

Mitigating the Risk of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* Introduction by Pollen

ZESPRI Innovation Project V11285 Report

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1 Executive Summary

1.1 Project Purpose

The key purpose of this project is to ensure growers have access to pollen with a known minimal risk of contamination of live *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* of the virulent strain (*Psa-V*).

This project focused on identifying the hurdles needed to ensure pollen with less than 10^6 colony-forming units (cfu) per gram is available for pollen production and decontamination.

The study consisted of four objectives:

1. To determine the pollen contamination risk associated with sourcing pollen from orchards located at varying distances from known *Psa-V* infected orchard sites (Geographic Distance Risk).
2. Establish the sampling protocols and frequency required for confirming *Psa-V* contamination within single commercial batches of pollen.
3. To determine the amount of reduction in *Psa-V* bacteria achieved by spraying flowers in-situ with a current best-practice bactericide.
4. To assess the quantum and variability in *Psa-V* contamination of pollen obtained from orchards assessed as low risk, based on the KVH pollen production best-practice pollen source guidelines.

1.2 Key Findings and Recommendations

1.2.1 Geographic Distance Risk

- *Psa-V* was found on flower buds from all 15 orchards sampled along an 11 km easterly path that included the orchard that first tested positive to *Psa* in Te Puke in October 2010.
- *Psa-V* levels were similar along the 11 km path suggesting a similar risk of selecting *Psa-V* infected flowers from the Te Puke region tested.
- One third of anther samples taken from a subsample of the sampled flower buds were positive of *Psa-V*. These samples were from the 5 eastern-most orchards.
- Four flower bud samples and 7 anther samples from 14 orchards sampled along a 22 km north-south path in Edgcombe (a more-recently infected region) were positive for *Psa-V*.
- There was an equal risk of selecting *Psa-V* positive flowers along the 22 km path.

1.2.2 Sampling Protocols and Testing Frequency of Commercial Batches of Pollen

- A 0.25g sub-sample taken from a well-mixed sample of commercially harvested pollen gives acceptable test variability ($n = 3$, mean $C_q = 28.06$, $sd = 0.58$, % CV = 2.05) and a single test is representative of a sample batch of pollen.
- The quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) *Psa-V* test method used by Hill Laboratories based on PCR primers recently developed by Plant & Food Research (PFR), could detect no less than 2.6×10^3 cfu per 0.1 mL when calibrated against viable bacterial inoculum. The *Psa-V* test was about 15 times less sensitive than the qPCR *Psa* test using F1/R2 primers. A recent MAF report has also noted the qPCR *Psa-V* test is less sensitive and suggested further work by PFR to enhance the method's sensitivity.
- Until such time that a more sensitive *Psa-V* test is developed, it is recommended that future *Psa* testing of pollen should first use the qPCR *Psa* test using F1/R2 primers (detects *Psa-V* and *Psa-LV*), followed by a confirmation of *Psa-V* presence using the qPCR *Psa-V* test using the hop-1 primer set.

1.2.3 Reduction of *Psa-V* on flowers and anthers by spraying

- All 30 unsprayed and 30 sprayed flower bud samples taken from a highly infected orchard were highly positive for *Psa-V* by qPCR (mean C_q values of 22.0 and 24.5, respectively), with apparent *Psa-V* bacterial load of 2×10^8 and 1×10^8 cfu per g of flower buds, respectively.
- Twenty-seven out of thirty (90%) anther samples from both the unsprayed and sprayed vines were also positive for *Psa-V* by qPCR.
- Attempts to enumerate live *Psa-V* bacteria were unsuccessful so differentiation between live and dead bacteria was not possible. Therefore, the effectiveness of using a bactericide spray could not be determined.
- It is recommended that a better viable *Psa* bacteria recovery method be developed before the next pollen season if this work is to be repeated.

1.2.4 Risk of *Psa-V* contamination of pollen harvested according to the KVH Pollen Production Best-practice Pollen Source Guidelines

- Flower buds harvested, according to best-practice guidelines, from 24 separate orchards were reported as 'not detected' for *Psa-V* by qPCR.
- Representative samples of pollen commercially processed on the same days as the flower buds were harvested, were reported as 'not detected' for *Psa-V* by qPCR.
- These results give a degree of assurance to growers that they have access to pollen with a known minimal risk of contamination of live *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (*Psa-V*).

2 Introduction

Pseudomonas syringae pv. *actinidiae*-virulent strain (*Psa-V*) infection of Kiwifruit vines is well established in Te Puke region and is also present in other parts of the Bay of Plenty.

In addition to climatic factors such as wind and rain, insects, animals, people, irrigation water and equipment¹ can facilitate *Psa-V* dispersal between plants and orchards. Loss of male vines on orchards, due to *Psa-V* infection, can necessitate greater reliance on artificial pollination to ensure high yields of fruit with market preferred quality and size. Transfer of pollen between kiwifruit orchards could, in some situations, pose a risk of dispersing *Psa-V*².

Currently, the most effective heat treatment methods of decontaminating pollen are reliant on pollen having a contamination level below 10⁶ colony-forming units (cfu) per gram to be effective.

This project focused on identifying the hurdles needed to ensure pollen with less than 10⁶ cfu per gram is available for pollen production and decontamination.

The study consisted of four objectives:

1. To determine the pollen contamination risk associated with sourcing pollen from orchards located at varying distances from known *Psa-V* infected orchard sites.
2. Establish the sampling protocols and frequency required for confirming *Psa-V* contamination within single commercial batches of pollen.
3. To determine the amount of reduction in *Psa-V* inoculum achieved by spraying flowers in-situ with a current best-practice bactericide.
4. To assess the quantum and variability in *Psa-V* contamination of pollen obtained from orchards assessed as low risk, based on the KVH pollen production best-practice pollen source guidelines.

This report describes the orchard sampling protocols, sample preparation and laboratory analysis procedures, reports the experimental results and key findings, and makes recommendations to the industry for future work.

¹ Bashan, (1985), Field dispersal of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato*, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *vesicatoria*, and *Alternaria macrospora* by animals, people, birds, insects, mites, agricultural tools, aircraft, soil particles and water sources. *Canadian Journal of Botany* 64: 276 – 281.

² Vanneste et al., (2011). Detection of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* in kiwifruit pollen samples. *New Zealand Plant Protection* 64: 246-251.

3 Methods

3.1 Sampling Procedures

3.1.1 Geographic Distance Risk

3.1.1.1 Flower Sampling

Fifteen Kiwifruit orchards planted in Hayward vines, with varying degree of *Psa* infection, were sampled along a line transecting the epicentre of the original *Psa* infection in Te Puke. One of two optional orchards was selected for sampling at 750 metre intervals along the 11 kilometre transect using a map of infected orchards in the region provided by Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH).

A second series of samples was taken from 14 Hayward orchards along a 22 km transect of a more recent *Psa* infection in Edgecombe.

At each sampling point, GPS coordinates, the variety of Kiwifruit vine (Hayward per hectare), visual *Psa*-V rating (scale of 0 to 10, where 10 is severe), and previous orchard *Psa* test results were recorded.

Hygiene best practice protocols, including the use of hairnets, gloves, and sanitizers, were followed on each orchard.

One kilogram of flower buds (approximately 1,000 buds) were sampled from each orchard by combining buds selected along the transect line that cut across each orchard. The flower buds were at the “Pop Corn” stage of maturity, which is the same stage of flower maturity used by commercial pollen producers for pollen production.

Each kilogram batch of flower buds was placed in a large labelled wax coated paper bag, sealed, and stored overnight in a refrigerator. Samples were then transferred into a clean plastic zip-lock bag and mixed thoroughly. Two x 250g sub-samples were taken and placed into separate clean zip-lock bags for sample preparation.

