

BMSB

RISK UPDATE



OCTOBER 2026

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 and has now established in North America and many parts of Europe. It has also been detected in Chile.

The high-risk season for BMSB in New Zealand runs annually from September through to the end of April. There were no live BMSB detections during the latest data reporting period (1 - 30 September 2026). This is the first month of the 2026/27 season, and follows the same trend as the start of the high-risk season last year.



REDUCING RISK

Throughout the high-risk season, Biosecurity New Zealand continues to closely monitor BMSB population levels and distribution across the world, as well as interception data. Requirements and import standards are adapted as necessary to manage any change in risk.

All border and post border detections are followed up by Biosecurity New Zealand to manage any potential risk, confirm no further bugs are present; and identify likely entry pathways where possible (i.e. recent travel or imported goods).

PREPAREDNESS

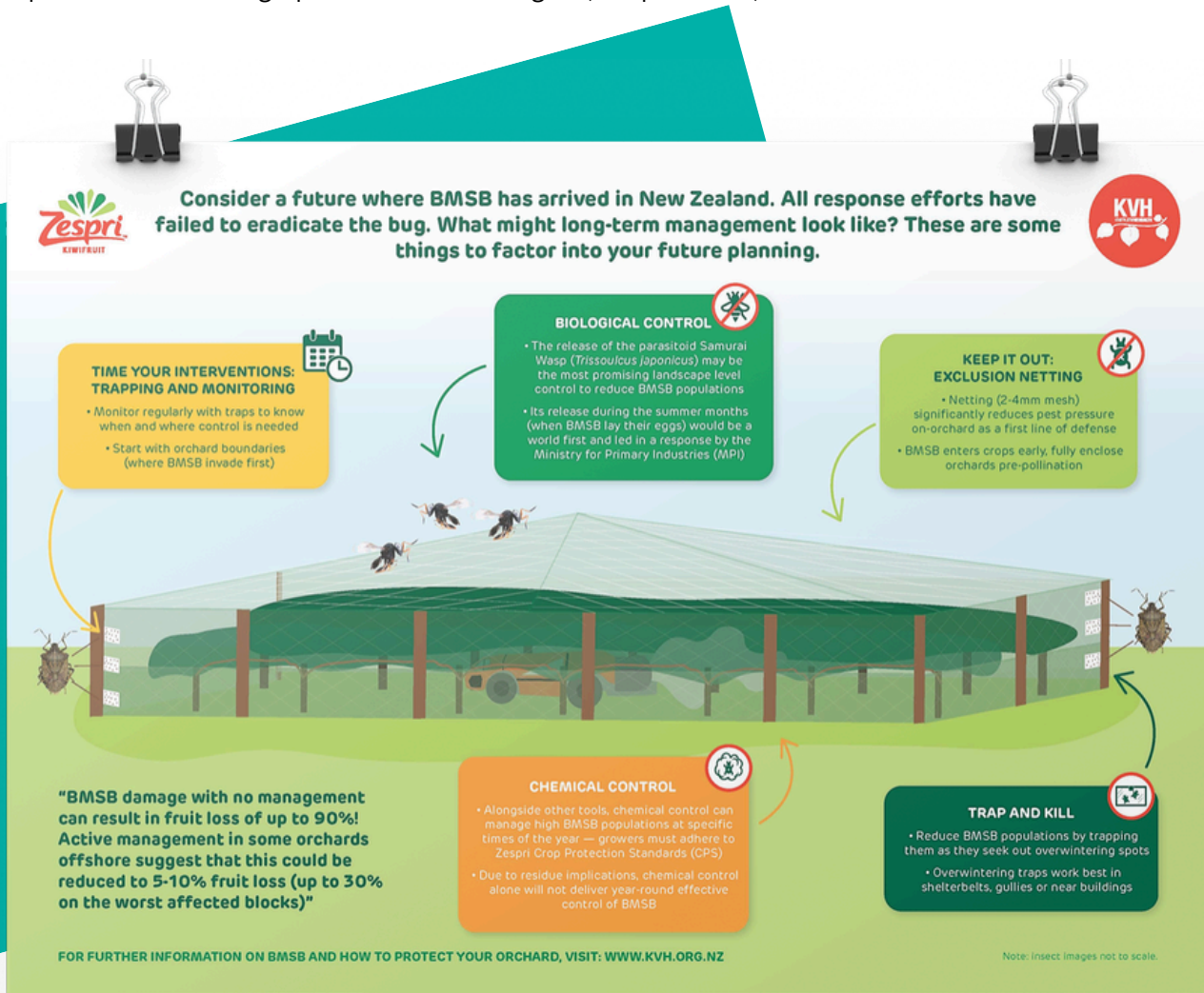
The national surveillance programme for the early detection of BMSB includes around 300 traps deployed across the country, including in the Bay of Plenty.

The lure traps monitor for BMSB on or near specific host trees at high-risk sites (based on previous detections and volumes of high-risk consignments from BMSB countries) and also include vegetation searches. The traps are inspected fortnightly.

PREPAREDNESS CONT.....

In addition to the national surveillance programme, KVH continues to provide additional trapping efforts for further protection to growers. This is in the form of running additional trapping at high-risk sites across seven regions, with trap locations informed by research to target areas of greatest risk. Additional traps are also deployed across the kiwifruit industry in the Bay of Plenty. Following a successful trial last season, black panel traps will be rolled out more widely across the regions.

An infographic from KVH and Zespri encourages growers to think about what long-term management of BMSB might look like on-orchard; factors to consider into future planning; and the times of the year each is most appropriate. View the infographic online at kvh.org.nz (sample below).



REPORT THE UNUSUAL

KVH 0800 665 825

BIOSECURITY NEW ZEALAND 0800 80 99 66



CATCH IT



SNAP IT



REPORT IT