

FEBRUARY 2020

KVH Snapshot

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Prepared by
KIWIFRUIT VINE HEALTH
WWW.KVH.ORG.NZ

Ko Tātou
THIS IS US BIOSECURITY 2025

Chocolatier brings BMSB intel to Momentum



What do bingo and chocolate have in common? You'd never have guessed it, but the answer is Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs (BMSB). Experts on this unwanted pest shared their expertise during a workshop for delegates at the recent Zespri Momentum conference, aimed at raising awareness amongst growers about what we can do (as individuals and an industry) to be ready for BMSB, how a big international company are managing it, and how we can be prepared to help the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) in a response.

[Read more here.](#)

On the lookout for fruit fly



There have been no further findings of Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) since the start of the high-risk season in September 2019 and since the closing of the fruit fly response in January this year.

However, there was one fruit fly-related interception during December/January, when fruit fly eggs were found at the border in Auckland within a consignment of longans (tropical fruit from the same family as lychee) from Thailand.

[Read more here.](#)

Are you a biosecurity quiz master?



KVH was a proud supporter of the Bay of Plenty Young Fruit Grower competition and provided a biosecurity quiz to the eight competitors – congratulations to Melissa van den Heuvel from NZ Avocado for winning the quiz and for achieving overall winner for Bay of Plenty Young Fruit Grower of the Year. The top quiz score was an impressive 89%. How does your biosecurity knowledge compare? Good luck!

[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.

Updated protocols

Several KVH Protocols and Information Sheets have been updated on our website to reflect minor changes. Please check to make sure you are referring to the latest version when referencing them. Under the National Psa-V Pest Management Plan (NPMP) KVH Protocols have been established for controlling the movement of risk items capable of spreading Psa.

[Read more here.](#)

KiwiNet hears from USA research experts

KVH ran it's six monthly KiwiNet workshop 20 February, with around 60 people from across the kiwifruit industry attending the day's presentations.

The first KiwiNet gathering of 2020 included a special session with international guest speaker Kim Hoelmer and his colleague Elijah Talamas. Kim is an entomologist and researcher from the US Department of Agriculture, specialising in biological control of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB).

[Read more here.](#)

Control moth plant before it flowers and produces seed

Growers are reminded that moth plant needs to be controlled now before seed pods form and mature.

Moth plant is a poisonous (the sap can cause a painful dermatitis) South American vine, common in coastal areas of the upper North Island, and very invasive in orchard shelter belts or nearby weedy areas. It harbours passion vine hopper and slows shelter trimmers, so is very unwelcome in kiwifruit orchards.

[Read more here.](#)

The fruit fly response at a glance

10, 4600, 160, 5766, 145 tonnes. They're not just a list of random numbers - the fruit fly response was an almost year-long operation with some interesting facts and figures.

[Read more here.](#)

Latest stink bug sightings

Since the start of the high-risk season in September, there have been 52 live Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) finds, less than a third of what was found at this time last season.

Over the main holiday period (mid-December to mid-January) there were 19 of the unwanted bugs found, mostly associated with luggage and belongings of recent travellers to the USA and Italy.

[Read more here.](#)

Stink bug swarm

While the number of stink bug detections is down, Biosecurity New Zealand are finding groups of dead bugs in treated freight, which suggests offshore treatment requirements are working.

A case in point was a detection by a Christchurch transitional facility that saw a record number of dead bugs in a container carrying two tractors from Italy. A final tally revealed 1300 dead stink bugs.

[Read more here.](#)

Medal for industry care

KVH was delighted to hear that the kiwifruit industry's Fresh Carriers Hayward Medal recognising outstanding contributions has this year been awarded to Ian Greaves, for the life-saving pastoral care he provided the industry during the Psa outbreak.

[Read more here.](#)

Record passenger arrivals

Passenger arrival numbers for 2019 reflect a very busy year at the frontline for officials working to secure our borders from biosecurity threats.

It's not surprising to find it was a record-breaking year. Officers processed 7.02 million passengers – the first time arrivals to New Zealand have passed the 7 million mark.

[Read more here.](#)

Pre-harvest event update on biosecurity

As always, the latest biosecurity information for growers will be available at OPC and supplier pre-harvest events. The KVH one-page update has the latest news on our most unwanted pests (fruit flies and stink bugs), and a reminder to report unusual symptoms at this time of year when vines are likely to be under stress and susceptible to disease.

[Read more here.](#)

Pack-house risk management plans

The KVH Harvest Packing and Reject Fruit Protocol has been updated for 2020 with only minor wording changes. Under the National Psa-V Pest Management Plan (NPMP) KVH needs to sign off on your pack-house DQS Biosecurity Risk Management Plan.

[Read more here.](#)

Bug-busting biosecurity games

Games can be a powerful way of engaging people in citizen science and motivating them to act – especially if they result in some kind of public or classroom recognition. The more eyes on the lookout throughout the community, the better off we are as growers and an industry, as the chance of early detection of unwanted pests and diseases is greatly increased. We were pleased to see recent articles on social media relating to gamification of biosecurity – especially one from our Aussie counterparts who we've been sharing some of our collateral with.

[Read more here.](#)

Kiwi biosecurity scientists make the news

New Zealand is on high alert every summer for an invasion of Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs (BMSB) and this year has been no different, as parts of Europe recover from record devastation. Kiwi scientists are in Italy to try and find ways to stop the spread of the serious super pest and two fantastic feature stories about their work aired on Newshub recently.

[Read more here.](#)

Listen to the latest news



The February Snapshot podcast is now online and features interviews from the joint Zespri/KVH workshop run during the breakout session at the Momentum conference. We talk to Tommaso from Ferrero (the chocolate company), who spoke about the effect Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) is having on their hazelnut growers, and Aleise from Plant & Food Research, who spoke about BMSB surveillance and trapping in the Bay of Plenty.

[Read more here.](#)

Biosecurity quiz answers



Are you a winner? Think you got all the quiz questions right? See how well you did by checking the answers.

[Read more here.](#)

Risk Dashboard updated



The latest KVH Dashboard is now available, providing a quick overview of biosecurity risk and the work KVH is doing to manage risk for the kiwifruit industry. The Dashboard is produced to give growers and the industry a one-page view of current biosecurity threat levels and our ability to manage these threats should they arrive here.

[Read more here.](#)