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Thursday 23rd May 2019, 1:50 GMT

International visitors headline banana congress



Ecuadorian delegation offers global insights at Australian banana industry event

The opportunity to meet representatives from the world's largest banana exporter, Ecuador, will be one of the highlights of the 2019 Australian Banana Industry Congress, which continues today (23 May) on the Gold Coast.

The biennial event allows Australian growers and stakeholders to gather under one roof and discuss innovation, opportunity and on-farm techniques.

The Ecuadorian delegation consists of some of the country's top officials, giving all those in the Australian industry a chance to learn and share information with the world leaders.

The delegation includes Xavier Lazo, Ecuadorian minister for agriculture and livestock, Patricio Almeida, executive director of the Ecuadorian Agricultural Health Service and Juan Salazar, Ecuadorian ambassador to Australia.

Paul Inderbitzin, congress chair and council director of Australian Banana Growers, said visitors will learn how to deliver the best product for consumers into the future.

"This year's programme is aimed at giving growers the tools and motivation they need to take their banana businesses to the next level," Inderbitzin said.

"Whether it be the latest

research and development, an insight into marketing techniques or overcoming challenges posed by disease; ultimately it's all about delivering the best possible product into homes across the country."

Also speaking at the event, is Marc Jackson, special projects manager at Fyffes, one of the world's biggest banana businesses and Bernard Salt. He is joined on the programme by one of Australia's leading social commentators.