# July 2018 KVH SNAPSHOT

News you can use



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# Learning more about copper resistance and implications on-orchard

KVH and Zespri, along with science partners, have been focussed on learning more about copper resistance over the years and we have made great progress in our understanding of this complex subject area. A science workshop was held early July to discuss latest research results and further requirements, with the aim of answering the question: "How does our knowledge from the laboratory translate to the field?"

Participants in the workshop came from Otago University, Massey University, Plant and Food Research, Hills Laboratories, and Verified Lab services as well as KVH and Zespri.

Read more here.

### Up close and personal with the Samurai Wasp

Plant and Food Research (PFR) Scientist Gonzalo Avila introduced KVH to the Samurai Wasp while staff were in Auckland recently. The visit to the PFR containment facility highlighted how tiny this organism really is – around the size of a poppy seed.

Read more here.

### Winter workshops with Hawke's Bay growers

KVH attended the OPC winter Pitstop event in the Hawke's Bay, and ran a short workshop with growers on the value of good records for all plant material movements on and off orchards. Growers considered how well they currently record budwood, plant and pollen movements, and whether they thought they could trace these across current and previous years.

Read more here.

### Listen to the latest news

Snapshot is the podcast from KVH. Every month the KVH team bring you a summary of recent news and activities, seasonal orchard management advice, feature pests to be on the lookout for, and reminders of upcoming events. Sit back and enjoy the content, knowing you'll never miss out on all the latest happenings.

The Snapshot is free and available on SoundCloud or from Apple iTunes. Download the latest episode and subscribe today so that new episodes are automatically sent to you.

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### **KVH** meets with Maori Grower Forum

Just over a year on from the initial launch, KVH presented at most recent meeting of the Maori Kiwifruit Grower Forum. The group advocates on behalf of growers and ensures they are well informed of key issues. KVH Chief Executive Stu Hutchings discussed with the group the application before the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for approval to release the Samurai Wasp in the event of a Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) incursion; potential changes to regional boundaries within Recovery regions; and the importance of improving traceability of all plant and plant material within the kiwifruit industry.

Read more here.

### **New Annual Update out now**

The KVH Annual Update 2017/18 has been released. This booklet shares KVH's key activities and events over the last 12 months and profiles some of the kiwifruit industry's biggest biosecurity threats. Feature articles also outline how biosecurity risk is changing around the world and what we are doing in terms of readiness and response, so we are prepared for the next big biosecurity threat, should it occur.

Read more here.

### In the news

- \*\* A recent survey has found more than 60 per cent of New Zealanders think biosecurity is important, but only 2 per cent think they would be personally affected by a breach. The Ministry of Agriculture and Biosecurity says more needs to be done.
- \*\* US researchers have released the Samurai Wasp as a biocontrol agent against the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) on 56 farms and agricultural sites.
- \*\* A traveller's grisly gift for his family did not make it past Auckland airport biosecurity officers arriving from Apia late June, the passenger declared a bat's head to staff which was seized and destroyed.

Read more here.

### Remove unpicked kiwifruit from vines

Growers are reminded that there must now be no unpicked kiwifruit left on vines. Under the National Psa Pest Management Plan (NPMP) it is a requirement that all orchard vines must have picked fruit by 1 July each year. KVH will follow-up reports of unpicked fruit with orchard owners and post-harvest companies.

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### Add the chill calculator to your weather tools

The Psa Risk Model is an online, weather-based decision support system, that assists with orchard management in a Psa environment. It includes actual weather station data and weather forecast details.

Growers are also reminded of the easy to use winter chill unit calculator available (accompanied by a short online video demonstrating what it can provide). This calculator allows growers to check how winter chill is progressing and compare chill hours across the past four years for a range of weather station locations.

Read more here.

### Putting the Samurai Wasp case forward at hearing

KVH spoke on behalf of the kiwifruit industry at an Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) hearing, cementing support to release the Samurai Wasp in the event of a Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) incursion. The hearing was the final step in the application process to introduce the wasp as part of eradication or control efforts if an established population of BMSB is found here.

Read more here.

### Changes to regional boundaries

Following consultation with growers and nurseries and consideration of submissions, KVH has revoked all regional boundaries within the Recovery regions in the North Island, creating one region with geographically separate locations. This change has been in place since Monday 16 July 2018. Further details, including updated maps, is available on the KVH website.

Read more here.

### **AGM** results

The KVH Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held Thursday 26 July. All Resolutions were passed and the Director election results are as follows: David Tanner: elected for a three year term; Simon Cook: elected for a two year term; Dermott Malley: elected for a one year term.

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### Managing the risk from imported plant material

On 13 July 2018, the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) issued an Import Health Standard (IHS) for Actinidia plants for planting. This means that kiwifruit plant material can be imported into New Zealand to be used for planting purposes, including but not limited to, use in breeding programmes if it meets the requirements of the IHS.

Read more here.

### Reminder to cover material during transporting

It is a requirement that all plant material is contained and/or transported in an enclosed vehicle while being moved between orchards and other sites. To assist nurseries, growers are asked to please make sure that if plants are being collected from a nursery you have suitable covered transport. Please contact KVH at info@kvh.org.nz with any questions.

### Farmlands onboard with biosecurity

Farmlands Horticulture hosted their annual Subtropical Crop Technical Update in Tauranga recently, this year broadening the scope of the three-day conference to also include a biosecurity presentation by KVH as well as an update on latest Psa research findings from the Zespri Innovations team. Forming a key link with growers, the Farmlands team are looking to be proactive in understanding the biosecurity risks posed to their large horticultural client sector.

Read more here.

### Understanding the sea container movement process

KVH has visited Tauranga companies to learn more about the processes they go through when moving containers from ship to wharf and to packhouses and return, and to emphasise the importance of biosecurity to the kiwifruit industry. KVH also continues to encourage post-harvest companies to be vigilant for any contamination or undetected hitchhiker pests on or within sea containers when they are moved to or from sites, as the more eyes looking out for the unusual or potentially harmful, the better.

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### **KVH** winter flyer

Read the KVH winter flyer on protecting your investment and managing biosecurity risks, as used at winter grower events.

Read more here.

### Nominate biosecurity champions

The New Zealand Biosecurity Awards recognise and celebrate individuals who have made a positive difference to New Zealand biosecurity. Entries for 2018 can be made from Monday 30 July and are open to everyone. There a number of different categories so if you (or your organisation/company) have been involved in a project or event that focuses on biosecurity, and you want to know more, visit the MPI website for details.

Read more here.

### Help spread the biosecurity word online

You, your staff, family and friends, can follow KVH on our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube social media pages. We use the pages to engage with more people across the wider kiwifruit industry and share biosecurity messages with the public. You can follow us on Twitter '@KVHNZ' or find us on Facebook and YouTube at 'Kiwifruit Vine Health – KVH'.

Read more here.

The KVH Snapshot provides you with short, interesting, biosecurity messages that you are welcome to reproduce and share. Contact lisa.gibbison@kvh.org.nz for more information on any of the topics listed, images, or to add others to the Snapshot distribution list.