

# KVH Snapshot

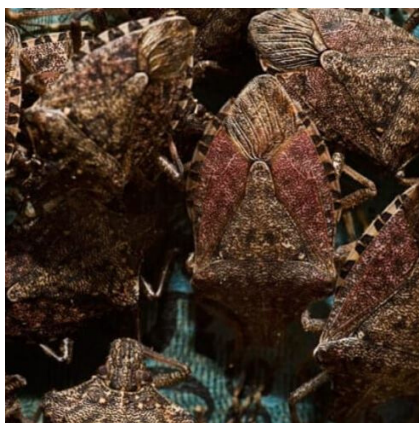
NEWS YOU CAN USE



Prepared by  
KIWIFRUIT VINE HEALTH  
[WWW.KVH.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.KVH.ORG.NZ)

**Ko Tātou**  
THIS IS US BIOSECURITY 2025

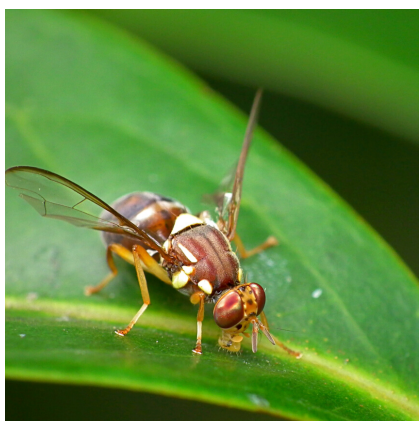
## Latest BMSB finds



Since the start of the high-risk season in September, there have been five live Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) finds. More detail can be read in the KVH October BMSB risk update, which includes latest data reported by Biosecurity New Zealand and information about activities involving KVH to make sure everything possible is being done to prepare for and respond to this pest.

[Read more here.](#)

## No new fruit fly interceptions



Latest border interception information on fruit flies has been published in the KVH October fruit fly risk update, showing that our biggest threat – the Queensland Fruit Fly – hasn't been found at all since the start of the high-risk season which was 1 September 2019. The new risk update also details the national fruit fly surveillance programme, which involves almost 8,000 pheromone traps checked each fortnight.

[Read more here.](#)

## Free 2020 pest calendar



We still have some of the popular 'unwanted pest' calendars available. If you or your organisation would like some of these fantastic, bright and colourful Port of Tauranga Biosecurity Excellence 2020 unwanted pest calendars (created by KVH, Biosecurity New Zealand and the Port of Tauranga) send us an [email \(info@kvh.org.nz\)](mailto:info@kvh.org.nz) letting us know your postal address and we'll get one in the mail to you.

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

## Xylella threat reviewed

Xylella fastidiosa, an insect spread bacterial pathogen, is currently having devastating impact across horticultural industries in both Europe and the USA. This pathogen can infect many different plants, both natives and important crops, but we did not know the full scale of potential damage if it got into New Zealand.

The Xylella Action Group (XAG) of which KVH is a member, was assembled with the purpose to collaborate and improve New Zealand's readiness should Xylella fastidiosa be detected on our shores.

[Read more here.](#)

## Can you pick the BMSB?



The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) looks very similar to some other brown stink bugs that are native to New Zealand. Do you know how to identify the BMSB from the others? Can you pick it out of the line-up above?

See the very last page of this Snapshot for the answer.

## First birthday for Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital

Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital (TMBC) celebrated the last 12 months of leading and taking collaborative action towards biosecurity excellence, with its second annual Biosecurity Excellence Symposium on Tuesday 22 October.

The symposium was about building connections across the network, with participants coming from a range of backgrounds, all with a passion for biosecurity and protecting what we love about the region.

[Read more here.](#)



## Biosecurity Grower Day a success

There were several biosecurity events held during the region's 'Spotlight on Biosecurity' week in October. KVH and Zespri jointly hosted a Kiwifruit Grower Biosecurity Day, providing the opportunity to learn more about the work underway to protect the industry from unwanted pests and diseases.

*Ceratocystis fimbriata*, commonly known in New Zealand as Brazilian Wilt, is one such threat. Special guest speaker Professor Acelino Alfenas, from the University of Viçosa in Brazil, presented on the impacts and control of wilt caused by the disease on kiwifruit in Brazil.

[Read more here.](#)

## Biosecurity on the agenda at international meeting

KVH Chief Executive Stu Hutchings discussed New Zealand's biosecurity activities at the 38th International Kiwifruit Organization (IKO) meeting in Italy recently. Also attended by NZKGI and Zespri representatives, the annual meeting provides an opportunity for international counterparts from countries where kiwifruit is grown to share news and opportunities.

[Read more here.](#)

## Connecting biosecurity knowledge across communities

KVH attended the 2019 APEN (Australia-Pacific Extension Network) conference in Darwin recently. This visit to the Top End offered a chance to meet and learn from a diverse range of extension professionals from primary industries, education and research groups from across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. The conference emphasis was on the value of connecting growers and communities with research, tools and technologies to allow them to prepare for and prosper through changes affecting primary industries.

[Read more here.](#)

## Challenging spring conditions

The hail event in the Hawkes Bay very early in October was a reminder of the fickleness of spring weather, with extreme events like this increasing Psa risk through the creation of wounds via leaf shatter.

