

Notice Summary

Queensland Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle (Coastal Zone 1) Dimension Exemption Notice 2016

Purpose

The Queensland Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle (Coastal Zone 1) Dimension Exemption Notice 2016 (the Notice) will provide a dimension exemption to agricultural vehicles up to 4.0m wide travelling in certain Queensland regions within Zone 1.

This Notice will replace the Queensland Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle (Zone 1) Dimension Exemption Notice 2016, which expires on 31 August. This Notice was a trial notice that commenced in 2014 and has been amended and extended at two points previously. The current notice will transition the trial Notice to a full five year exemption.

Summary & History

The *Queensland Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle (Zone 1) Dimension Exemption Notice* was originally published in 2014. That Notice applied to Zone 1 from Gympie up to Cairns and authorized agricultural vehicles up to 4.0m wide to use critical and major roads without requiring a width exemption permit. It was expanded to include certain roads on the Gold Coast and was intended as a trial of these conditions.

Form 14 and other Zone 1 Notices

This Notice essentially modifies access provided in Queensland under the National Law and the transitional Form 14 Guideline for Excess Dimension Agricultural Vehicles & Agricultural Combinations (Form 14). The Notice is designed to allow better access for seasonal harvests, especially the sugar cane industry. A trial notice has been in place since 2014, which has been progressively refined up to this point with feedback from industry, Queensland Police Service (QPS) and the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR).

Form 14 uses a zonal system that divides Queensland into areas based on intensity of road use. Zone 1 refers to the most heavily populated regions, mostly along the eastern coast. It also uses a system of designating critical areas, critical roads and critical to help assess the suitability of given roads for given uses. These zones and road categories are provided in the Critical Areas and Roads in Queensland Map published by the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR).

As well as Form 14, this Notice will operate in conjunction with the *Queensland Heavy Vehicle Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle (Bundaberg Region 5.0m wide) Dimension Exemption Notice 2015*. This notice provides a width exemption for Bundaberg region only.

Exemption and eligible vehicles

This Notice applies to agricultural vehicles or combinations that are over 3.5m in width, but no wider than 4.0m.

“Agricultural Vehicles” includes harvesters, tractors, field bins, augers and other machines or implements built to perform agricultural tasks.

“Agricultural Combination” means a combination consisting of at least 1 agricultural vehicle where either the hauling unit or the towed vehicle is a heavy vehicle.

Other dimension limits for eligible vehicles are set out in Section 10 of the Notice.

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Other Dimension Limits:

Dimension	Maximum	Section
Height	5.0m	10(c)
Rear overhang: (agricultural machine or implement)	4.5m	10(b)(i)
Rear overhang: (auger, conveyor or cotton module builder)	5.5m	10(b)(ii)
Rear overhang: (harvester)	7.8m	10(b)(iii)
Length of agricultural machine other than a harvester	12.5m	10(a)(i)
Length of harvester	14.5m	10(a)(ii)
Length of articulated agricultural machine	19m	10(a)(iii)
Length of agricultural combination	25m	10(a)(iv)

Area of Operation

The Notice applies to critical, major and minor roads in the participating local government areas.

A minor road is any road other than a critical road (red) or a major road (blue) marked on the Critical Areas and Roads in Queensland Map on the TMR website.

(Link: www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Heavy-vehicles/Heavy-vehicle-guidelines-and-class-permits).

Participating Local Government Areas

Bundaberg†	Burdekin	Cairns
Cassowary Coast	Fraser Coast	Gladstone
Gold Coast*	Gympie	Hinchinbrook
Isaac	Livingstone	Mackay
Rockhampton	Townsville	Whitsunday

†This Notice does not apply to minor roads in the Bundaberg area. (See **Related Exemptions**)

*This Notice only applies to some minor roads in the cane growing region of the Gold Coast.

Conditions

The width exemption of up to 4.0m is only allowed if an eligible vehicle complies with the conditions of the Notice. These are set out in detail under the Notice and include:

- No travel at night
- Travel restrictions within cities and built-up areas and on public holidays
- Agricultural pilot requirements
- Responsibility for damage caused
- Special conditions on nominated roads

Provisions from Schedule 8 of the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation which must be complied with (See Schedule 2 of the Notice). There is no requirement to comply with the provisions from Schedule 8 that are not listed.

In the Mackay and Whitsunday regions, a sugar-cane harvester is permitted to drive on designated roads without escort, so long as it is no closer than 100m to the Bruce Highway.

Disclaimer

This document provides a brief summary of the key provisions of the Notice such as operating periods, operating areas, exemptions and conditions. It is an aid to understanding whether the Notice should apply to a given vehicle, operator or journey, and is not a substitute for referring to the Notice itself. Operators must refer to the Notice to ensure compliance with its requirements.

Carriage of this document does not satisfy any requirement or condition in the Notice or elsewhere to retain a copy of the Notice.

In the event of any inconsistency, the information in the Notice prevails over this Summary.