

KVH Snapshot

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Prepared by
KIWIFRUIT VINE HEALTH
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KO TĀTOU
THIS IS US BIOSECURITY 2025

Kiwifruit's Most Unwanted updated



KVH regularly talks about fruit fly being our number one threat closely followed by the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB), but how are these rankings assigned? We've developed a risk matrix to provide a structured and objective method of prioritising threat organisms into a shorter list for the purpose of readiness and response planning. The short list has been updated and made into a flyer and poster available now.

[Read more here.](#)

Step-up in fruit fly response for spring



As we reach the end of winter, the fruit fly response in the Northcote area has stepped up again, with the focus on maintaining controls, resuming baiting, and more intensive trapping. Since 26 April, an area of Northcote has been under a Controlled Area Notice, restricting the movement of certain fruit and vegetables out of controlled areas to help prevent the spread of any fruit flies that may still be in the vicinity.

[Read more here.](#)

BMSB warning to importers



KVH is pleased with new rules released by Biosecurity New Zealand to keep Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs (BMSB) out of New Zealand.

The new regulations will apply to this year's stink bug season, which starts 1 September 2019 and runs through to 30 April 2020.

[Read more here.](#)

The KVH Snapshot provides you with brief biosecurity messages that you can reproduce and share. Contact lisa.gibbison@kvh.org.nz for more information related to the topics listed, or to add others to the Snapshot distribution list.

Psa research session

Although growers have learnt to live with Psa, the kiwifruit industry still feels the impact of this disease on a daily basis. Through the Zespri/KVH Innovation portfolio investments are made to improve the tools we have in our toolbox for managing Psa. A session in early August at Baypark was designed for growers, contractors, post-harvest and merchants to profile our objectives for future Psa management, current research activities, and key research outcomes from the past year.

[Read more here.](#)

Kiwifruit represented in Biosecurity Act overhaul

Workshops involving key stakeholders are currently underway across the country for the review of the Biosecurity Act.

KVH attended the Tauranga workshop on behalf of the kiwifruit industry in August to begin working through a number of key topics including the purpose and principles of the Act.

[Read more here.](#)

New Whangarei Psa-positive orchard

A further Psa result has been confirmed on a Whangarei orchard this week bringing the total positives in this region to six. Red exudate was observed on one G3 trunk girdle on an orchard which is in close proximity to other positive orchards in the region.

[Read more here.](#)

Biosecurity a top priority for Farmlands

Farmlands Horticulture provided an opportunity for KVH to present an extended biosecurity update at their annual subtropical crops technical update in Mount Maunganui. This reflected their acknowledgement of biosecurity as a key risk to their shareholder businesses.

[Read more here.](#)

KPCS nurseries come together

More than 30 nurseries were represented alongside KVH in early August at a forum to strengthen communication and partnership with nurseries who are part of the Kiwifruit Plant Certification Scheme (KPCS).

[Read more here.](#)

Stink bug threatens Italian kiwifruit

Fruit crops including pears, apples and kiwifruit in some of Italy's major producing regions are reportedly under grave threat following an unusually widespread outbreak of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB). The insect is said to be worryingly prevalent this year across much of northern Italy.

[Read more here.](#)

Psa symptoms herald spring season change

KVH has to date received two reports of Psa exudate symptoms, one for a previously undetected orchard and the other for a young G3 block. Early varieties are now beginning to break bud and growers are recommended to begin monitoring areas more prone to Psa, to build an understanding of where risk may lie this season.

[Read more here.](#)

Phytophthora planning underway

Last week a one-day symposium on Phytophthora was held in Auckland as part of the New Zealand Plant Protection Society (NZPPS) Conference. Phytophthora has had a lot of attention recently as it continues to spread globally and cause devastation to a range of cultivated and natural environments. Notable species in New Zealand include Phytophthora agathidicida which causes Kauri Dieback.

[Read more here.](#)

Virginian growers BMSB experience

KVH travelled to the Hawkes Bay to join a workshop hosted by New Zealand Apples & Pears which focused on mid to long-term management of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB). Bill Mackintosh, who was also a speaker at the Apples & Pears annual conference this year, set the scene sharing first-hand experience of the damage, control and secondary pest problems associated with BMSB in his home region of West Virginia.

[Read more here.](#)

Distant experts fight bug threat

Two scientists on opposite sides of the world are at the forefront of the battle to keep some of the most insidious, damaging pests at bay from valuable food crops and out of New Zealand entirely.