3.1.1.2 Sample Preparation

1 Bacteriological Saline Wash

To one 250g sub-sample of flower buds was added 500mL of 0.85% bacteriological saline (8.5 g NaCl per litre of non-chlorinated water). The zip-lock bag was sealed and shaken to wash the surface of the flower buds. The bags were agitated two more times over 10 minutes before a bottom corner of the bag was cut and 80mL of saline wash decanted into bar code labelled 80mL flip-lid plastic containers. Samples were stored in a refrigerator before being dispatched in a cooler-bin to the laboratory for analysis.

2 Anther Collection

Flower anthers were exposed by carefully plucking flower petals from individual flower buds contained in the second 250g sub-sample zip-lock bag. Special care

was taken not to contaminate the anthers with flower petals. Filaments with attached anthers were excised using surface-sterilised (70% ethanol) nail scissors on clean collection paper. The filaments, with attached anthers, collected from each bag were then placed into separate bar coded 80mL flip-lid plastic containers and stored refrigerated until being dispatched in a cooler-bin to the laboratory for analysis. All surfaces and equipment were sterilised with 70% ethanol between each sample preparation.

3.1.2 Sampling Protocols and Testing Frequency of Commercial Batches of Pollen

As at the time of this experiment, no known cases of *Psa-V* infected *Actinidia deliciosa* pollen were found in commercially produced pollen in New Zealand, the following protocol was used to produce *Psa-V* infected pollen.

Four kilograms of male kiwifruit flowers was harvested from a heavy infected Hayward orchard in Te Puke. A 250g sub-sample was taken for a bacterial saline wash to confirm *Psa-V* presence on flowers.

The flower petals were removed using unsterilised equipment and technicians rubbed their hands through both petals and anthers during the pollen harvesting process. Filaments with attached anthers were removed using unsterilised nail scissors, placed onto plastic Petri dishes and dried in a food dehydrator at 28°C for 24 hours to release pollen from the anthers. Contents from the Petri dish were placed into a 200 mesh per square inch stainless steel filter and shaken onto aluminium foil. The filter allowed the filament with attached anthers to mix with pollen as the pollen sifted through the mesh onto the collection surface.

Collected pollen was then placed into a bar coded 80mL flip-lid plastic containers and stored in a refrigerator until ready for dispatch in a cooler-bin to the laboratory for analysis.

3.1.3 Reduction of *Psa-V* on flowers and anthers by spraying

Thirty male *Actinidia deliciosa* kiwifruit vines from an orchard with *Psa V* symptoms in Te Puke were treated with an approved kiwifruit leaf surface sterilant (Spotless) by a commercial spray contractor two days before collection of flowers. Thirty vines from the same orchard that had not been sprayed were used to collect untreated flowers.

As many flowers as possible at the “Pop Corn” stage were collected from each vine from both treated and untreated vines into large labelled wax prove paper bags, sealed and placed in a refrigerator overnight.

Bacteriological saline washings and anthers were prepared according to the protocol described in Section 1 (Geographic Distance Risk).

3.1.4 Risk of Psa-V contamination of pollen harvested according to the KVH Pollen Production Best-practice Pollen Source Guidelines

The KVH orchard screening guidelines were used to identify 23 Hayward orchards suitable for pollen collection. One kilogram of flowers from each orchard was collected from two commercial KVH-certified pollen mills' daily flower receipts. Samples were taken from each bag receipted from each orchard line.

Flowers were placed in a large labelled wax lined paper bag, sealed, refrigerated overnight, then bacteriological saline washings prepared according to the protocol in Section 1 (Geographic Distance Risk).

To obtain a representative sampling of commercially produced pollen, pollen samples were taken from each 2 kg batch of commercially prepared pollen produced from flowers receipted on the same days as the flowers were sampled from 23 Hayward orchards.

From each of eight 250g plastic jars that make up a 2 kg batch of pollen, was taken 5 x ~45 mg subsamples (40 all told) and transferred into one 1.8mL bar coded plastic screw-capped vial. Samples were stored in a refrigerator until ready for dispatch in a cooler-bin to the laboratory for analysis.

During sample processing, all surfaces and equipment were sterilised with 70% ethanol between each sample preparation.

3.2 Laboratory Procedures

3.2.1 Saline wash samples

Plastic containers filled with bacteriological saline (0.85%) washings of kiwifruit flowers were gently shaken to re-suspend particulates. A 15-mL aliquot of sample was transferred into a 15 mL conical plastic tube and centrifuged at 5,000 rpm for 10 minutes to precipitate the particulates and bacteria. All but 1.5 mL of the supernatant was removed. The remaining solution and precipitate was vortexed and transferred to 2-mL tubes that were centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 5 minutes.

The supernatant was removed and discarded. The precipitate was washed by re-suspending in 1.0-mL of bacteriological saline (0.85%), vortexing and re-centrifuging at 10,000 rpm for 5 minutes. The supernatant was discarded.

DNA was extracted by adding 1.0 mL of CTAB buffer and 20 µL proteinase K. The tubes were incubated at 65°C for 15 minutes with shaking, then centrifuged for 2 min at 12,000 rpm. 420 µL of the supernatant was then extracted using the InviMag[®] Plant DNA extraction kit and a MagMax automated DNA extraction instrument according to the manufacturer's protocol. Purified DNA was eluted into 100 µL of elution buffer and stored at -20 °C until required for PCR analysis.

3.2.2 Anthers

Each container of anthers was inverted several times to mix the contents thoroughly. A 10-g subsample was transferred to a 50 mL container and homogenized (Ultraturrax) with 20-mL of bacteriological saline (0.85%). A 100 µL aliquot of the homogenized suspension was transferred into a 2mL vial. 1.0mL of CTAB buffer and 20 µL proteinase K was added and the tubes were incubated at 65°C for 15 minutes with shaking, then centrifuged for 2 min at 12,000 rpm. 420 µl of the supernatant was then extracted using the InviMag[®] Plant DNA extraction kit and a MagMax automated DNA extraction instrument according to the manufacturer's protocol. Purified DNA was eluted into 100 µL of elution buffer and stored at -20 °C until required for qPCR analysis.

3.2.3 Pollen

Dry pollen samples were mixed thoroughly by inverting the container several times. A 0.25g aliquot was transferred into a 2 mL tube and 1.0mL of CTAB buffer and 20 µL proteinase K was added and the tubes were incubated at 65°C for 15 minutes with shaking, then centrifuged for 5 min at 13,000 rpm. 420 µl of the supernatant was then extracted using the InviMag[®] Plant DNA extraction kit and a MagMax automated DNA extraction instrument according to the manufacturer's protocol. Purified DNA was eluted into 100 µL of elution buffer and stored at -20 °C until required for qPCR analysis.

3.2.4 Sampling Protocols and Testing Frequency of Commercial Batches of Pollen

To help establish the sampling protocols and sampling frequency of pollen required for confirming *Psa* contamination within commercial batches of pollen, two experiments were undertaken. For the first experiment, *Psa-V* contaminated pollen was increasingly diluted with uncontaminated pollen to determine how sensitive the qPCR *Psa-V* assay is to detect *Psa* in naturally infected pollen. As at the time of this experiment's design, the PCR assay had only been validated with pollen spiked with isolated *Psa-V* bacteria.

The second experiment, bulk samples of 'contaminated' and 'uncontaminated' pollen were repeatedly sampled and tested by qPCR for *Psa-V* content to determine the variability of the qPCR C_q value and give an indication of the uncertainty of measurement of the test.

3.2.4.1 Serial Dilution of Infected Pollen

Pollen known to be contaminated with *Psa* was serially diluted 2-fold, to give a dilution range of 2 to 1024 times, with pollen known to be clear (uncontaminated) of *Psa* infection (tested by qPCR). Five replicate 0.25g subsamples from each of the 2-fold dilutions were tested for *Psa* by qPCR.

