



KVH INFORMATION SHEET

BMSB Risk Update September 2018

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) is considered one of the greatest biosecurity threats to the kiwifruit industry, and many other horticultural industries. Its entry and establishment in New Zealand would result in significant production and lifestyle impacts.

BMSB is native to parts of Asia but has been invading North America and Europe over recent years. It has also been detected in Chile.

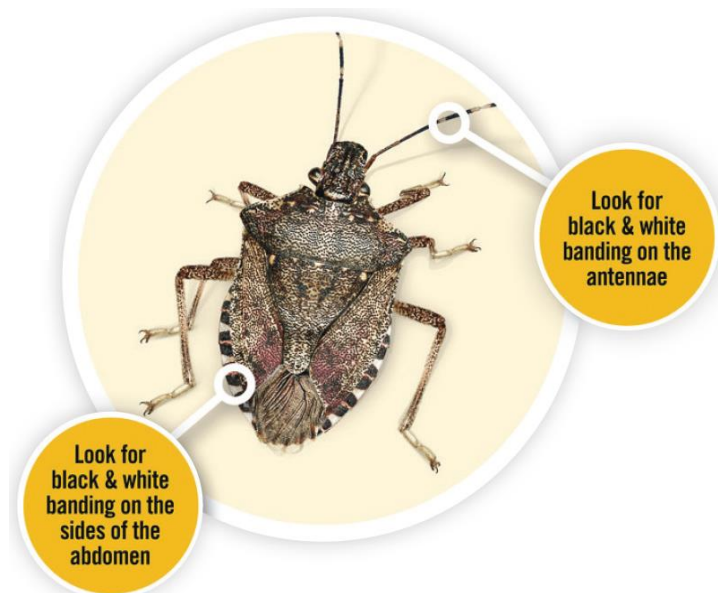
Since the start of the high-risk period earlier this month (1 September 2018) there have been no BMSB interceptions.

There were more than 2200 BMSB intercepted last season, demonstrating how real the risk is - it is important to remain vigilant and keep watch. The earlier we find an unwanted bug, the greater the chance of successful eradication.



What is being done to reduce the risk?

- Proactive initiatives are underway by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to manage the risk of BMSB crossing our borders during this year's high-risk period. As with previous stink bug seasons, there is increased surveillance and inspection of arriving ships and cargo from countries with established stink bug populations. Read more in detail on the [KVH website](#).
- If an arriving ship is infested with stink bug it will be prevented from discharging its cargo and directed to leave New Zealand. If a single bug is found, MPI will thoroughly investigate whether the entire vessel is contaminated.
- 14 more countries have been added to the list of those requiring mandatory treatment of vehicles and machinery. This requirement previously only applied to vehicles from the United States and Italy.
- Used imports from Japan will need to be both treated and cleaned offshore as part of an approved system. All other new and used imports from other countries will need to be treated or go through an approved system.
- Used machinery from any country must have a certificate proving it has undergone thorough cleaning and treatment before arrival in New Zealand. There must be evidence the machinery was disassembled for cleaning. It must also arrive with a sticker showing how and when it was treated.



- Two conferences have been held in Auckland and Christchurch for transitional facilities, transport industry representatives, and customs brokers, to highlight the risk posed by BMSB and to detail the processes put in place to manage this risk.
- KVH is a member of the steering group that has successfully applied to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for pre-approval to release the Samurai Wasp should BMSB establish here. The wasp is our most promising control strategy, and a natural enemy of the BMSB that can provide ongoing population suppression. It's the size of a poppy seed and completely harmless to humans and animals, except stink bugs. Read more about this major milestone on the [KVH website](#).
- KVH is co-funding a nationwide education and awareness campaign (similar to last season) with government and other groups across horticulture. This will begin in late October and in the meantime paid social media advertising continues to maintain awareness with the public – to date this has resulted in almost 6,000 visits to BMSB webpages.
- BMSB posters, flyers, and fact sheets have been distributed to pack-houses, transitional facilities, ports, and packhouses, and will feature prominently in Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital Biosecurity Week material and events in October.
- KVH is also stocking the Mount Maunganui and Cruise Terminal i-Sites with biosecurity flyers raising awareness about high-risk pest threats (mainly BMSB) potentially hitchhiking their way across our borders. The i-Sites double as ticketing offices are often the first point of call for visitors and cruise ship passengers wanting to know more about the region and plan their time here.
- A pilot surveillance programme has been established to provide early warning of BMSB incursions. This programme, starting late October, consists of monitoring for BMSB presence using lure traps on or near specific hosts at more than 25 high-risk transitional facilities throughout the country. Expert MPI staff will manage identification of suspect stink bugs caught in the traps or surrounding vegetation.



What can you do?

Read and share the BMSB videos and fact sheets on the [KVH website](#). Talk about it with your friends and family and ensure they are aware too.

If you see this pest or anything else unusual catch it, take a photo and report it to MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825.