[Read more here.](#)

## Important time for Psa protection

In mid-October KVH provided a reminder that cold snaps and windy wet weather (as had been seen in recent weeks) add to vine stress. For some Hayward growers the first signs of Psa leafspot and sepal infection were evident.

[Read more here.](#)

## Spare a few minutes for our survey

We're running a short survey on biosecurity and hygiene practices among those who spend the most time working on and managing kiwifruit orchards. We need help to learn more about the level of understanding of biosecurity amongst growers, what practices are used on orchards and whether there are any common limitations to putting practices in place.

[Read more here.](#)

## Check nearby pine blocks for wild kiwifruit

Wild kiwifruit can readily establish in any scrub, native bush or forestry block close to producing orchards.

Over winter, birds sometimes feed on the few fruit missed by the picking team and spread the seed into nearby areas, especially those within 200 to 400 metres of the orchard. Kiwifruit seems to prefer an association with pines and will germinate in the needle cast. Now is a good time to check that nearby forestry block for wild kiwifruit.

[Read more here.](#)

## Businesses pledge to protect New Zealand

A group of 50 New Zealand companies have signed a first-of-its-kind pledge to protect New Zealand from pests and diseases. The Biosecurity Business Pledge – which includes KVH and Zespri, alongside some of New Zealand's biggest businesses - was launched at the end of October by participating businesses and Biosecurity Minister Damien O'Connor.

[Read more here.](#)

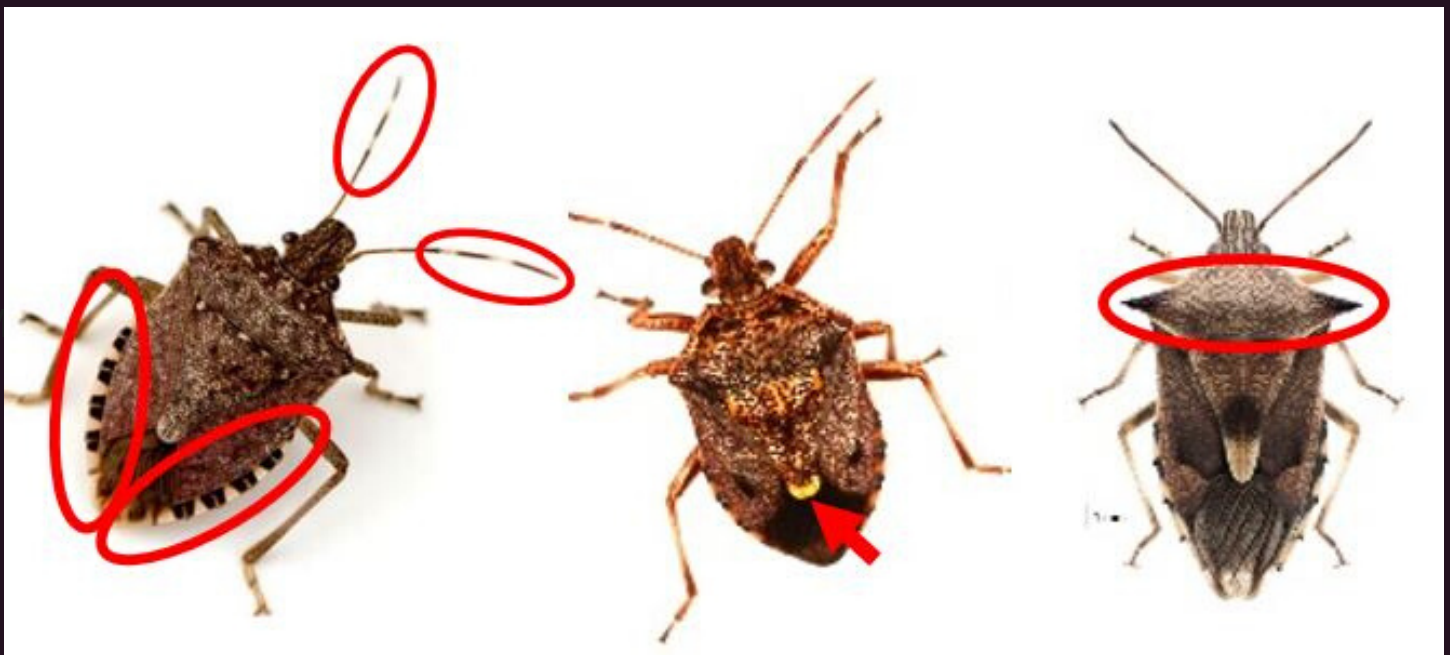
## Young Kiwis keeping pests & diseases at bay



Sentinel gardens (a KVH-led project as part of the Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital initiative) contain host plants that are attractive to specific threats and diseases. They can be placed at various spots throughout the Tauranga Moana region.

[Read more here.](#)

## Can you pick the BMSB? Here's the answer



If you said the bug on the left-hand side is the BMSB, you are correct. The distinctive characteristics of the BMSB are the double white bands on the antennae, and the marmorated pattern (cream and brown zig zag).

The others are two of the most commonly seen native stink bugs. The bug in the middle is the Brown soldier bug, which is easily identifiable by the yellow crescent moon on its back. The bug on the far right is the Schellenberg's soldier bug, which has spiny sharp shoulders.

You can read more about how to identify the BMSB from the many similar native stink bugs we have in New Zealand in our [updated fact sheet online](#).