3.2.4.2 Variability of the PCR Psa-V test

Thirty replicate 0.25g sub-samples of the “contaminated” and the “uncontaminated” pollen were tested according to the protocol described in section 3.2.3 to assess variability of the laboratory sub-sampling and testing protocol.

3.2.5 Determination of apparent Psa colony forming units (cfu) in saline wash samples

Since it is difficult to reliably isolate viable *Psa* bacterial from pollen, a calibration curve of known levels of bacteria vs. qPCR *Psa-V* Cq values was created. This calibration curve allows estimations of the bacterial load, expressed as apparent colony forming units (cfu), present on flowers buds, anthers and pollen.

A fresh culture of *Psa-V* bacteria was used to prepare a bacteriological saline of known cfu concentration. An array of x10 serial dilutions in bacteriological saline was prepared to give a range of 10¹ to 10¹⁰ cfu per mL. Aliquots of each of these dilutions of viable bacteria were tested by qPCR and used to calibrate a standard curve to estimate apparent *Psa* cfu concentrations in samples from their Cq values when tested by qPCR. Two calibration curves were prepared. One by doing a direct DNA extraction and qPCR on an aliquot of the saline dilution, the other by emulating the extraction procedure used to prepare the bacteriological saline washings. The latter curve takes into account any procedural losses that might occur during the preparation of bacteriological saline washings.

3.2.5.1 Direct determination of Psa-V DNA

Duplicate 100 µL aliquots of each dilution of *Psa-V* bacteria were immediately transferred to 2 mL tubes and 1.0mL of CTAB buffer and 20 µL proteinase K was added and the tubes incubated at 65°C for 15 minutes with shaking, then centrifuged for 5 min at 13,000 rpm. 420 µL of the supernatant was then extracted using the InviMag[®] Plant DNA extraction kit and a MagMax automated DNA extraction instrument according to the manufacture’s protocol. Purified DNA was eluted into 100 µL of elution buffer and stored at -20 °C until required for PCR analysis.

3.2.5.2 Emulation of Flower Saline Wash Preparation

A 100 µL aliquot of each serial dilution was added to 14.9 mL of bacteriological saline in conical centrifuge tubes, mixed thoroughly and contents centrifuged at 5,000 rpm for 10 minutes to precipitate the bacteria. All but 1.5 mL of the supernatant was removed. The remaining solution and precipitate was vortexed and transferred to 2-mL tubes that were centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 5 minutes.

The supernatant was removed and discarded. The precipitate was washed by re-suspending in 1.0-mL of bacteriological saline (0.85%), vortexing and re-centrifuging at 10,000 rpm for 5 minutes. The supernatant was discarded.

DNA was extracted by adding 1.0 mL of CTAB buffer and 20 µL proteinase K. The tubes were incubated at 65°C for 15 minutes with shaking, then centrifuged for 2 min at 12,000 rpm. 420 µL of the supernatant was then extracted using the InviMag[®] Plant DNA extraction kit and a MagMax automated DNA extraction instrument according to the manufacture’s protocol. Purified DNA was eluted into 100 µL of elution buffer and stored at -20 °C until required for PCR analysis.

3.2.6 Reduction of *Psa-V* on flowers and anthers by spraying

Six samples of flower saline washes, that gave the highest level of *Psa* contamination by qPCR, from each of the pre- and post-spray groups were selected to determine if the positive qPCR results originated from live or dead *Psa* bacteria. qPCR alone cannot distinguish between DNA from live bacteria or DNA from dead bacteria.

A 100 µL aliquot of the same saline wash initially use to detect *Psa* by qPCR was plated onto King's medium B agar and incubated at 28 °C for 16 hours. All bacterial colonies were harvested by washing the surface of the agar with 1.0 mL of bacteriological saline and transferred to a 2 mL storage tube. After thorough mixing, DNA from 100 µL of the suspension was extracted using the InviMag[®] Plant DNA extraction kit and a MagMax automated DNA extraction instrument according to the manufacture's protocol. Purified DNA was eluted into 100 µL of elution buffer and stored at -20 °C until required for PCR analysis.

At a later date, this experiment was repeated using a more selective media, KBC. This media contains boric acid (1.5 mg/mL), cephalexin (80µg/mL), and cycloheximide (200µg/mL). Extended incubation time, greater than 16 hours was also investigated.

3.2.7 *Psa* Determination by PCR

All samples, except those from the serial dilution of infected pollen experiment, were tested by qPCR using primer sets (83/84/85 –hop1) that could differentiate between *Psa-V* and *Psa-LV* based on different DNA melt curves (Rikkerink et al, 2011³). For the serial dilution experiment, only the *Psa-V* specific 83/84 primer pair was used. DNA extracts were diluted either 10 or 100 fold before qPCR to remove any influence of inhibitory substances in the extracts. Preliminary experiments with DNA extracts were done to determine the most appropriate dilution. Hill Laboratories, Hamilton, did all laboratory sample preparations, *Psa-V* bacterial growth experiments and qPCR tests.

³ Rikkerink E, Andersen M, Rees-George J, Cui W, Vanneste J, Templeton M. December 2011. Development of a rapid tool for the molecular characterisation of *Psa* haplotypes. A confidential report prepared for Zespri Group Limited, VI1256. Plant & Food Research Client Report No. 46010.

4 Results and Discussion

4.1 Geographic Distance Risk

All saline washings of the exterior of ‘Popcorn’ Kiwifruit flower buds taken from 15 orchards along the Te Puke transect (Figure 1) tested either positive or weakly positive for *Psa-V* by qPCR analysis. The Te Puke area has a well-established *Psa-V* infection with sample orchards having relatively high *Psa* Infection Visual Ratings (median = 4, mean = 4.2, sd = 2.2, range 2 – 9).



Figure 1. Te Puke Sampling Transect (the 5th flag from the left represents the approximate location where *Psa* was first detected). Flags on the map indicated the latitude and longitude coordinates of the sampling points.

There was no significant change in the *Psa-V* C_q values of bacteriological saline washing of flowers collected from orchards along the length of the Te Puke sampling transect, suggesting a similar risk of *Psa* infection independent of geographical location (Figure 2 and Appendix 1). Five of the fifteen anther samples taken from the orchards were positive or weakly positive for *Psa-V*. Interestingly, these samples came from the orchards furthest from the first infected orchard (Figure 2). Possible contamination during sample preparation cannot be discounted.

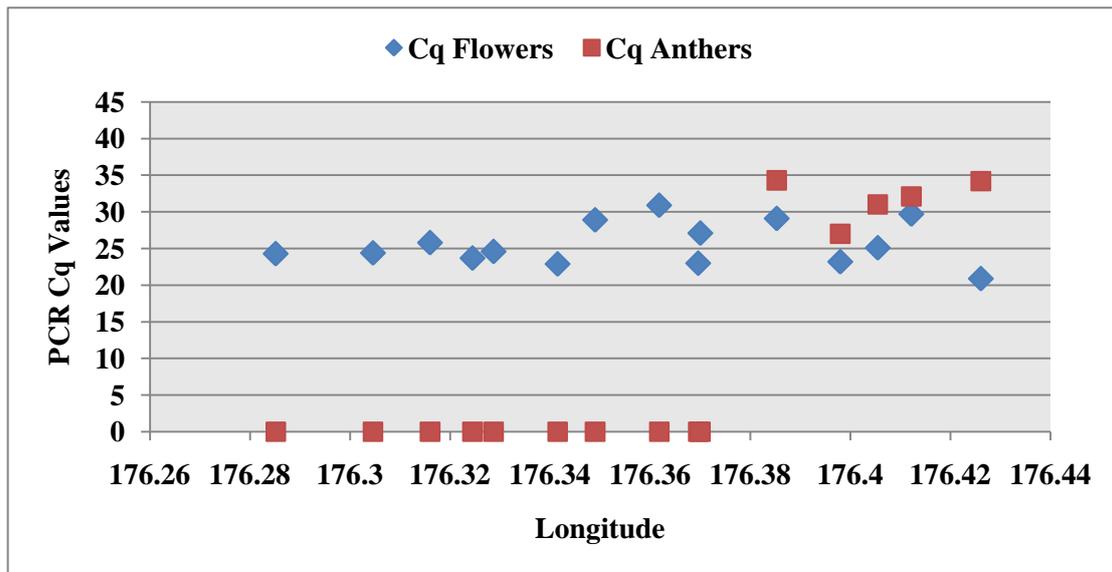


Figure 2. qPCR Cq values for bacteriological saline washings (Cq Flowers) and flower anthers (Cq Anthers) plotted according to the longitude location of the sampling point along the Te Puke Transect. The left-most point represents the orchard where *Psa* was first detected [Orchard 1], and the right-most point represents the orchard [Orchard 15] further most from the first infected orchard. Longitude was used because the transect ran east-west, better representing geographical distance between orchards.

