



2026 KVH BIOSECURITY SYMPOSIUM

*Staying ahead
of the curve*

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Programme

KVH Biosecurity Symposium: Staying ahead of the curve



DAY ONE: 10.00am - 4.00pm, Wednesday 5 August 2026

9.30am - 10.00am

Registrations and networking over morning tea

10.00am - 10.20am

Mihi whakatau and karakia

MC welcome and opening

Gerard Moore, Moorebrook Ltd

Session 1: Growing our surveillance capability

10.20am - 10.50am

Optimising biosecurity surveillance for the kiwifruit industry

A trans-Tasman collaboration by leading experts, providing the scientific basis for KVH's new kiwifruit biosecurity surveillance system. By targeting high-risk areas and coordinating efforts across industry and government, the approach aims to maximise early detection of new exotic threats, minimise economic losses, and support the long-term sustainability of the kiwifruit sector.

John Kean, Senior Scientist, Bioeconomy Science Institute and Andrew Robinson, Managing Director, Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA), Melbourne

10.50am - 11.10am

Yellow-legged hornet detection tools and surveillance operations

How tools have been used to identify 'hornet hotspots' in key response zones and provide assurance that the hornet has not expanded beyond this range; and how detections are followed for the best chance of eradication.

Scott Sinclair, Manager, Operational Readiness, Biosecurity New Zealand

11.10am - 11.20am

Open Q&A session

11.20am - 11.50am

Surveillance stations

Three interactive demonstration sessions where you can get close-up with surveillance technology.



Session 2: Celebrating collaboration across the Tasman

11.50am - 12.20pm	The TR4 challenge: five million reasons to get banana biosecurity right Panama disease Tropical Race 4 (TR4) is a persistent, soil-borne threat with no capacity for eradication. Let's explore risk, spread, and the role of research, policy, and on-farm biosecurity in protecting production, livelihoods, and industry resilience. <i>Leanne Erakovic, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Banana Growers' Council</i>
12.20pm - 1.00pm	Lunch break to refuel, reconnect, and grow your network
1.00pm - 1.20pm	Plan - do - check - adjust: lessons from Australia's evolving approach to BMSB surveillance Early detection of exotic species is hard. Hear about BMSB surveillance in Australia, learnings, and what's being done to stay ahead of the curve. <i>Aaron Dodd, Plant Protection and Environmental Biosecurity, Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia</i>
1.20pm - 1.30pm	Panel discussion about BMSB surveillance and detections <i>Aaron Dodd, Scott Sinclair and Rachel Masters</i>
1.30pm - 1.50pm	Lessons learned from 25 years of wild kiwifruit control The results of wild kiwifruit control to date and why we're looking forward to what comes next. <i>Dr Jon Sullivan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Pest Management and Conservation, Lincoln University</i>
1.50pm - 2.00pm	Sharp eyes and fast thinking: the biosecurity quiz A fast-paced team event to put your biosecurity awareness to the test.



2.00pm - 2.20pm	Protecting our industry through innovation: Zespri highlights Zespri Innovation works closely with KVH to deliver biosecurity research for the kiwifruit industry. This talk highlights progress and achievements from the past two years. <i>Rebecca Burns, Innovation Leader, Zespri Innovation</i>
2.20pm - 2.40pm	Getting ahead and staying there: connecting science to biosecurity action New technologies and targeted research offer step changes to strengthen borders and improve biosecurity. Research from Better Border Biosecurity (B3) and the Bioeconomy Science Institute helps ensure a more responsive, resilient, biosecurity system that delivers outcomes that matter. <i>Beccy Ganley, Director, B3 / Principal Scientist, Bioeconomy Science Institute</i>
2.40pm - 2.50pm	Open Q&A session

Session 3: Emergency Response Management (ERM)

2.50pm - 3.20pm	Ready or not: why emergency preparedness changes everything Hear from Gerard as he reflects on real-world emergency experiences - exploring both effective preparedness and critical shortcomings - and their connection to the kiwifruit industry's ERM programme. <i>Gerard Moore, Moorebrook Ltd</i>
3.20pm - 3.40pm	Weathering Cyclone Gabrielle: the apple and pear industry – a story of resilience, recovery and reflection Grower experiences, tales of resilience, and lessons. <i>Rachel Masters, Biosecurity Manager, New Zealand Apples & Pears</i>

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3.40pm - 3.50pm	Open Q&A session
3.50pm - 4.00pm	MC closing remarks and briefing for day two <i>Gerard Moore, Moorebrook Ltd</i>
4.00pm - 5.00pm	Networking and refreshments

