

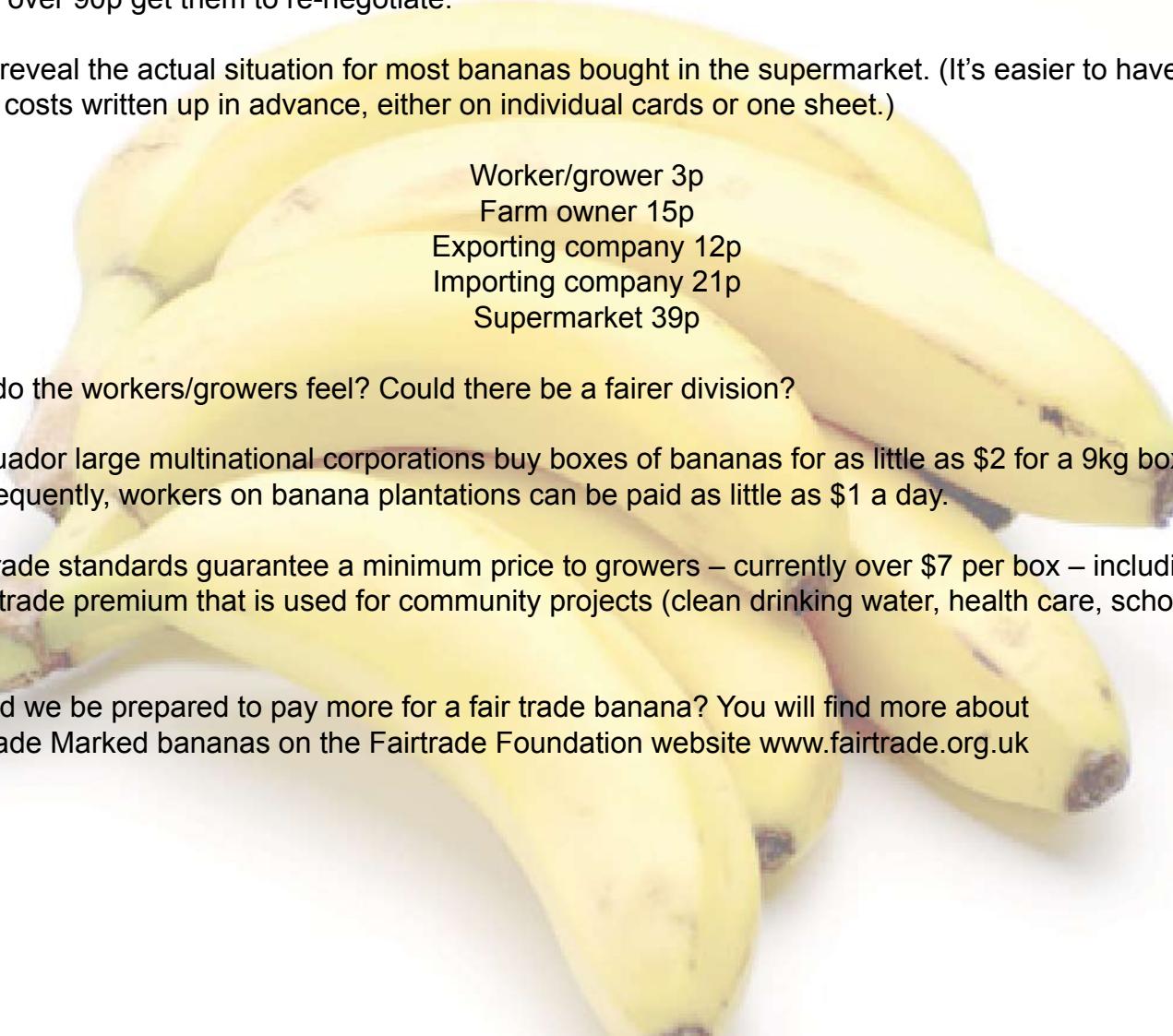


The Banana Game

This updated version of the banana game shows the benefits of fair trade very clearly.
Time required 30 minutes — you need at least 10 people.

- Divide the group into five smaller groups of equal numbers, and name each group — supermarket, importing company, exporting company, farm owner, workers/growers.
- Hold up a large bunch of bananas. Explain that they cost in the supermarket.
- Ask each group to decide how much of the 90p they should have. They will need to consider what costs they might have.
- Put up a large picture of a bunch of bananas marked 90p
- Allow five minutes for discussion, then get each group to present its case. If the total comes to over 90p get them to re-negotiate.

Then reveal the actual situation for most bananas bought in the supermarket. (It's easier to have these costs written up in advance, either on individual cards or one sheet.)



Worker/grower 3p
Farm owner 15p
Exporting company 12p
Importing company 21p
Supermarket 39p

How do the workers/growers feel? Could there be a fairer division?

In Ecuador large multinational corporations buy boxes of bananas for as little as \$2 for a 9kg box. Consequently, workers on banana plantations can be paid as little as \$1 a day.

Fair trade standards guarantee a minimum price to growers — currently over \$7 per box — including a fair trade premium that is used for community projects (clean drinking water, health care, schools etc).

Should we be prepared to pay more for a fair trade banana? You will find more about Fairtrade Marked bananas on the Fairtrade Foundation website www.fairtrade.org.uk