The Edgecumbe transect (Figure 3) represented an area of more recent *Psa* infection with lower *Psa*-V Infection Visual Ratings (median = 0.5, mean = 1.4, sd = 2.5, range = 0 – 9).



Figure 3. Edgecumbe Sampling Transect. Flags on the map indicated the latitude and longitude coordinates of the sampling points.

Four out of fourteen saline washings of flower buds from orchards sampled in the Edgecumbe area tested positive/weakly positive for *Psa-V* by qPCR. Seven anther samples were also positive/weakly positive for *Psa-V* (Figure 4 and Appendix 1). Six of the anther samples that tested positive/weakly positive did not test positive for their corresponding saline washings of flower exteriors. This suggests infection of anthers by *Psa-V* has occurred through internal movement of *Psa* bacteria. Three saline wash samples were positive/weak positive for *Psa* but their corresponding anther samples were negative for *Psa-V* by qPCR, suggesting that these samples were contaminated through movement of bacteria in the environment. One sample was positive for *Psa-V* in the saline wash and the anthers.

The appeared to be no significant geographical pattern to *Psa-V* infection along the Edgecumbe Transect, and the results suggest an equal risk harvesting contaminated flowers from any point along the transect (Figure 4).

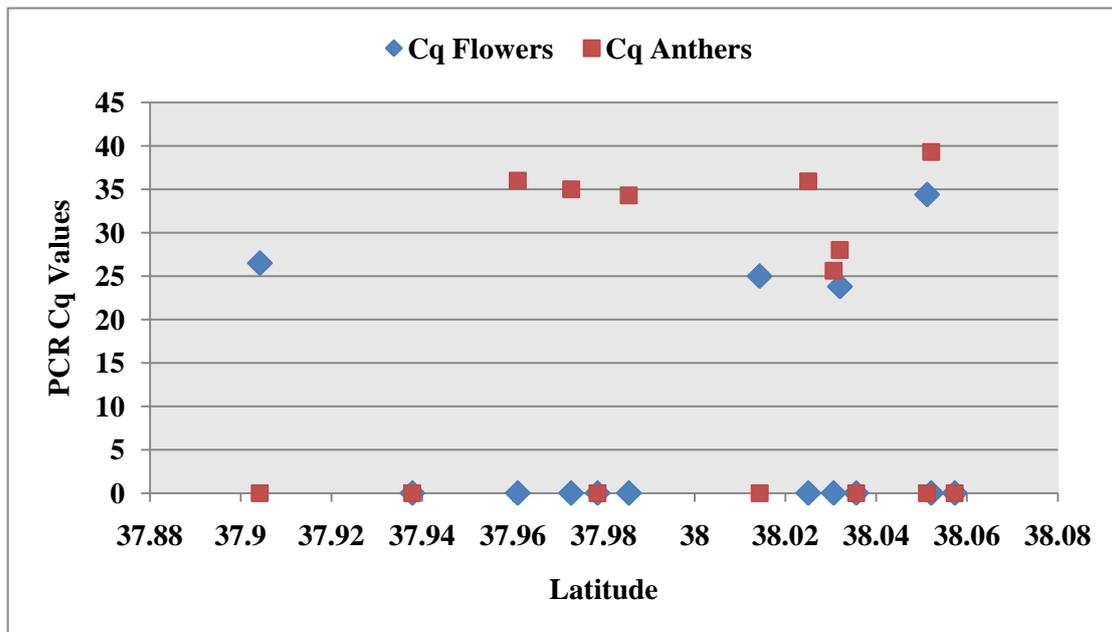


Figure 4. qPCR Cq values for bacteriological saline washings (Cq Flowers) and flower anthers (Cq Anthers) plotted according to the latitude location of the sampling point along the Edgecumbe Transect. Latitude was used because the transect ran north-south, better representing geographical distance between orchards.

4.2 Sampling Protocols and Testing Frequency of Commercial Batches of Pollen

4.2.1 Serial Dilution of Infected Pollen

Pollen contaminated with *Psa-V* was serially diluted with pollen harvested according to the KVH protocol and tested as not containing *Psa-V* to determine sensitivity and repeatability of the qPCR *Psa-V* test offered by Hill Laboratories.

Although every effort was made during the pollen harvesting process to contaminate the pollen with *Psa-V*, the resultant ‘contaminated’ pollen gave a relatively high Cq value by qPCR (low level of *Psa-V* contamination). Thus, few serial dilutions were needed before the limit of detection of the method was reached (Table 1 and Appendix 2). In addition, the laboratory found a significant dilution (x10 for the undiluted sample and x100 for serially diluted samples) of the extracted DNA was required before the qPCR assay to prevent inhibitors in the extracts affecting the PCR assay. Consequently this reduces the sensitivity of the test. Nevertheless, acceptable sampling repeatability of replicates gives confidence that 0.25g of a sample will give a confident representation of the total sample.

Table 1. Serial dilutions of ‘contaminated’ pollen with ‘uncontaminated’ pollen

Dilution	Replicates		Mean	1 x sd	% CV
	Tested	Psa positive			
Undiluted	3	3	27.3	0.3	1.1
2 x	5	5	29.1	0.5	1.7
4 x	5	5	30.2	0.9	3.1
8 x	5	5	31.5	0.9	3.0
16 x	5	5	31.6	0.4	1.3
32 x	5	5	33.0	1.5	4.6
64 x	5	4	34.1	1.1	3.4
128 x	5	4	33.3	0.3	0.9
256 x	5	2	32.5	1.6	4.8
512 x	5	0	-	-	-
1024 x	5	1	35.3	-	-

4.2.2 Variability of the qPCR *Psa-V* test

Thirty 0.25g replicates of the ‘uncontaminated’ and the ‘contaminated’ pollen batches were tested for *Psa-V* content by qPCR. All ‘uncontaminated’ sample replicates did not give PCR melt curves indicative of *Psa-V* and were determined not to contain *Psa-V*. The thirty replicates of ‘contaminated’ pollen gave a mean *Psa-V* Cq value of 28.06, and a standard deviation of 0.58 (% coefficient of variation = 2.05).

These results give confidence that the protocol used to collect and process the pollen samples and the repeatability of the laboratory test are appropriate to be able to reliably detect *Psa* contamination of a batch of pollen consisting of flowers originating from multiple orchards.

4.2.3 Determination of apparent *Psa* colony forming units (cfu) in saline wash samples

Since it is difficult to reliably isolate viable *Psa* bacterial from pollen, a calibration curve of known levels of bacteria vs. qPCR *Psa-V* Cq values was created. This calibration curve allows estimations of the bacterial load, expressed as apparent colony forming units (cfu), present on flowers buds, anthers and pollen.

Two calibration curves were prepared, one using 0.1mL of *Psa* bacteria inoculated saline solution (Direct), and the other processing 0.1mL of *Psa* bacteria inoculated saline solution through the protocol used to prepare the bacteriological saline washes of the flower buds (Saline Wash).

