



Grower Support

North Qld Banana Farm Business Case Study

identifying information has been removed

AT A GLANCE

A family business running two separate farm entities implemented compliance management software to reduce record keeping time and improve management arrangements

CHALLENGES



The farms recently lost their records administration officer, communication between the two farms was lacking and record keeping had fallen behind. Workers were unsure of their record keeping responsibilities. The annual audit was approaching and the farm management was feeling overwhelmed and unorganised.

SOLUTIONS



Grower Support completed a review of outstanding/out of date records and processes in place for managing compliance requirements. Each farm entity subscribed to Grower Support: compliance management software. All relevant regulatory bodies, schemes and programs were selected (10 in total). In addition to new administration officer, the farm owners were added to the system as admin users to benefit from features such as: inventory, general reminders, non-compliance management. Farm workers with record keeping responsibilities were added to the system with only their relevant forms/checklists assigned to them. Training was provided.



Process Review



Software
Implementation



Training

BENEFITS



1

Benefit One

Notifications were customised for each form/checklist for frequency of use and validation, ensuring record keeping would not fall behind.

2

Benefits Two

General task reminders and audit reminders were utilised by owners and managers to improve communication. All management meetings and toolbox meetings now have records of items discussed and action taken to improve accountability on the farm.

3

Benefits Three

Time spent on weekly record-keeping tasks (approximately 10 hours per week) greatly reduced. Also, paper-based audit preparation (including internal audit) for each farm would take around 3 to 5 business days, this has been reduced to a few hours.