



KVH INFORMATION SHEET

BMSB risk update April 2019

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) is considered one of the greatest biosecurity threats to the kiwifruit industry, and many other horticultural industries. Its entry and establishment in New Zealand would result in significant production and lifestyle impacts.

BMSB is native to parts of Asia but has been invading North America and Europe over recent years. It has also been detected in Chile.

Since the start of the summer high-risk period 1 September 2018:

- There have been 212 live BMSB finds.
- Most of the bugs have been found on ships and in personal effects, originating in the USA and Italy.

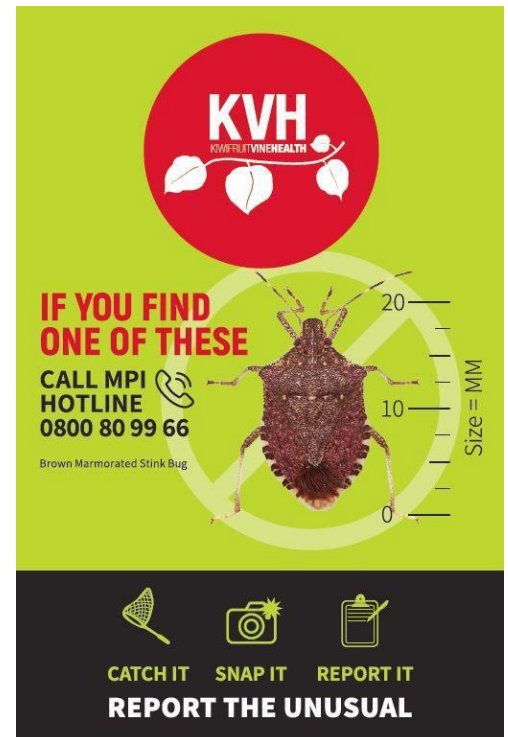
During the four weeks from 16 March to 18 April 2019:

- There were 34 live BMSB found, compared to none for the same period during last season.
- There were three detections (each of a single BMSB) at the border in goods from Italy – in plastic wrapping of vacuum cleaner kits, in a consignment of tiles, and in a consignment of seed for sowing.
- 25 BMSB were found in an offshore heat-treated used aircraft from Hungary. Biosecurity New Zealand officials are discussing this with the treatment provider.
- One interception was post-border. A single BMSB was found inside an Auckland property and reported to MPI, who then visited with a BMSB detector dog. The house and garden were inspected, and another five bugs were found in a suitcase belonging to visitors from the USA.
- There were 234 calls to the 0800 pest and disease hotline about suspect finds, and just over 2,000 visits to BMSB information pages online.

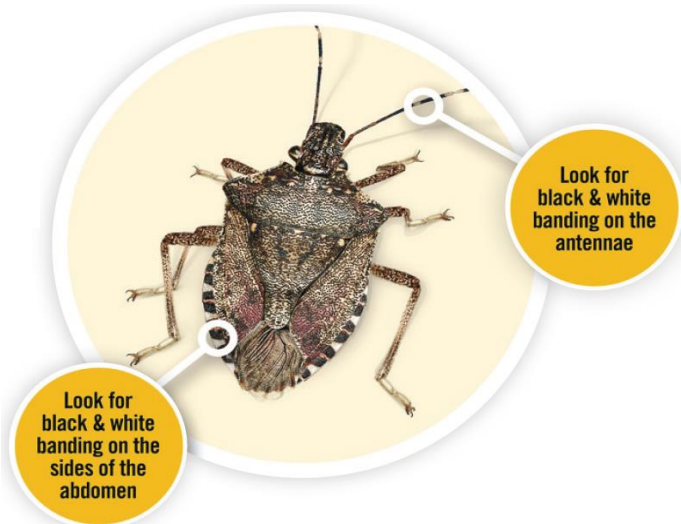
**It is important to remain vigilant and keep watch.
The earlier we find an unwanted bug, the greater the chance of successful eradication.**

What is being done to reduce the risk?

- Proactive initiatives are underway by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and Government Industry Agreement (GIA) partners to manage the risk of BMSB crossing our borders during this year's high-risk period. As with previous stink bug seasons, there is increased surveillance and inspection of arriving ships and cargo from countries with established stink bug populations.
- Used imports from Japan need to be treated and cleaned offshore as part of an approved system. All other new and used imports from BMSB risk countries need to be treated or go through an approved system.
- Used machinery from any country must have a certificate proving it has undergone thorough cleaning and treatment before arrival in New Zealand. There must be evidence the machinery was disassembled for cleaning. It must also arrive with a sticker showing how and when it was treated.



- MPI discussions with Australian counterparts continue so that there is further alignment of risk countries and treatments, and joint management of offshore treatment providers from next BMSB season. MPI have attended information sessions about this in Australia, with industry, who have noted their appreciation for the two countries lining up import requirements.
- KVH continues to advocate strongly on behalf of the kiwifruit industry for strict biosecurity border controls. We back proposed changes to rules for vehicles and sea containers for next season. MPI is currently consulting on two recently-reviewed Import Health Standards (IHS) – one for the import of vehicles, machinery, and equipment; and the other for the import of sea containers.
- Proposed changes include extending the list of countries that have requirements to treat vehicles, machinery and equipment imports before they arrive in New Zealand. At present, 18 countries have pre-treatment requirements. The proposed new list will increase to 33 countries. All imported cargo related to vehicles will need to be treated offshore, including sea containers. In the past, only uncontainerised cargo required treatment before arrival.
- KVH will be making submissions on behalf of the kiwifruit industry, supporting increased measures to protect our industry. Growers are also able to make their own submissions. The consultations run through to Monday 3 June. [Click here](#) to read more about proposed changes relating to vehicles, machinery, and equipment. [Click here](#) to read more about proposed changes to the import of sea containers.
- KVH is co-funding a nationwide education and awareness campaign with government and other groups across horticulture. This includes print, social media, on-demand TV advertising, and distribution of awareness material.
- A pilot surveillance programme has been established to provide early warning of BMSB incursions. This programme consists of monitoring for BMSB presence using lure traps on or near specific hosts at more than 25 high-risk transitional facilities throughout the country. This pilot is now complete - all sites have been inspected 12 times, with no BMSB found.



Read and share the BMSB videos and fact sheets on the [KVH website](#). Talk about it with your friends and family and ensure they are aware too.

If you see this pest or anything else unusual catch it, take a photo and report it to MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or KVH on 0800 665 825.