facilities on the property which has been connected to an infected holding either by;

- Sharing a boundary with an infected holding,
- Water from an infected holding, such as irrigation water or a stream, has been moved or flows onto the holding,
- A person who has been in contact with a ToBRFV carrier on an infected holding, such as a person working on a tomato crop, is in contact with host plants on the holding,
- A ToBRFV carrier, such as contaminated seed or equipment, fruit for packing, has been moved onto the holding.

How do you know if a holding is infected or linked?

For privacy reasons a list of ToBRFV infected and ToBRFV linked holdings can not be publicly released. However, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development will be able to make enquiries on your behalf if you are concerned that a holding you wish to move a ToBRFV carrier from in South Australia may be infected or linked. Please contact biosecurityplantapplications@dpiird.nsw.gov.au

Moving ToBRFV host fruit, such as tomatoes, into NSW

Area Freedom Certificate

An area freedom certificate (AFC) is a certificate held by a state/territory government which certifies that the state or territory, or part of a state or territory, is free of ToBRFV. If the state from which the fruit originates holds a current AFC, and the originating holding is not "linked", then that fruit can come into NSW if the consignment is labelled with the name and post code of the nearest town to where the fruit was grown.

Unlinked holding

If the fruit is being moved from a state or territory which does not yet have an AFC in place, or cannot issue an AFC, and you are moving ToBRFV host fruit (e.g. fresh tomatoes, chillis or capsicums) from a holding that is NOT "infected" or "linked", you will only have to label the consignment of ToBRFV host fruit with the name and post code of the nearest town to where the fruit was grown.

Linked holding

You may move host plant fruit, such as tomatoes, capsicums and chillis, from a ToBRFV linked holding provided the consignment has a Plant Health Certificate that certifies 1) the seed used for the crop has tested negative for ToBRFV and 2) the crop has been inspected by a government inspector prior to the first harvest and any suspect plants sampled and tested for ToBRFV and found free prior to consignment into NSW.

Infected holding

Moving host plant fruit from an infected holding into NSW is **prohibited**.

Moving ToBRFV host plants, such as tomato seedlings, into NSW

Area Freedom

If the state from which the host plants originate holds a current AFC, and the originating holding is not "linked", then those host plants can come into NSW if the consignment is labelled with the name and post code of the nearest town to where the host plants were grown.

Unlinked holding

If the state or territory from which the host plants originate does not yet have an AFC in place, or cannot issue an AFC, and the originating holding is NOT "infected" or "linked", you will only have to label the consignment of host plants with the name and post code of the nearest town to where the host plants were grown.

Linked holding

You may move a host plant, such as capsicum seedlings, from a "linked" holding provided the consignment has a Plant Health Certificate that certifies 1) the seed used for the crop has tested negative for ToBRFV and 2) the seedling crop has been sampled and tested by a government inspector and found negative for ToBRFV prior to consignment into NSW.

Infected holding

Moving ToBRFV host plants from an infected holding into NSW is **prohibited**.

Moving vehicles, equipment and packaging into NSW

Area Freedom Certificate

You may move ToBRFV used vehicles, machinery and equipment into NSW from a place that is in a State or Territory that holds a current AFC. Labelling is not required.

Unlinked holding

You may move ToBRFV used vehicles, machinery and equipment from a holding that is NOT “infected” or “linked” into NSW from any state or territory. Labelling is not required.

Linked holding

You may move ToBRFV used vehicles, machinery and equipment from a ToBRFV linked holding into NSW provided the equipment is accompanied by a Plant Health Certificate that certifies that all surfaces of the equipment or vehicle that have been in contact with a ToBRFV carrier, such as a chilli plant, have been decontaminated in an approved manner.

Infected holding

Moving ToBRFV used vehicles, machinery and equipment from an infected holding into NSW is **prohibited**.

Quick ToBRFV carrier movement guide table

	From a place with an Area Freedom Certificate in place or an unlinked holding to NSW	From a ToBRFV linked holding to NSW	From a ToBRFV infected holding to NSW
ToBRFV host fruit, such as tomatoes, chillies and capsicums	Consignments must be labelled with the source location (name and postcode of closest town)	Consignments must be accompanied with a Plant Health Certificate certifying that conditions have been met.	Prohibited
ToBRFV host seedlings, such as tomato seedlings	Consignments must be labelled with the source location (name and postcode of closest town)	Consignments must be accompanied with a Plant Health Certificate certifying that conditions have been met.	Prohibited
Any soil used to grow a ToBRFV host such as tomatoes, chillies and capsicums	Consignments must be labelled with the source location (name and postcode of closest town)	Prohibited	Prohibited
Used vehicles, equipment, machinery or packaging	No labelling required however please be aware you may be asked where the equipment or machinery has been last used.	Consignments must be accompanied with a Plant Health Certificate certifying the consignment has been treated.	Prohibited