

MAY 2021

# KVH Snapshot

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Prepared by  
KIWIFRUIT VINE HEALTH  
[WWW.KVH.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.KVH.ORG.NZ)

**Ko Tātou**  
THIS IS US BIOSECURITY 2025

## Remove unpicked kiwifruit from vines



Growers have been reminded that unpicked kiwifruit must be removed from vines by 1 July each year. Unpicked fruit can increase the amount of wild kiwifruit plants establishing in nearby areas of native bush or forestry, as fruit ripening over the winter months provides a food source for birds.

[Read more here](#)

## Visit KVH at Fieldays



It's only a few weeks away now - the KVH team will be at the National Fieldays at Mystery Creek, Hamilton, Wednesday 16 June to Friday 18 June.

We're in the Zespri stall, keen to discuss any questions, issues, or suggestions you have about biosecurity and introduce you to our new Chief Executive, Leanne Stewart.

[Read more here.](#)

## Biosecurity risk at a glance



The latest KVH Dashboard has been published, providing a quick overview of current biosecurity threats and the work KVH is doing to manage risk for the kiwifruit industry.

[Read more here.](#)

The KVH Snapshot provides you with brief biosecurity messages that you can reproduce and share. Contact [lisa.gibbison@kvh.org.nz](mailto:lisa.gibbison@kvh.org.nz) for more information related to the topics listed, or to add others to the Snapshot distribution list.



## Improving sea cargo biosecurity

A work programme is set to improve biosecurity for sea cargo – a pathway that is under increasing pressure from new biosecurity threats and rising volumes.

Run by Biosecurity New Zealand, the programme has been in place since January 2020 and stems from an independent review commissioned to gain a better understanding of cargo clearance procedures and strains.

[Read more here.](#)

## Movement of mature plants

Growers may wish to move mature kiwifruit plants from areas where they have double planted to another orchard.

The movement of plant material is considered a high-risk biosecurity pathway for the transmission of unwanted organisms and it is important that any such movements are given careful consideration and that appropriate measures are implemented to mitigate risk.

[Read more here.](#)

## Biosecurity response skills tested

KVH took part in a regional exercise early in the month to practice and improve biosecurity response skills across Tauranga. The simulation was a marine response to a detection of the unwanted Northern Pacific Seastar, which hasn't established anywhere in New Zealand and is a voracious predator that displaces native and fisheries species.

[Read more here.](#)

## BMSB campaign proves its worth

During the most recent high-risk season (September 2020 through to April 2021) KVH co-funded the annual nationwide BMSB education campaign with Biosecurity New Zealand and other horticultural sectors to lift public awareness around the damaging impacts of the pest and increase the likelihood of early detection through surveillance.

The results of the summer campaign are in.

[Read more here.](#)

## Millions in mail funding

We were pleased to see last week that 'Budget 2021' makes important investments in biosecurity, including protections at our border. New technology to detect biosecurity threats in international mail is being funded by Government to the tune of \$8.9 million.

[Read more here.](#)

## Look out for alligator weed

Alligator weed has now been found on several kiwifruit orchards in the eastern Bay of Plenty.

Growers and contractors must take every precaution necessary to stop the spread of this invasive and almost impossible to eradicate weed.

Native to South America, alligator weed initially spread across parts of New Zealand via contaminated machinery.

[Read more here.](#)

## Better border biosecurity goals

KVH took part in the Better Border Biosecurity (B3) conference last week in Wellington, which was centred around some big challenges facing plant border biosecurity including climate change, social license, emerging technologies, and targeted investment. There was an update on research underway in Australia for key biosecurity threats we share, such as *Xylella fastidiosa* and one of the kiwifruit industry's most unwanted, the Queensland Fruit Fly.

[Read more here.](#)

## Sourcing plant material for greenfield developments

Many greenfield plantings are being set up in Recovery regions where Psa is widespread, and all neighbouring orchards are Psa positive. Furthermore, sometimes a grower cannot access clean material or wishes to use plant material from other blocks under their management, which may be attached to the new plantings but Psa positive.

KVH has a process whereby a greenfield development can be changed to a Psa positive status to enable movement of Psa positive material.

[Read more here.](#)

## Fruit fly season update



Latest data shows there was one border detection of fruit fly in April, and it was of our most unwanted Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF).

The interception of QFF larvae was in a feijoa seized from a passenger travelling from Australia.

[Read more here.](#)

## Fun Fact: the cost of invasive species



\$1.78 trillion. That's the staggering figure of how much invasive species have cost the world, at the absolute minimum, since 1970. We heard the fact while listening to a biosecurity podcast on Radio New Zealand about the effects of kauri dieback disease, an invasive which is infecting and killing thousands of trees in Auckland and Northland.

[Read more here.](#)

## New national response panel



At the end of the month KVH staff heard from members of the newly formed Biosecurity New Zealand Response Services (BioNZRS) panel who support Biosecurity New Zealand's readiness, response, long term recovery and pest management work. We heard about how they will be deployed in a response, what they've learned from past responses, and how the TMBC network could contribute during any future response in the region.

[Read more here.](#)