

Disease-resistant GMO bananas could save \$12 billion Cavendish global industry

A billion dollar banana industry at risk of a deadly disease could be saved by a scientific breakthrough from a Queensland university.

The Queensland University of Technology has genetically modified Cavendish bananas using a wild gene, resulting in strongly resistant and Panama (TR4) disease-free plants across a three-year trial.

Trial leader professor James Dale says it's a major step towards protecting the \$US12 billion (\$A17 billion) Cavendish global export business.

"TR4 can remain in the soil for more than 40 years and there is no effective chemical control for it. It is a huge problem," Prof Dale said.

"It has devastated Cavendish plantations in many parts of the world and it is spreading rapidly across Asia.

[Editor's note: Read the [full study](#)]

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: Qld uni grows Panama disease-free banana