

KVH PROTOCOL



Processors

Background

KVH's mission is to minimise the negative impact of Psa-V or other biosecurity threats on the New Zealand kiwifruit industry and enable affected growers to re-establish their orchards. In line with this mission, KVH must consider the risk of Psa-V (or other biosecurity threats) spreading through the movement of potentially contaminated plant/leaf material from Recovery or Containment regions into Exclusion regions.

KVH acknowledges a link between the spread of Psa-V and contaminated plant material. We are focused on minimising the potential risk of plant material movement associated with reject-fruit consignments to locations where there is limited Psa-V infection (Containment regions) or Psa-V has not yet been identified (Exclusion regions).

Scope

KVH has developed this protocol to minimise the risks associated with the transport and handling of reject fruit. These protocols apply to product suppliers and transport operators freighting product.

These practices will help manage risks before transport and prevent inter-regional movement of reject fruit consignments that have the potential to contain highly mobile 'hitchhiker' plant material.

Movement Controls

- All those processing kiwifruit are required to register annually with KVH. Refer [KVH website](#)
- All processors must have a Psa-V/Biosecurity Risk Management Plan. This must be approved by KVH prior to commencement of processing each year. Refer to the requirements later in this document.
- The following movement controls apply:

Processor is located in this region	Reject Fruit comes from within the same region	Reject Fruit comes from a different region			Pomace disposal
		Recovery	Containment	Exclusion	
Recovery		Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	>5km from the nearest kiwifruit orchard
Containment	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	>10km from the nearest kiwifruit orchard
Exclusion	Allowed	PROHIBITED	PROHIBITED	KVH authorisation required	>10km from the nearest kiwifruit orchard
Outside the above regions	N/A	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	>10km from the nearest kiwifruit orchard

Packhouse Requirements for fruit and bins going to Processors

- Sanitise all harvest bins used for loading reject fruit for processing.

- Inspect all bins at load out to the processors and remove any leaf and plant material before they are loaded onto the vehicle. Bins of fruit supplied to fruit processors must be free of any leaf and plant material.
- It is recommended that all loads going to processors in Recovery regions are transported in covered trucks or taut liners. It is a requirement for fruit going to processors located in a Containment or an Exclusion region.
- Sign a transport docket confirming the bins have been inspected.

Psa-V/Biosecurity Risk Management Plan Requirements

A Psa-V/Biosecurity Risk Management Plan must be documented by all kiwifruit processors. The plan must be approved by KVH prior to the start of kiwifruit processing and must cover at least the following minimum requirements:

1. Supply
2. Loading and transport
3. Leaf and plant material
4. Disposal of process waste
5. Internal audit
6. Records and documentation

1. Supply

- Processors will receive fruit only from packhouses that have a KVH-approved Psa-V/Biosecurity Risk Management Plan and are compliant with KVH protocols. Processors are to obtain a signed declaration of compliance from packhouse suppliers and retain on file.
- All packhouse harvest bins used must be sanitised. While it is best practice that all bins used should be sanitised, processor only bins which are not used on orchards do not need to be sanitised. They must be inspected before returning to a packhouse and be free of all plant/leaf material on leaving the processor site.
- Packhouses are not permitted to move processors' bins to another site without prior approval from the processors' management.
- Documentation must be maintained to show full traceability to the packhouse supplier.

2. Loading and transport

- A record from the packhouse supplier should be available indicating bins from packhouses have been inspected for leaf and plant material at the packhouse before being loaded onto the vehicle.
- Within and between Containment and Exclusion regions product must be fully covered during transportation to the processor.
- It is recommended that **within** Recovery regions product is transported in fully covered facilities. Loading must ensure fruit is not lost in transit (i.e rolling out from overloaded bins, etc) and possibly creating a wild kiwifruit problem.
- A transport docket must be on file signed by the supplying packhouse representative confirming the load is covered (where required) and is compliant with the appropriate protocols (i.e. inspection for plant and leaf material prior to loading)
- Obtain a signed declaration of compliance from the trucking companies used to transport product. This confirms understanding of requirements and transport operators' responsibilities. It also acknowledges compliance with requirements for any sub-contractors a transport operator may use.
- Refer to [KVH Protocol: Fruit Bins](#) on KVH website.

3. Leaf and plant material

- Inspect all bins at processors' sites for leaf and plant matter prior to processing. This can be on arrival, or following a period of isolated cool storage.
- Operate documented risk-management procedures. These are to be implemented if excessive leaf or plant material is found in a bin. The procedure shall include segregation and containment of affected bins, including covering of the product and a risk assessment of the product load.

- Maintain a log summarising findings of leaf and plant material during inspections of product from packhouses. The supplier of the product and KVH are to be notified in the event of the discovery of significant amounts of leaf or plant material in the arrival inspection. A summary of the log is to be provided to the supplier of product and to KVH when requested.
- Any leaf and plant matter found during processor inspections or operations, irrespective of packhouse location, must be bagged and incinerated or buried on site according to [KVH Protocol: Disposal Options](#) (For processors located in a Recovery region this leaf and plant matter can also be bagged and sealed and removed to a deep burial site by a recognised waste removal company.
- Store inwards product either covered or indoors, to prevent dispersal of any leaf or plant material until processing commences.
- Ensure all fruit bins (or tub trucks) are inspected and found to be visually clean and free of any organic material before leaving the processing site.

4. Disposal of process waste

- Waste material (pomace) shall be transported off the processors' site in covered, sealed units.
- Pomace awaiting removal from site must be stored either covered or held indoors, to prevent birds and other pests feeding on the material and spreading seed which may result in further wild kiwifruit infestations.
- Pomace from any location, must be disposed of more than 10km from the nearest kiwifruit orchard in a Containment or Exclusion region and 5km from the nearest kiwifruit orchard in a Recovery region.
- Disposal processes must minimise contamination risks, i.e. leachate must not enter waterways.
- Obtain an agreement from the company/agent receiving the waste. The agreement must confirm the agent's understanding of requirements and responsibilities and include the location of the disposal of the waste.

5. Internal Audit

- Include Psa-V/biosecurity risk management within the company's standard operating procedures and staff training/awareness programmes.
- Include audits of the processors' Psa-V /biosecurity risk management processes within the company's routine GMP audits. This must include the monitoring of disposal of process waste.

6. Records and documentation

- Processors are to maintain, and make available, records of Psa-V/biosecurity risk management activities for review by KVH, or a KVH-appointed, auditor. These must include but are not limited to:
 - supplier declarations (transporter, supplying packhouse, waste disposal)
 - transport dockets or other records of transport compliance from packhouse suppliers.
 - inwards inspection records.
 - training.
 - internal audit records (covering receipt to waste disposal).
 - storage inspections.
 - product traceability.
 - Outwards bin inspections

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