

Spring Psa symptoms – regional photo gallery

Whanganui

On this G14 block, 34 of the 53 males have symptoms of Psa. There have been high levels of symptoms on this block in the past - this reappearance is a reminder that Psa is systemic and doesn't disappear.



Waihi

This Gold3 orchard is on a very cold Waihi site.

The new owner has removed around 300 leaders since taking possession of the orchard last year - PsA continued to be active throughout the growing season with fruiting canes continuing to collapse up until harvest. The spray programme has been strengthened and now there is a high focus on tool hygiene, use of wound sealants on all cuts and removal of infected material.

For some male vines, high canes were not trimmed through the autumn period and PsA infection has entered through the cane tips damaged by May and June frosts.



Paengaroa

This orchard was a Hort16A block when Psa arrived and was badly affected by the disease.

Original plants had been bench-grafted and when the orchard was grafted over to Gold3, chinensis interstocks were retained. These continued to create Psa problems for the developing Gold3 canopy. Slowly interstocks have been removed and Bruno suckers grafted to Gold3 now provide new trunks.

Psa effects still require the removal of canes and sometimes trunks and leaders across the growing season.

For the coldest block, establishment of plants is still challenged by the repeated need for cut-out of infected material. New plants have been added and an ongoing grafting regime continues.



Hawkes Bay

These photos were taken back in autumn on a Hawkes Bay site indicating Psa had been lurking.

This spring numbers of vines with Psa has increased and some badly infected M91 males have been removed. This progression was not unexpected. Close monitoring and mapping of infected vines will be completed to determine infection levels.

Infected vines have been tagged and dated to provide valuable feedback of infection progress. This provides the orchard manager with information on which to base management decisions.