An acceptable correlation for the Direct ($R^2 = 0.994$) and Saline Wash ($R^2 = 0.982$) calibration curves were obtained (Figure 5, Appendix 3). The qPCR could detect about 2.6×10^3 cfu per 0.1mL of either untreated inoculated saline or inoculated saline processed by the protocol used to prepare the bacteriological saline washes of the flower buds. However, there is evidence of procedural loss of bacteria, particularly at lower cfu levels, when preparing the saline washes.

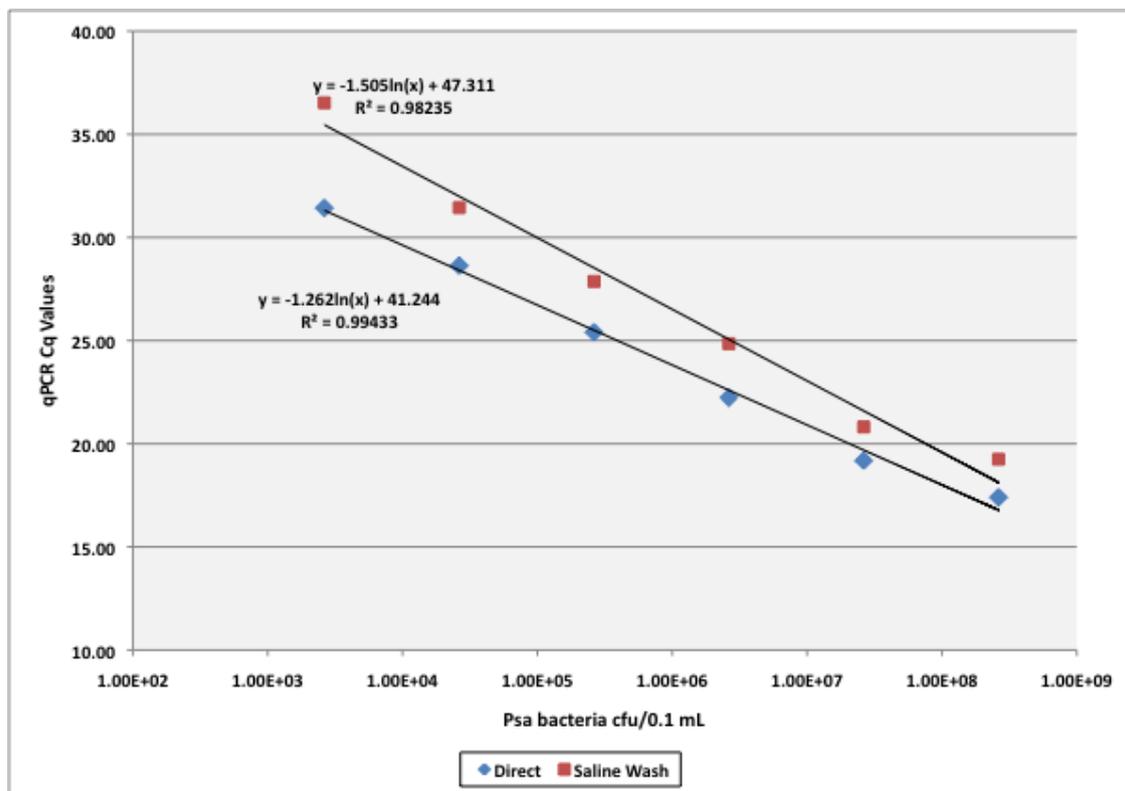


Figure 5. Calibration curves of qPCR Cq values and *Psa-V* bacteria cfu for (a) 0.1mL of *Psa* bacteria inoculated saline solution (Direct), and (b) 0.1mL of *Psa-V* bacteria inoculated saline solution processed through the protocol used to prepare the bacteriological saline washes of the flower buds (Saline Wash).

The sensitivity of the qPCR assay using the F1/R2 primers, that are not specific for *Psa-V*, is reported to be as low as 10 cfu (Rees-George, et al. 2010⁴). A more recent report⁵ suggests that the qPCR assay using primers (83/84/85 – hop1), that are specific to *Psa-V*, is less sensitive than the assay using the F1/R2 primers. The magnitude of the difference in sensitivity was not reported.

To quantify the difference in sensitivity of the two assays, the DNA extracts of serial dilutions of *Psa* bacteria inoculated saline solution used for the aforementioned calibration curve (Direct) were tested using the F1/R2 and the hop1 primer sets.

The qPCR assay using the F1/R2 primer set was found to be about 15 times more sensitive than the qPCR assay using the hop-1 primer set when comparing calibration curves (Figure 6). The F1/R2 primer set could detect about 100 cfu in 0.1mL.

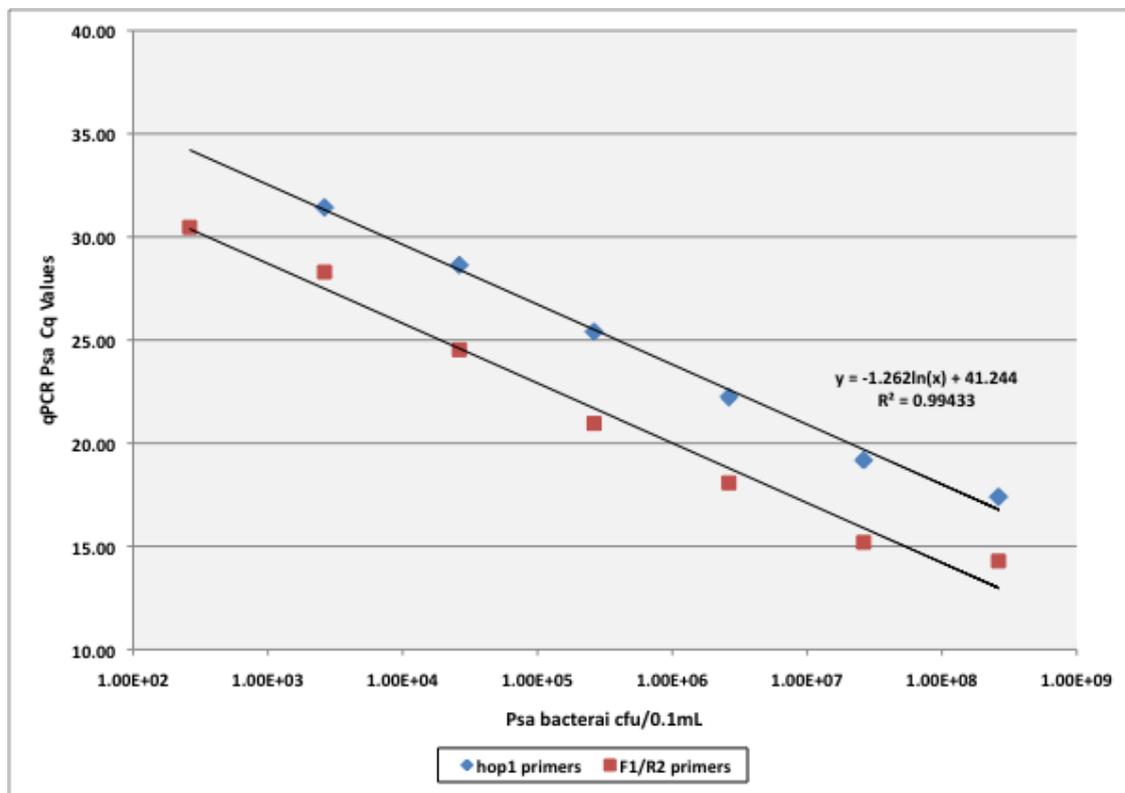


Figure 6. Calibration curves of qPCR Cq values and *Psa-V* bacteria cfu for 0.1mL of *Psa* bacteria inoculated saline solution (Direct) derived from qPCR tests using (a) hop-1 and (b) F1/R2 primer sets.

