

Avoiding Complacency in Kiwifruit Biosecurity

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Incursions are not rare events

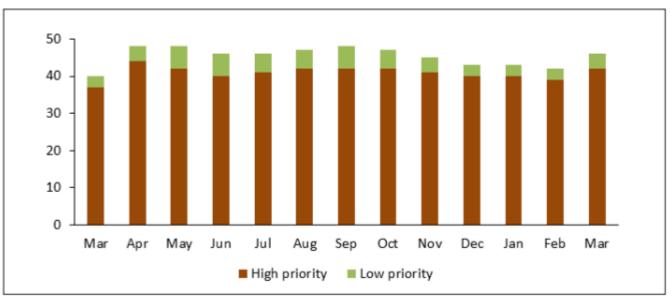


Figure 1: Active biosecurity responses from March 2015 to March 2016

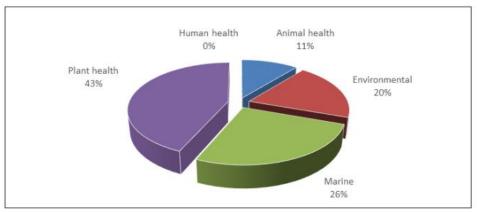


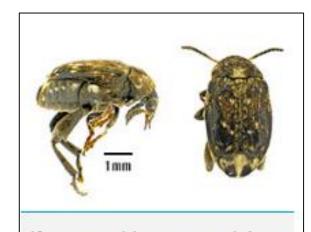
Figure 2: Sector breakdown for open responses at the end of the 1 January to 31 March 2016 reporting period.

Source: MPI Surveillance 43:2 June 2016



Pea growers work with MPI to rid Wairarapa of weevil pest

Date: 25 Jul 2016



If you see this pest, catch it and call us - 0800 80 99 66.

Key lessons learned

- Setting aside how it got into NZ, some of the costs of Psa-V could have been avoided in all likelihood
- Factors like the
 - lack of understanding of bacteria
 - lack of orchard/pack house hygiene controls,
 - lack of planning, and
 - lack of use of the right expertise across industry and Government

almost certainly resulted in the impacts of Psa-V being materially greater than what they could have been.



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Purpose of project



- 1. Are kiwifruit growers are becoming complacent in biosecurity practice over time?
- 2. Identify barriers & opportunities to overcome this







Key points

- 1. On-orchard practices are slipping but there is more to this than complacency alone
- 2. Effectiveness of on-orchard practices not widely understood
- 3. To create behaviour changes different approaches are required

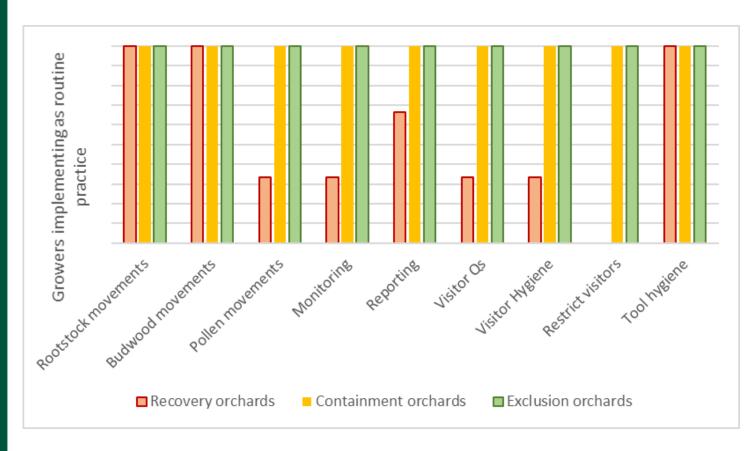


1. Not just a case of complacency

- Growers retain practices seen to make a difference (for Psa)
- Thinking about "risk" often doesn't extend beyond Psa
- Practices fall short of what subject experts recommend as minimum practice for a future biosecurity incursion.

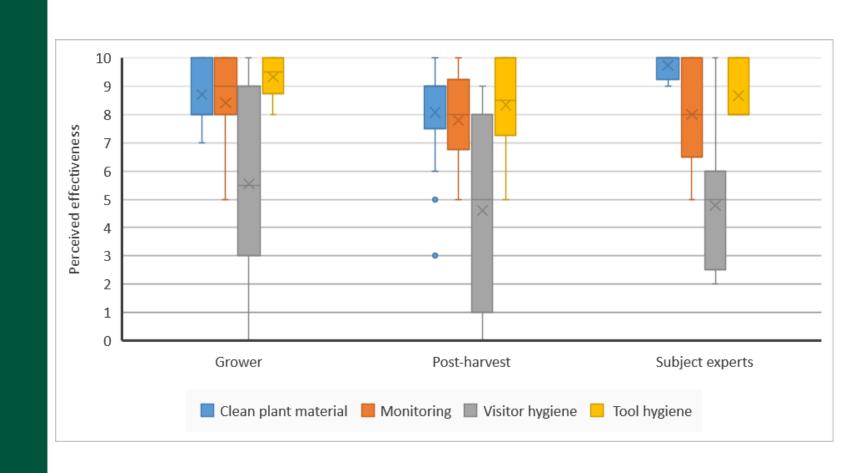


Biosecurity practices as routine



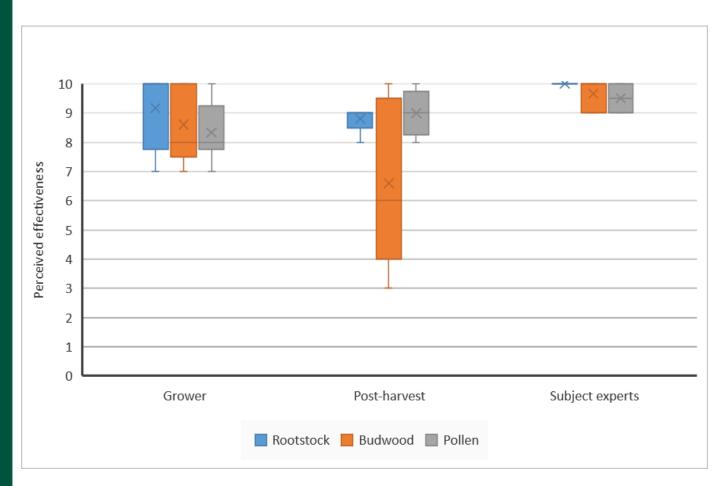


Perceived effectiveness of biosecurity practices





Perceived effectiveness of sourcing clean plant material





2. Effectiveness of on-orchard practices not widely understood

 Kiwifruit growers are biosecurity aware (Psa, fruit fly)



Growers consider an incursion to be a significant threat



Awareness ≠ implementation



3. To create behaviour changes different approaches are required

- Implementation is a process not an event support
- Working group of industry champions to develop and communicate biosecurity guidelines



Next steps

- Psa Management Plans to become Biosecurity Management Plans
- Remove commercial disincentives
- Link practice to mitigating risk
- Involve industry in development to ensure measures are;
 - Practical
 - Easy to implement
 - Effective in reducing risk (real & value)

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it"

George Santayana