

## **SUBJECT: WIDER BIOSECURITY ROLE (OF KVH)**

---

### **1. Purpose**

To further define the 'wider biosecurity role' assigned to KVH, including how this translates into functions and priorities for discussion with industry leadership, before engaging with growers.

This paper also provides a brief update on progress NZKGI and KVH have made in relation to Government Industry Agreements on biosecurity readiness and response (GIA).

### **2. Background**

The rules of KVH were amended at the KVH AGM on 28 November 2012, to include responsibility for wider biosecurity as follows:

*Other purposes of the Society are:*

- a) To monitor and identify biosecurity risks to the kiwifruit industry, to undertake and arrange biosecurity surveillance, to prepare for responses to biosecurity risks to the kiwifruit industry, including ensuring adequate operational arrangements are in place, to lead biosecurity responses as required and to liaise with governments, agencies, industry groups and other agencies as appropriate in relation to any such biosecurity risks;*
- b) To promote and encourage in the national interest research into and the dissemination of information relating to biosecurity risk management and monitoring for kiwifruit vines in New Zealand; and*
- c) To do any act or thing necessary or incidental to the attainment of the above objectives.*

Preparing the kiwifruit industry for future responses to biosecurity risks is an early focus of the new wider biosecurity role, with a key driver for this being to meet the industry's commitments as a signatory to the GIA memorandum of understanding. These commitments and progress made by NZKGI and KVH in relation to these are elaborated in section 5.

### **3. Wider biosecurity role – functions**

KVH has been tasked to lead the industry's preparedness and response to wider biosecurity risks (i.e. wider than Psa-V) working in close partnership with Zespri, NZKGI, post-harvest and growers. A major focus will be on identifying offshore risks and ensuring imports and border control measures are sufficient to keep them out. The industry needs to be ready and have response plans in place, along with sufficient resourcing for new biosecurity risks.

Further definition of the wider biosecurity role - described as functional areas of responsibility, with examples of the sort of work or 'activities' that KVH working with Zespri, NZKGI, post-harvest and growers might carry out – is set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Wider biosecurity role functions, along with examples of the sort of work or ‘activities’ that KVH will carry out in relation to these.

Function	Description	Examples (activities)
<p><b>A. Prepare for responses to biosecurity risks</b></p>	<p>Leading and coordinating industry preparedness, including generic and pest-specific response planning, and ensuring adequate operational arrangements are in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing GIA operational contracts for high risk pests and diseases.</li> <li>• Preparing and maintaining operational plans (i.e. pest-specific and/or generic response plans), including plans under GIA and/or outside of GIA.</li> <li>• Evaluating capability the kiwifruit industry needs to respond, matching this to what exists, and identifying gaps and strategies to address these.</li> <li>• Ensuring timely access to operational response capability by, for example:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ maintaining information on where capability (e.g., people, equipment, information) resides;</li> <li>○ identifying and plugging any gaps in the toolbox, by registering or supporting registration of products critical for effective response;</li> <li>○ developing agreements relating to access to capability (e.g., with Post-Harvest sector);</li> <li>○ leading development/ maintenance of response capability (e.g., exercises and training); and</li> <li>○ negotiating/ maintaining access to capability where it is more efficient for the kiwifruit industry to access this externally.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Either representing the kiwifruit industry on GIA governance bodies (e.g., ‘Councils’, ‘Response Strategic Leadership’), or supporting the kiwifruit industries’ representative.</li> </ul>
<p><b>B. Lead biosecurity responses</b></p>	<p>Leading and coordinating the kiwifruit industry’s operational response for any high risk pest or disease incursion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leading response operations where the kiwifruit industry is responsible.</li> <li>• Supporting response operations (e.g., by facilitating access to kiwifruit industry capability) where another party is responsible.</li> <li>• Leading and coordinating kiwifruit industry communication during a response, including within the kiwifruit industry and with the relevant ‘Council’ where a GIA operational contract is in place.</li> <li>• Post-response review and reporting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>C. Undertake and arrange surveillance (and any other operations)</b></p>	<p>Identifying where the kiwifruit industry is best-placed to deliver cost-effective biosecurity operations as part of GIA agreements/contracts, and managing delivery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivering all or aspects of a national surveillance programme (e.g., on-orchard fruit fly surveillance).</li> </ul>

