

Bananas about paper

A CROSS the top of Australia there are about 50 million banana trees and each tree produces just one big bunch of bananas each year before the tree is chopped down and left to rot.

Back in the mid '90s **Ramy Azer**, an ex-pat Egyptian engineer now living in Adelaide, saw this as a terrible waste of fibre and set about developing a product he now calls banana-ply paper.

His story will be told on ABC TV's *Landline* tomorrow at noon.

The world's first banana paper factory will soon be built in Queensland.

"Eventually from Adelaide, factories will be shipped and exported all over the world to make paper out of bananas," Mr Azer said.

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