⁴ Rees-George J, Vanneste JL, Cornish DA, Pushparajah IPS, Yu J, Templeton MD, Everett KR, 2010. Detection of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) primers based on the 16S–23S rDNA intertranscribed spacer region and comparison with PCR primers based on other gene regions. *Plant Pathology* **59**, 453–464.

⁵ Detection of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* from leaves and pollen collected from symptomatic and asymptomatic *Actinidia chinensis* in Te Puke, Bay of Plenty. IDC and Response, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, PO Box 2095, Auckland 1140, New Zealand. December 2011

4.2.4 Reduction of Psa-V on flowers and anthers by spraying

Thirty male *Actinidia deliciosa* Kiwifruit vines from an orchard with Psa-V symptoms in Te Puke were treated with an approved kiwifruit leaf surface sterilant (Spotless) by a commercial spray contractor two days before collection of flowers. Thirty vines from the same orchard that had not been sprayed were used to collect a similar number of unsprayed flower samples. Saline washes of flower bud exteriors and dissected anthers were tested by qPCR for *Psa-V* content.

All unsprayed and sprayed flower bud saline wash samples were highly infected with *Psa-V* (mean Cq values of 22.0 and 24.5, respectively), with apparent Psa-V bacterial load of 2×10^8 and 1×10^8 cfu per g of flower buds, respectively (Table 2, Appendix 4). Twenty-seven out of thirty (90%) Anther samples for both the unsprayed and sprayed vines were also positive for *Psa-V* by qPCR (Table 2, Appendix 4).

Since the qPCR test cannot distinguish the difference between DNA from live or DNA from dead bacteria, a representative selection of six samples of flower bud washing from the unsprayed and sprayed groups were plated onto King's Medium B agar and incubated overnight at 25°C. All bacterial growth was harvested and the extracted DNA was tested for *Psa-V* content by qPCR. It was expected that if viable *Psa-V* bacteria were present in a sample, there would be growth of *Psa-V* bacteria and an increase in *Psa-V* Cq values in the qPCR test. If the spray was effective, then samples from the spray treatment should show no increase in Cq values.

Bacterial growth was observed on all agar plates after overnight incubation. However, the observed colonies did not appear to be characteristic of *Psa* colonies. Subsequent qPCR of harvested colonies could not detect any *Psa-V*.

This experiment was repeated using a more selective King's media and plates were incubated for up to 48 hours. Again microbial growth was not indicative of *Psa-V*. Failure to grow *Psa-V* in the laboratory might well have been due to the considerable time (3 weeks) the sample extracts were stored refrigerated before testing. Therefore, it cannot be determined if the application of Spotless killed or did not kill *Psa-V* bacteria on the flower buds or on the anthers.

What can be deduced from this experiment is that flowers from heavily infected Kiwifruit vines contain anthers with high levels of *Psa-V* infection.

Table 2. Frequency of *Psa-V* positive samples of saline washing of flower buds and anthers, mean qPCR Cq values of positive samples and estimated Psa bacteria (cfu/g) load of flower samples taken from a heavily infected orchard before and after spraying with a bactericide (Spotless).

	Unsprayed Vines		Sprayed Vines	
	Flower bud	Anthers	Flower bud	Anthers
Positive (n)	30	27	30	27
Not Detected (n)	0	3	0	3
Mean Cq of Positives	22.9	28.4	24.5	28.9
SD of Positives	2.1	2.9	1.3	1.9
% CV of Positives	9.4	10.1	5.3	6.6
~ cfu load (per g)	2.0e 08	1.8e 07	1.0e 08	6.0e 06

4.2.5 Risk of *Psa-V* contamination of pollen harvested according to the KVH Pollen Production Best-practice Pollen Source Guidelines

Bacteriological saline washes of flower buds collected, according to the KVH Pollen Production Best-practice Pollen Source Guidelines; from 23 Hayward orchards (over a number of days) as part of a commercial pollen harvesting process were tested for *Psa-V* contamination by qPCR. On the same day as these samples arrived at the pollen processing plant, 40 replicate pollen sub-samples from each 2kg batch of commercial pollen were combined and sent to Hill Laboratories for qPCR analysis. A total of X commercial batches of pollen were tested.

Psa-V was not detected in any of the saline washes or the pollen samples submitted to the laboratory, suggesting that pollen harvested from orchards according to the KVH Pollen Production Best-practice Pollen Source Guidelines have low risk of *Psa-V* contamination (Appendix 5).

