

KVH Information Sheet

Industry risk at a glance – December 2020



This information sheet has been developed to provide the kiwifruit industry with a snapshot summarising latest information on biosecurity threats and risk mitigation activities. For more details please click on the hyperlinks below or visit www.kvh.org.nz/resources

Seasonal risk of entry of our Most Unwanted

A snapshot of risk as at December 2020 indicates the risk of entry for our Most Unwanted.



- We are now in the high-risk season for Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) which runs Sep - April. Since the start of the high-risk season through to latest reporting at 16 Nov, we have had six live BMSB finds - significantly less than the same period last season. New Zealand and Australian governments continue to work closely to align measures and share data to ensure BMSB risk in our corner of the world remains well managed.
- Fruit fly high-risk season has begun (Sep-May). There has been a single Pacific Fruit Fly find on Watermelon from Tonga. There have been no Queensland Fruit Fly interceptions to date. Due to COVID-19, the passenger pathway remains closed which lowers the risk of fruit flies arriving in New Zealand.

World watch - new reports of threats, changes to risk profile of known threats

Summary of latest MPI Emerging Risk Report (full report [here](#));



- Spotted Lanternfly continues to slowly spread throughout the USA and is now found across eight states in the northeast, and most recently spreading west into Ohio.
- Kiwifruit Vine Decline Syndrome has had a lot of media attention recently. While some uncertainty remains around the cause, there is strong evidence to suggest climate and management practices are playing a significant role in the decline.
- Australia continues to combat fruit fly with Perth battling a Queensland Fruit Fly outbreak since March 2020 and Adelaide fighting eight consecutive outbreaks of Med Fly.
- A new bacterial strain, *Enterobacter mori*, has been isolated in kiwifruit showing wilting symptoms in China. There is no evidence to suggest it is high-risk. As it is new to science, active monitoring will continue to capture any new information about this bacterium.

Ready to respond



- We have reached a big milestone in our *Ceratocystis* readiness programme with a rapid diagnostic tool for identification complete. Having this tool means we are in a great position for quick delimitation and large-scale testing should we get an incursion.
- The Bay of Plenty BMSB surveillance trapping network has been funded through KVH/Zespri for another season. Monitoring will continue fortnightly until April.
- A research programme on Kiwifruit Trunk Disease continues to help us understand our current biodiversity and risk. Understanding our baseline organisms gives us a clearer picture of what we have in New Zealand, and what is new, to help us react faster to any potential incursions.

Managing our internal pathways



- Regular KiwiNet workshops increase biosecurity awareness. The December workshop highlighted the work the Ministry for Primary Industries is doing at our borders to protect New Zealand from biosecurity risk and what KVH is doing to protect our industry borders through the proposed Pathway Management Plan.
- KVH continues to investigate reported unusual symptoms. We have followed up on 20 reports since July, with many resulting in diagnostic testing and management practices being fed back to the growers.