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**Media Release**

## Snap! World record for Australia?

Australia believes it has a new world champion. On confirmation from the Guinness Book of Records, Far North Queensland banana grower, Graheme Celledoni from Innisfail, will be the world record holder for the number of bananas snapped in half in 60 seconds.

Keen to draw visitors to the Innisfail Show, Mr Celledoni and his organising committee embarked on a quest to develop an attraction that would allow the Show to compete with the V8 Supercar series staged at the same time in the area.

Mr Celledoni said, "On the recommendation of supporter Sue Dotti, the Committee decided consulted the Guinness Book of Records to see if records existed to set up a challenge possible involving bananas for which this part of far north Queensland is famous."

Around 95% of Australian bananas are grown in the Innisfail/Tully region and Australia is totally self-sufficient with its home-grown bananas.

He said, "We had two options, and both were a 60 second challenge. One was based on the number of bananas that could be eaten in the time, and the other, which we selected, was the number of bananas that could be snapped in two in 60 seconds.

"While 60 seconds may not sound long, rapidly snapping ripe bananas in half at the rate of one every 2/3 of a second to break the record is tough on the biceps and the hands, not to mention the concentration needed to make sure every banana tackled is snapped right through to be counted as a clean snap," he said.

With bananas arranged along an 11 metre narrow platform that Mr Celledoni had to work along, he set about breaking the record under the watchful eye of official adjudicators – and he created a new world record of 96 bananas in 60 seconds adding a new dimension to "gone in 60 seconds".

Bananas are Australia's No. 1 selling fruit and Mr Celledoni is now the world's No. 1 banana snapper with confirmation of that title due within a few weeks.

### **Enquiries:**

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