5 Appendices

5.1 Appendix 1: Geographic Distance Risk Data

Laboratory Job Number: 956729			Objective 1															
Date Registered: 26/11/11 13:28			Te Puke Transect															
File Creation Date: 8/12/11 9:56																		
Quote Number: 47161																		
Sample Number	Sample ID	Sample Type	Dilution Factor	Pea Cq Value	Pea Result	KPIN and PSA Status		Isolate Type	Orchard Address	Town	Region	Priority Zone	Variety (HW / Ha)	GPS coordinates		Visual Pea V Rating		
						KPIN	Pea Test Result							Long	Lat			
1	210000022182	Bacteriological saline washings	10	24.3	Positive	4596	Positive	Psa-V	17 Bayly Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	2	176.28515	-37.8334^	4		
2	210000022199	Bacteriological saline washings	10	24.4	Positive	6979	Positive	Psa-V	349 No 2 Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	4.57	176.1046	-37.8302	4		
3	210000022205	Bacteriological saline washings	10	25.8	Positive *	5417	Positive	Psa-V	11 Cheotham Ave	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	2.75	176.316	-37.8262	7		
4	210000022212	Bacteriological saline washings	10	23.7	Positive	8738	Positive	TND	Te Matai Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	3.8	176.3245	-37.8293	9		
5	210000022229	Bacteriological saline washings	10	24.6	Positive	5123	Positive	Psa-V	487 Te Matai Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	6.35	176.3287	-37.8302	4		
6	210000022236	Bacteriological saline washings	10	22.9	Positive	8577	Positive	Psa-V	157 Mark Road	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	12.4	176.3415	-37.8326	5		
7	210000022243	Bacteriological saline washings	10	28.9	Positive	5185	Positive	Psa-V visual	337 Brown Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	5.04	176.3499	-37.8215	4		
8	210000022250	Bacteriological saline washings	10	30.9	Weak positive	5181	Positive	Psa-V	Gridley Road	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	22.7	176.3618	-37.8268	2		
9	210000022267	Bacteriological saline washings	10	23	Positive	6739	Positive	Psa-V	412 Rangiaru Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	2.54	176.3696	-37.8242	6		
10	210000022274	Bacteriological saline washings	10	27.1	Positive	3616	Positive	Psa-V	130 Casuarina Dr	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	8.96	176.37003	-37.8403^	3		
11	210000022281	Bacteriological saline washings	10	29.1	Positive	8921	Not Detected	-	Karner Dr	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	6	176.3853	-37.8223	3		
12	210000022298	Bacteriological saline washings	10	23.2	Positive	1879	Positive	Psa-V	316 State Highway 33	Poenangaroa	TE PUKE	Te Puke	9.31	176.398	-37.8301	9		
13	210000022304	Bacteriological saline washings	10	25.1	Positive	8098	Positive	Psa-V	329 State Highway 33	Poenangaroa	TE PUKE	Te Puke	15.06	176.4055	-37.8372	3		
14	210000022311	Bacteriological saline washings	10	29.7	Positive	4225	Positive	Psa-V	Old Coach Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	4.83	176.4122	-37.8286	3		
15	210000022328	Bacteriological saline washings	10	20.9	Positive	8143	Positive	Psa-V	Milford Park Dr	Poenangaroa	TE PUKE	Te Puke	5.38	176.4261	-37.8357	3		
16	210000022359	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	42.6	Not Detected	4596	Positive	Psa-V	17 Bayly Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	2	176.28515	-37.8334^	4		
17	210000022380	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	ND	Not Detected	6979	Positive	Psa-V	349 No 2 Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	4.57	176.1046	-37.8302	4		
18	210000022410	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	42.1	Not Detected	5417	Positive	Psa-V	11 Cheotham Ave	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	2.75	176.316	-37.8262	7		
19	210000022441	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	ND	Not Detected	8738	Positive	TND	Te Matai Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	3.8	176.3245	-37.8293	9		
20	210000022472	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	ND	Not Detected	5123	Positive	Psa-V	487 Te Matai Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	6.35	176.3287	-37.8302	4		
21	210000022502	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	44.8	Not Detected	8577	Positive	Psa-V	157 Mark Road	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	12.4	176.3415	-37.8326	5		
22	210000022533	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	ND	Not Detected	5185	Positive	Psa-V visual	337 Brown Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	5.04	176.3499	-37.8215	4		
23	210000022564	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	ND	Not Detected	5181	Positive	Psa-V	Gridley Road	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	22.7	176.3618	-37.8268	2		
24	210000022595	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	ND	Not Detected	6739	Positive	Psa-V	412 Rangiaru Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	2.54	176.3696	-37.8242	6		
25	210000022625	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	40.6	Not Detected	3616	Positive	Psa-V	130 Casuarina Dr	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	8.96	176.37003	-37.8403^	3		
26	210000022656	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	34.3	Weak positive	8921	Not Detected	-	Karner Dr	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	6	176.3853	-37.8223	3		
27	210000022687	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27	Positive	1879	Positive	Psa-V	316 State Highway 33	Poenangaroa	TE PUKE	Te Puke	9.31	176.398	-37.8301	9		
28	210000022717	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31	Weak positive	8098	Positive	Psa-V	329 State Highway 33	Poenangaroa	TE PUKE	Te Puke	15.06	176.4055	-37.8372	3		
29	210000022748	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	32.1	Weak positive	4225	Positive	Psa-V	Old Coach Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke	4.83	176.4122	-37.8286	3		
30	210000022779	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	34.2	Weak positive	8143	Positive	Psa-V	Milford Park Dr	Poenangaroa	TE PUKE	Te Puke	5.38	176.4261	-37.8357	3		
			* = Also minor LV Positive			^ Lat, Ln coordinates derived from street address												
Laboratory Job Number: 958643			Objective 1															
Date Registered: 2/12/11 10:13			Edgcombe / Whakatane Transect															
File Creation Date: 8/12/11 18:23																		
Quote Number: 47161																		
Sample Number	Sample ID	Sample Type	Dilution Factor	Pea Cq Value	Pea Result	KPIN and PSA Status		Isolate Type	Orchard Address	Town	Region	Priority Zone	Variety (HW / Ha)	GPS coordinates		Visual Pea V Rating		
						KPIN	Pea Test Result							Long	Lat			
1	210000030729	Bacteriological saline washings	10	33	Not Detected	2831	Positive	Psa-V	147 Otakiri Road	Edgcombe	Whakatane	Whakatane	0.2	176.811	-37.9855	1		
2	210000030750	Bacteriological saline washings	10	32.1	Not Detected	5150	Positive	Psa-V	1927 State Highway 30	Te Tiko	Whakatane	Whakatane	21.3	176.8198	-38.0356	1		
3	210000030781	Bacteriological saline washings	10	29.6	Not Detected	4048	Not tested	-	158 Galatea Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	2.1	176.808	-38.0521	0		
4	210000030811	Bacteriological saline washings	10	37.1	Not Detected	7977	Positive	Psa-V	389 McDonald Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.3	176.8307	-38.0573	4		
5	210000030842	Bacteriological saline washings	10	34.4	Weak positive	3397	Not Detected	-	326 McDonald Road	Te Tiko	Whakatane	Whakatane	27.2	176.8233	-38.0512	0		
6	210000030873	Bacteriological saline washings	10	23.8	Positive	5356	Positive	Psa-V	118 B MacDonald Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.7	176.8311	-38.032	2		
7	210000030903	Bacteriological saline washings	10	38.4	Not Detected	5544	Positive	Psa-V	88 MacDonald Road	Te Tiko	Whakatane	Whakatane	3.12	176.8324	-38.0306	9		
8	210000030934	Bacteriological saline washings	10	33.7	Not Detected	1947	No data	-	2 Paul Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane		176.82799	-38.0250^	0		
9	210000030965	Bacteriological saline washings	10	25	Positive	1907	Not Detected	-	46 Hauser Rd	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.6	176.8461	-38.0143	1		
10	210000030996	Bacteriological saline washings	10	30.5	Not Detected	7278	Not tested	-	121 Western Drain Rd	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane		176.871493	-37.9727^	0		
11	210000031023	Bacteriological saline washings	10	29.2	Not Detected	3276	Not tested	-	67 Luke Rd	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	4.18	176.8887	-37.9786	0		
12	210000031054	Bacteriological saline washings	10	31.8	Not Detected	2435	Not tested	-	162 College Rd	Edgcombe	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.9	176.8332	-37.961	0		
13	210000031085	Bacteriological saline washings	10	39.3	Not Detected	8870	Not tested	-	275 Gow Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	15	176.8134	-37.9378	0		
14	210000031115	Bacteriological saline washings	10	26.3	Positive	9288	Not Detected	-	33 Burt Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	7.9	176.766	-37.9042	1		
15	210000031146	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	34.3	Weak positive	2831	Positive	Psa-V	147 Otakiri Road	Edgcombe	Whakatane	Whakatane	0.2	176.811	-37.9855	1		
16	210000031177	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	42.3	Not Detected	5150	Positive	Psa-V	1927 State Highway 30	Te Tiko	Whakatane	Whakatane	21.3	176.8198	-38.0356	1		
17	210000031207	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	39.3	Weak positive	4048	Not tested	-	158 Galatea Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	2.1	176.808	-38.0521	0		
18	210000031238	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	0	Not Detected	7977	Positive	Psa-V	389 McDonald Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.3	176.8307	-38.0573	4		
19	210000031269	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	40.9	Not Detected	3397	Not Detected	-	326 McDonald Road	Te Tiko	Whakatane	Whakatane	27.2	176.8233	-38.0512	0		
20	210000031290	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28	Positive	5356	Positive	Psa-V	118 B MacDonald Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.7	176.8311	-38.032	2		
21	210000031320	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	25.6	Positive	5544	Positive	Psa-V	88 MacDonald Road	Te Tiko	Whakatane	Whakatane	3.12	176.8324	-38.0306	9		
22	210000031351	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	35.9	Weak positive	1947	No data	-	2 Paul Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane		176.82799	-38.0250^	0		
23	210000031382	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	44.1	Not Detected	1907	Not Detected	-	46 Hauser Rd	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.6	176.8461	-38.0143	1		
24	210000031412	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	35	Weak positive	7278	Not tested	-	121 Western Drain Rd	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane		176.871493	-37.9727^	0		
25	210000031443	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	42.1	Not Detected	3276	Not tested	-	67 Luke Rd	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	4.18	176.8887	-37.9786	0		
26	210000031474	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	36	Weak positive	2435	Not tested	-	162 College Rd	Edgcombe	Whakatane	Whakatane	1.9	176.8332	-37.961	0		
27	210000031504	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	40.4	Not Detected	8870	Not tested	-	275 Gow Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	15	176.8134	-37.9378	0		
28	210000031535	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	42.2	Not Detected	9288	Not Detected	-	33 Burt Road	Whakatane	Whakatane	Whakatane	7.9	176.766	-37.9042	1		
						^ Lat, Ln coordinates derived from street address												