[Read more here.](#)

Depressingly impressive BMSB infestation



Max Suckling tweeted a video of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) on the Fondazione Edmund Mach apple research mower in Trentino, Italy, reminding us of the infestation levels this bug can reach and why we don't want it here.

[Watch the video on Twitter here.](#)

Award winning BMSB campaign



We were thrilled when we heard the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) awareness campaign was recognised at the New Zealand Emergency Media and Public Affairs awards. The campaign was a tied first-place winner in the 'Readiness and Resilience Category'.

[Read more here.](#)

Help spread the biosecurity word online



You, your family and friends can follow KVH on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube social media pages. We use the pages to engage with more people across the wider kiwifruit industry and share biosecurity messages with the public.

[Read more here.](#)



KIWIFRUIT'S MOST UNWANTED

Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH) undertakes readiness and response planning to minimise the impact of future biosecurity incursions to the kiwifruit industry.

The following organisms are considered the highest risk to the kiwifruit industry, based on the likelihood of them getting here and establishing; and the potential production and market access implications should this occur.

Our next incursion won't necessarily be an organism on this list however. We all need to be on alert for any unusual pests or plant symptoms and maintain on-orchard biosecurity best practice ALL the time.

FRUIT FLIES

Queensland, Oriental, Mediterranean

- High likelihood of entry – have crossed our borders many times.
- Production impacts for a range of horticultural crops, but considered low for kiwifruit.
- Severe market access restrictions, particularly for Queensland Fruit Fly which is not present in most major kiwifruit markets.



Risk Months: Sep – June
I can enter NZ hiding on:



BRAZILIAN WILT

Ceratocystis fimbriata

- Soil-borne pathogen causing damage to kiwifruit in Brazil – reports of up to 50% vine loss.
- Vine death can occur extremely rapidly after expression of symptoms. Hayward on Bruno rootstock also affected.
- No known effective treatments.
- May be eradicable with good biosecurity practices and if detected early.



Risk Months: Year Round
I can enter NZ hiding on:



BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG

- Pierces kiwifruit resulting in fruit drop and rot. Fruit loss is typically 5-10% but up to 30% on worst blocks.
- Extremely difficult to eradicate – early detection is essential.
- Major nuisance pest overwintering inside houses in huge numbers.
- High likelihood of entry as a hitchhiker on shipping containers, cars, machinery and luggage.



Risk Months: Sep – Apr
I can enter NZ on:



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

- Attacks over 70 host species, including kiwifruit – eradication efforts overseas have been unsuccessful.
- Production impacts from extensive feeding resulting in oozing wounds, wilting, and especially sooty mould growth which prolific.
- Hitchhiker pest that is hard to control – tends to fly out of orchards when sprayed and return later.



Risk Months: Sep – May
Look out for my eggs on:



PSA NON NZ STRAINS

- NZ has one form of Psa – others exist internationally and could cause severe impacts if they get here.
- Psa in Japan and Korea appears to be more virulent to Hayward than the NZ form of Psa.
- New Psa strains could be more virulent to 'Psa tolerant' cultivars.
- May be difficult to distinguish from "common" Psa so best practice is not to spread any form.



Risk Months: Year Round
I can enter NZ hiding on:



WHITE PEACH SCALE

- Regularly intercepted on imported fruit. Therefore no imported fruit should be taken on to orchards as a precaution.
- Up to 20% production losses reported on Italian orchards.
- NZ environment considered favourable for establishment.



Risk Months: Nov – Mar
I can enter NZ hiding on:



VERTICILLIUM WILT

- In susceptible kiwifruit cultivars infection always leads to plant death, which occurs suddenly.
- Many strains worldwide – only Chile has reported a strain virulent against kiwifruit.
- Good biosecurity hygiene practices are essential to manage spread of this soil-borne pathogen.



Risk Months: Year Round
I can enter NZ hiding on:



INVASIVE PHYTOPHTHORAS

- Known as the plant killers – a group of significant plant pathogens and a major threat to all plant sectors.
- Species have caused significant impacts to kiwifruit offshore. Many other known and unknown species could also cause impacts under certain conditions.
- Easily spread, particularly with plant material movements.
- Can spread in plants showing no symptoms.



Risk Months: Year Round
I can enter NZ hiding on:



For more information about these organisms and other biosecurity threats to the kiwifruit industry, see the fact sheets on the KVH website at www.kvh.org.nz



CATCH IT



SNAP IT



REPORT IT

TO REPORT UNUSUAL PESTS OR DISEASES

CALL THE MPI HOTLINE 0800 80 99 66 OR KVH 0800 665 825