

KVH Policy

Approved Crop Protection Products



Desired outcome

To enable effective crop protection, by enabling Growers and others access to crop protection products that have known efficacy against Psa-V.

Background

Effective crop protection is one of the foundations of effective Psa-V management.

There are many claims made about hundreds of potential crop protection products, some of which may be accurate and some of which may not be accurate. Growers and others need to have confidence that the crop protection products they apply are going to be effective, and can be legally applied.

Through research and testing, a suite of crop protection products have been identified that show degrees of efficacy in the control of Psa-V, as well as best practice in terms of their application.

A mandatory requirement of the NPMP is to have an effective crop protection programme in place.

An effective crop protection programme must include at least one effective crop protection product, applied at a label rate as required in the KVH Seasonal Management Guide. “Effective crop protection products,” are those which ACVM has issued a label claim as approved for use in Psa-V control. The objective of this requirement is to provide a minimum level of protection against Psa-V, yet provide enough flexibility for growers to encourage innovation and enable development of orchard management practices that may provide a high level of protection and be cost-effective in their specific orchard situation.

NPMP and other regulatory requirements

The NPMP includes a rule (Rule 5) that specifically requires Growers to apply an effective crop protection programme, which includes annual application of at least one effective crop protection product. An ‘effective crop protection product’ is defined in the NPMP as *a crop protection product that is included on a KVH list of approved crop protection products*.

Application of an effective crop protection product may also be required to comply with other parts of the NPMP, including:

- Rule 1, i.e. the requirement that Growers have and implement a Psa-V Orchard Management Plan;
- Rule 6, i.e. the requirement to ensure an orchard is not an ‘unmanaged orchard’;
- Movement controls, i.e. where a condition of movement is to apply an effective crop protection product.

Prior to testing products in the laboratory or field, approval is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 and/or by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines (ACVM) Act 1997. Commercial sale of products for Psa-V control require registration under the ACVM Act and have an HSNO approval.

Implementation for KVH approved crop protection products

KVH will maintain a list of ‘effective crop protection products’ on the KVH website, and specific advice on best practice in crop protection will be provided in management guides (e.g., the Seasonal Management Guide for Growers, and in a Nursery Management Guide for nurseries and other persons growing kiwifruit plants for sale).

To become approved, a crop protection product must undergo a multi-stage product testing process that will determine the efficacy of a product in controlling Psa-V infection in kiwifruit vines. Testing of products is conducted as part of the KVH/Zespri Research and Development Programme. Products that successfully complete the testing process by demonstrating efficacy against Psa-V may then be submitted to ACVM for

a label claim in relation to Psa-V effectiveness. Only products that receive a label claim from ACVM are then approved for use in Psa-V control and considered an “effective crop protection product”.

KVH/Zespri conduct product testing for the purposes of controlling and/or curing Psa-V infection in kiwifruit vines. As with any orchard management technique or application, the use of products may cause incidental effects on kiwifruit vines, which are as yet unknown and will not be tested as part of these studies. Once efficacy of a product is determined, further analysis is required to determine the application impact for kiwifruit growers.

The most promising chemical formulations that are registered for use on kiwifruit in New Zealand will be included in KVH’s Seasonal Management Guide. Applying one of these products according to directions specified in KVH’s Seasonal Management Guide will meet the NPMP requirement to include application of at least one effective crop protection product.