

Desired outcome

To establish a high level of protection for:

- new growing regions—where commercial orchards are starting to be established; and
- other sites of importance to the industry, being sites outside of existing growing regions to be used to supply plant material (e.g. budwood, pollen, young plants) free of Psa-V for either domestic supply or export purposes.

Background

KVH has identified the opportunity to protect new areas outside of existing growing regions through controlling the movement of high risk items to these sites. This includes any new regions growing commercial fruit for export (e.g. current development of new sites in Northland) and any new sites remote from kiwifruit regions selected for production of disease-free plant material (e.g. pollen, budwood, young plants) for export and/or domestic supply.

Additional criteria when determining new “exclusion” region status and boundaries

In making its decisions on the formation of new exclusion regions and associated boundaries, the KVH Board will take into account matters set out in the NPMP (section 7 of the Order in Council) and other criteria set out in section 4.1.1 of the NPMP Operational Plan.

In addition to these matters, additional criteria the KVH Board will take into account are:

- i. A new exclusion region shall be at least 20 km from the boundary of an existing growing region (established under the NPMP).
- ii. The boundary of any new exclusion region shall ensure a buffer of at least 20km maintained around orchards or other sites of importance to the industry the new region is established to protect, except where there is a risk-based and evidence-based justification for setting a lesser boundary.

When establishing the boundaries of any such new ‘exclusion’ region the KVH Board will consider potential future industry issues over the next three years; this is in order to ‘future-proof’ these (to the extent foreseeable) and avoid the need for further boundary changes within a three-year period).

In relation to ‘other factors’ listed under 7 (2) (c) of the Order in Council, the KVH Board will specifically consider the extent, if any, of wild kiwifruit and abandoned orchards as potential reservoirs for Psa-V inoculum, as well as any other matters relevant to this sub-clause.

Where a new ‘exclusion’ region is created this enables the board to control the movement of plant material into that region. This will not be used as a commercial barrier/to prevent a commercial activity. For example, if another grower wishes to establish a new orchard in a new exclusion region (e.g. a site close to a nursery, budwood production facility or tissue culture facility) then the board would not use its ability to control movements of such plant materials as a commercial barrier.

Rather KVH would ensure all affected parties have been notified and consulted, encourage affected parties to reach agreements on how best to manage risk, and the KVH board would take a risk management approach and consider any views of affected parties.

This policy applies to commercial production and will not take into account non-commercial activities (e.g. home gardens or personal orchards for non-commercial use), in alignment with objectives of the NPMP.

Additional process and cost considerations

Any party can put the case to KVH for a new exclusion region to be established, which should cover the considerations above, including matters set out in the NPMP. The KVH board reserves the right to decide if an application is reasonable and sufficient information has been provided. The KVH board or KVH management can also self-initiate consideration of a new exclusion region.

The process for considering applications set out in the Section 4.1.1, of the NPMP Operational Plan, applies. Over and above this, KVH will communicate and seek views on the proposal from any potentially affected parties it deems have a potential interest in the application (i.e. in addition to the views of local growers), consistent with “future proofing” considerations set out in the policy above.

As a matter of principle the establishment of a new exclusion region will be on a ‘user pays’ basis. However, KVH will cover its administrative costs associated with considering the case for a new exclusion region. In practice this means that any costs associated with testing or monitoring required to confirm absence of Psa-V from a proposed new exclusion region will need to be met by users, with any such requirements to be determined by the KVH Board on a case-by-case basis.

[Explanatory note: The 20km distance criteria above reflects Psa-V experience and learning to date, including benefit of research. Spatial-temporal modelling and analysis of historic Psa-V spread indicates 98% of natural Psa-v spread (i.e. wind and rain events cf. human-assisted spread) occurred within 10 kilometres of an infected orchard. And identified a significant spatio-temporal component to spread in some regions with infected orchards, of up to 20 kilometres and 90 days, which accounted for the remaining 2%¹. To achieve enduring exclusion 100% of natural spread must be accounted for. The exception identified in relation to additional criteria ii. above recognises some sites of importance to industry could be located well outside of growing regions and/or be located within facilities that reduce the risk of exposure to natural spread of Psa-V (e.g., controlled glasshouse or MPI registered containment facility)].

¹Refer to: Rosanowski, Sarah; Carpenter, Tim; Stevenson, Mark; Froud, Karyn (2013). *Quantification of the spatial distribution and natural rate of Psa-V spread in New Zealand*. Massey University