



The Hon. David Littleproud MP
Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Steve Martin
Nationals Senator for Tasmania

J O I N T M E D I A R E L E A S E

Northern Tasmania declared fruit fly free

9 January 2019

- **Northern Tasmania reinstated as Pest Free Area, opening the door to domestic trade.**
- **Coalition Government provided \$20 million to assist with the outbreak response.**
- **Government is working with trading partners to get international trade going again.**

Northern Tasmania was today officially reinstated as a Pest Free Area, opening the door to domestic trade.

Minister for Agriculture David Littleproud and Senator for Tasmania Steve Martin welcomed the news as a positive step forward for the local horticultural industry.

“Northern Tasmania is officially fruit fly free,” Minister Littleproud said.

“No fruit flies have been detected in Northern Tasmania in the past six months thanks to eradication efforts and movement restrictions have been lifted.

“We are working with trading partners with the help of our overseas agriculture counsellors get international trade back up and running.

“For the fruit exporters of Northern Tasmania we are working to make this happen as soon as possible.”

Senator for Tasmania Steve Martin said the reinstatement is great news for Northern Tasmania farmers who will no longer be subject to strict movement conditions.

“I am thrilled Northern Tasmania has been declared fruit fly free and we can re-commence the domestic trade of our clean, green, well renowned produce,” Mr Martin said;

“Tasmania’s horticulture industry is an important contributor to the economy and our agriculture industry as a whole.

In the 2018–19 Budget, the Coalition Government provided \$20 million to the Tasmanian Government to support the state’s response to the Queensland fruit fly outbreak.

\$100,000 was also provided to Fruit Growers Tasmania to help producers prepare for and respond to biosecurity incidents.

The Coalition also recently announced \$16.9 million to support Australia’s ongoing commitment to a strong, effective, harmonised system for fruit fly management.

Media contact

LITTLEPROUD: Megan Dempsey, 0491 222 306

MARTIN: Murray Lees, 0436 424 750