

# KVH Information Sheet

## Psa Sample Collection and Testing



### Background

Under the National Kiwifruit Pathway Management Plan, growers are required to report suspected Psa on properties where Psa is not known to already be present. Understanding the distribution of Psa is important to help reduce further spread and impact to growers.

Regular monitoring throughout Spring increases the chances of early detection of Psa symptoms. (A Zespri Psa Monitoring Guide can be found on the Zespri Canopy, [here](#))

Leaf spotting is a common indicator of Psa, with spotting more prevalent in Green and Red19 varieties but also appearing on Gold3 when inoculum levels are very high. Testing of leaf samples with Psa-like spotting is recommended for orchards with Psa not previously detected.

### Leaf sampling from symptomatic areas

#### Sample size and collection

The recommended sample size is **three sets of five leaves**.

Collect each set of leaves from an area with symptomatic plants.

#### Collect each set of leaves as follows:

1. Collect five leaves from one plant.
2. Do not touch the leaves with your hands during the collection process.
3. Seal these five leaves in a re-sealable bag.
4. Mark the sampled plant with tape and record the sample number, date and sampler name on the tape.



#### Sample labelling and completion of Lab Analysis form

- Clearly label each bag with the KPIN, sample number, location and date.
- Record sample details on the lab submission form including sample location (Block/Row/Bay), kiwifruit variety, male/female, and male variety if applicable.
- Also include notes regarding the level of symptoms seen on the orchard (leaf-spotting, secondary symptoms, one vine, one block, widespread etc)

#### Sample dispatch

- Seal the three sample bags containing leaf sets in a large outer bag.
- Label the outer bag with the KPIN and date and despatch with the lab form to Hill Laboratories Ltd

**Please note the Hill Laboratories Ltd Psa testing service is provided each Wednesday on a weekly basis.**

**Urgent testing is available at an additional cost.**

\*KVH pays for leaf sample testing from South Island, and 'Not Detected' orchards in the North Island. Other testing may be approved on a case-by-case basis.

#### Hygiene requirements

- When collecting samples comply with the requirements detailed in *KVH Best Practice: Orchard Hygiene*, on the KVH website.
- Individual growers may have specific hygiene requirements. Please observe these.