

KVH Information Sheet

Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme Information for growers



In May 2014, the Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme (KPCS) was introduced to reduce the risk of pests and diseases being spread through the kiwifruit nursery trade and the associated impacts, with a long term (20 year +) focus. Its goal is; ***“To enable growers to purchase kiwifruit plants of known plant health status, supporting long term success and future growth of the New Zealand kiwifruit industry”.***

Implementation

The KPCS has been introduced over a transition period of approximately two and a half years and became fully implemented on 1 October 2016. After this date only certified kiwifruit plants may be bought or sold, although growers will still be able to produce plants for their own use beyond this date (see details below).

Your options for sourcing plants:



1. **KPCS “Full Certification”** –certified plants that meet all the testing requirements for all target organisms. These can be moved between regions in accordance with KVH movement controls.



2. **KPCS “Within Region Only”** – plants that meet the same standard as above and all testing requirements but may have the common” NZ strain of Psa-V, provided they are free of non-NZ Psa forms and strains resistant to streptomycin or copper. These plants can only be moved **within** a KVH Biosecurity region, not across regional boundaries.
3. **“Grow for own use”** – growers may produce their own plants for use on the same property. They may also produce up to 1000 plants a year for movement between their own properties within the same KVH Biosecurity region. These plants do not need to meet the requirements of the KPCS but any plants being moved between properties must met some risk management requirements (see the [KVH Information Sheet: Growing Rootstock for your own use](#) for details.

Other key points for growers;

- Please order plants well in advance (~1 year) to enable nurseries to anticipate demand. KPCS plants are already available from some nurseries and listed on the KVH website
- Please ensure when sourcing plants that all movements are in line with KVH movement controls as specified in the [KVH Protocol: Nursery Stock](#).

Further background

The benefits the kiwifruit industry is seeking to achieve through the KPCS include:

- Minimising the risk that any new to New Zealand high risk pests or diseases (including new strains of Psa-V) are rapidly spread, to give the best chance of successful response with least possible impacts;
- Minimising spread of specified established diseases, including Psa-V, between kiwifruit growing regions;
- Increasing the prospects of successful vine establishment in a Psa-V environment (i.e. by starting with healthy plants of known pest and disease status);
- Allowing efficient movement of cultivars throughout New Zealand;
- Recognising nurseries operating to professional standards; and
- Reducing nursery business risk and uncertainty, by providing a clear and enduring framework on which business decisions can be based.

The Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme is open to growers and nurseries alike. For some growers and organisations that move a large number of plants within and between kiwifruit growing regions, meeting the KPCS Standard will enable these movements to continue and mitigate the associated biosecurity risks. More information on the KPCS can be found on the KVH website, we recommend you start with the Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme- Overview paper. www.kvh.org.nz/indnurseries