<i>Function</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Examples (activities)</i>
<b>D. Monitor and identify biosecurity risks</b>	Advising on biosecurity risks and the controls required for exotic pests and diseases of high risk to the industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and maintain the industry’s high risk pest and disease list that is constantly reviewed based on the international situation and new scientific reports.</li> <li>• Intelligence gathering (domestic and international, including industry and science networks).</li> <li>• Working with MPI as it develops, then implements, a national biosecurity emerging risks system.</li> <li>• Risk analysis to understand implications for the industry and risk management options.</li> <li>• Providing advice and recommendations to enable timely decisions by those best placed to manage wider biosecurity risks.</li> </ul>
<b>E. Promote and encourage wider biosecurity research</b>	To promote and encourage, in the national interest, research into and the dissemination of information relating to biosecurity risk management and monitoring for kiwifruit vines in New Zealand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying wider biosecurity research needs of the industry, and communicating these to potential funders and providers (e.g., MBIE, MPI, Plant &amp; Food Research, Zespri Innovation etc.).</li> <li>• Working with research providers to encourage effective tech transfer, and actively disseminating the results of research where KVH is best placed to do this.</li> </ul>
<b>F. Monitor and promote best practice biosecurity</b>	Identifying best management practices that reduce biosecurity risk to growers and the industry as a whole.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring whether wider biosecurity risks are being effectively managed.</li> <li>• Evaluating current practice, to identify any opportunities to improve management of wider biosecurity risks.</li> <li>• Preparing and disseminating best practice biosecurity guidance and tools.</li> <li>• Working with Zespri, T&amp;G and post-Harvest operators to align ‘best practice for biosecurity management’ with ‘best practice for production’.</li> </ul>
<b>G. Liaise with government regulators (and any other relevant organisations) to influence biosecurity policy settings</b>	Working with regulators and others to influence development of biosecurity legislation, policies and standards that may impact the kiwifruit industry, and to influence individual decisions on specific issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing an industry submission on an Import Risk Analysis, Import Health Standard, or Post-Entry Quarantine Standard.</li> <li>• Input to national policy or plan development/ reviews (e.g., MPI’s national surveillance plan or response policy).</li> <li>• Submissions on regional pest management plans (e.g., if rules are included that relate to abandoned orchards or wild kiwifruit).</li> <li>• Input to pre-border and border control policy and how this is implemented (e.g., evaluating effectiveness of procedures and capability).</li> </ul>

### 4. Wider biosecurity role - implementation

From the list of functions and potential activities KVH could carry out, KVH will need to rigorously prioritise; that is, work with other parts of the industry (in particular, NZKGI, Zespri, Turners and Growers, Plant and Food, and the Post-Harvest sector) to identify what is important. The kiwifruit industry already has significant biosecurity capability / resource available, and the aim is to utilise this wherever possible. KVH will prepare a **wider biosecurity work programme/plan** to enable other parts of the industry to influence priorities and plan/manage their input, which we propose the KVH Board then approve.

**GIA** has significant momentum and is already a key focus for the wider biosecurity role (covered further below).

One of the early needs will be to initiate a **stock take** of the industry's existing biosecurity capability, resources and initiatives, and to understand where any **'handover'** of these or responsibility may be needed (for example, this has already been initiated by/with Zespri in relation to identification of high risk pests and diseases). This also extends to growing our understanding of what other organisations have on their work programmes and what that may mean for us (e.g., any Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) activity planned in relation to identifying offshore risks and/or reviewing import and border control measures).

**Communicating the new role** is a key step, so it is understood within the industry and by our stakeholders. We are already fielding questions, for example, about what the wider biosecurity functions of KVH are, where our focus will be, and what the new role will mean in terms of industry points of contact / representation.

It is not our intention that KVH serve as a single point of contact or representative on biosecurity matters (which would likely create a bottleneck), but rather that it operate more as a leadership group and **clearing house**; working in partnership with the wider industry to maintain oversight, drive the work programme to deliver results, and ensure the industry has clear points of contact / representation (i.e. rather than KVH personnel being the point of contact for 'all things biosecurity').

### 5. First cab off the rank - GIA

The Kiwifruit Industry is an active signatory to the GIA memorandum of understanding, with both KVH and NZKGI actively working with the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) and the wider horticulture sector to influence the shape of GIA, including:

- Input to development of the draft GIA Deed;
- Developing a value proposition and business case for the kiwifruit industry entering into a GIA;
- Initiating and coordinating (with HortNZ and MPI) a workshop to test how a GIA response would operate in practice, using fruit fly as an example; and
- Leading preparation of the first GIA operational contract/agreement for fruit fly.

The 'Proposed GIA Deed of Agreement' and draft 'Biosecurity Operational Contract for Mediterranean, Oriental and Queensland Fruit Fly' accompany this paper.

In summary, how we envisage GIA preparedness and response will work for us as an industry includes:

- KVH/KGI working jointly to prepare the Deed and Operational Contracts;
- KVH preparing the value proposition / business case for GIA, to enable a decision on whether the kiwifruit industry should proceed with GIA (i.e. sign up to the Deed and any Operational Contracts);
- Areas of responsibility for the kiwifruit industry (i.e. where the kiwifruit industry leads) and overall cost-sharing arrangements (between MPI and industries) to be clearly set out in Operational Contracts (e.g., for fruit fly the proposal is that the Kiwifruit industry be responsible for any outbreak in rural areas of the BOP, with MPI responsible for outbreaks in urban areas, international port areas, and rural areas where no industry has taken responsibility);
- Where the kiwifruit industry is responsible, KVH leading and coordinating but working closely with Zespri, KGI, post-harvest and growers for:
  - Operational planning (e.g., for specific pests and diseases);
  - Other aspects of preparedness (e.g., exercises, training);
  - Response field operations;
- KVH maintaining access to field capability, with other parts of the kiwifruit industry (in particular Zespri and other marketers, the post-harvest sector and key contractors) contributing that capability;
- KVH forming internal industry agreements, where needed, to formalise that access, cost-share arrangements, and any other mutual expectations.

## 6. Recommendation

We recommend that the IAC:

- i. **Notes** the proposed wider biosecurity functions in Table 1  

**Noted**
- ii. **Discuss** the proposed approach to implementing the wider biosecurity role, and provide any feedback on this approach and implementation priorities.  

**Discussed**
- iii. **Discuss** the proposed Deed and draft operational agreement for fruit fly, and provide any feedback  

**Discussed**