5.3 Appendix 2b Sampling Protocols and Testing Frequency of Commercial Batches of Pollen Data

Laboratory Job Number: 958621													
Date Registered: 3/12/15 9:58				Thirty Replicates of 'contaminated' and 'uncontaminated' pollen									
File Creation Date: 21/12/15 10:23													
Quote Number: 47284													
Sample Number	Sample Name	Sample Type	PCR dilution	Cq Value	Psa Result	Cq value							
53	2100000032624 Rep 1 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.2	Positive	28.183082							
54	2100000032624 Rep 2 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.3	Positive	27.334353							
55	2100000032624 Rep 3 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.3	Positive	28.2852742							
56	2100000032624 Rep 4 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.9	Positive	27.929382							
57	2100000032624 Rep 5 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.7	Positive	27.7066767							
58	2100000032624 Rep 6 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.2	Positive	28.1727549							
59	2100000032624 Rep 7 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.7	Positive	27.7443593							
60	2100000032624 Rep 8 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.7	Positive	27.6809293							
61	2100000032624 Rep 9 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.9	Positive	27.8955824							
62	2100000032624 Rep 10 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.9	Positive	27.9283042							
63	2100000032624 Rep 11 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28	Positive	28.0445746							
64	2100000032624 Rep 12 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.7	Positive	27.7485453							
65	2100000032624 Rep 13 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.7	Positive	27.7285732							
66	2100000032624 Rep 14 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.4	Positive	28.3844564							
67	2100000032624 Rep 15 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	26.3	Positive	26.3318481							
68	2100000032624 Rep 16 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28	Positive	28.0010879							
69	2100000032624 Rep 17 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.9	Positive	27.8741384							
70	2100000032624 Rep 18 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.6	Positive	27.5556029							
71	2100000032624 Rep 19 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.7	Positive	27.6766631							
72	2100000032624 Rep 20 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.6	Positive	28.603266							
73	2100000032624 Rep 21 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.4	Positive	28.3896857							
74	2100000032624 Rep 22 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	29.5	Positive	29.462256							
75	2100000032624 Rep 23 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.2	Positive	28.1596441							
76	2100000032624 Rep 24 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.5	Positive	28.4879549							
77	2100000032624 Rep 25 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.4	Positive	28.4269829							
78	2100000032624 Rep 26 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	29.2	Positive	29.1817951							
79	2100000032624 Rep 27 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.2	Positive	28.1525648							
80	2100000032624 Rep 28 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.8	Positive	28.7729595							
81	2100000032624 Rep 29 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	27.5	Positive	27.537556	Mean	1 x sd	%cv				
82	2100000032624 Rep 30 (958621.1)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	28.4	Positive	28.3679826	28.06	0.58	2.05				
83	2100000032594 Rep 1 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	0	*	*							
84	2100000032594 Rep 2 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	38.4	Not Detected	38.4265963							
85	2100000032594 Rep 3 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	39.3	Not Detected	39.2530744							
86	2100000032594 Rep 4 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	40.7	Not Detected	40.6860675							
87	2100000032594 Rep 5 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	40.5	Not Detected	40.5431086							
88	2100000032594 Rep 6 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	42	Not Detected	42.0016609							
89	2100000032594 Rep 7 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	41.9	Not Detected	41.9495383							
90	2100000032594 Rep 8 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	42.2	Not Detected	42.2466826							
91	2100000032594 Rep 9 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	0	Not Detected	*							
92	2100000032594 Rep 10 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	44.4	Not Detected	44.3819811							
93	2100000032594 Rep 11 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	0	Not Detected	*							
94	2100000032594 Rep 12 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	42.2	Not Detected	42.2463121							
95	2100000032594 Rep 13 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	42.6	Not Detected	42.5987837							
96	2100000032594 Rep 14 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	43.2	Not Detected	43.2348427							
97	2100000032594 Rep 15 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	39	Not Detected	38.9910001							
98	2100000032594 Rep 16 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	38.4	Not Detected	38.3521746							
99	2100000032594 Rep 17 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	43	Not Detected	42.9806412							
100	2100000032594 Rep 18 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	0	Not Detected	*							
101	2100000032594 Rep 19 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	0	Not Detected	*							
102	2100000032594 Rep 20 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	43	Not Detected	43.0006211							
103	2100000032594 Rep 21 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	34.7	Not Detected	34.7482785							
104	2100000032594 Rep 22 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	39.7	Not Detected	39.7367931							
105	2100000032594 Rep 23 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	36.5	Not Detected	36.5155182							
106	2100000032594 Rep 24 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	42.4	Not Detected	42.3696801							
107	2100000032594 Rep 25 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	40.3	Not Detected	40.3267911							
108	2100000032594 Rep 26 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	37.8	Not Detected	37.84135							
109	2100000032594 Rep 27 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	37.3	Not Detected	37.288227							
110	2100000032594 Rep 28 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	39	Not Detected	39.0058752							
111	2100000032594 Rep 29 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	37.3	Not Detected	37.3048125	Mean	1 x sd	%cv				
112	2100000032594 Rep 30 (958621.2)	Kiwifruit pollen	100	38	Not Detected	38.0198105	40.16	2.49	6.20				

5.4 Appendix 3a Determination of apparent Psa colony forming units (cfu) in saline wash samples data

Cq Values							
		Direct PCR			Saline Wash PCR Results		
Number of cfu/mL	Number of cfu/0.1 mL tested	Sample Cq	Duplicate Sample Cq	Direct	Sample Cq	Duplicate Sample Cq	Saline Wash
2.63E+00	2.63E-01	35.16	35.35	35.25*	42.95	44.37	43.66*
2.63E+01	2.63E-01	37.25	36.66	36.95*	39.22	39.04	39.13*
2.63E+02	2.63E+01	36.26	36.17	36.21*	42.03	43.41	42.71*
2.63E+03	2.63E+02	37.42	36.80	37.10*	-	44.82	44.81*
2.63E+04	2.63E+03	31.55	31.31	31.43	36.53	-	36.53
2.63E+05	2.63E+04	28.41	28.86	28.63	31.52	31.37	31.44
2.63E+06	2.63E+05	25.23	25.58	25.41	28.13	27.60	27.87
2.63E+07	2.63E+06	22.13	22.34	22.24	24.77	24.94	24.85
2.63E+08	2.63E+07	19.09	19.26	19.18	20.95	20.67	20.81
2.63E+09	2.63E+08	18.18	16.62	17.40	18.96	19.54	19.25

* Samples did not give the characteristic melt curve for Psa-V so were omitted from the calibration curve

5.5 Appendix 3b Comparison of Primers set testing serial dilutions of 2.63E+09 cfu, then DNA extraction

83/84/85 Primer Set Cq Values			Direct PCR Results			Saline Wash PCR Results		
Dilution	Number of cfu/mL	Number of cfu/0.1 mL tested	Sample Cq	Duplicate Sample Cq	Average	Sample Cq	Duplicate Sample Cq	Average
1.00E-09	2.63E+00	2.63E-01						
1.00E-08	2.63E+01	2.63E+00						
1.00E-07	2.63E+02	2.63E+01						
1.00E-06	2.63E+03	2.63E+02						
1.00E-05	2.63E+04	2.63E+03	31.55	31.31	31.43	36.53		36.53
1.00E-04	2.63E+05	2.63E+04	28.41	28.86	28.63	31.52	31.37	31.44
1.00E-03	2.63E+06	2.63E+05	25.23	25.58	25.41	28.13	27.60	27.87
1.00E-02	2.63E+07	2.63E+06	22.13	22.34	22.24	24.77	24.94	24.85
1.00E-01	2.63E+08	2.63E+07	19.09	19.26	19.18	20.95	20.67	20.81
1.00E+00	2.63E+09	2.63E+08	18.18	16.62	17.40	18.96	19.54	19.25
F1/R2 Cq Values			Direct PCR Results			Saline Wash PCR Results		
Dilution	Number of cfu/mL	Number of cfu/0.1 mL tested	Sample Cq	Duplicate Sample Cq	Average	Sample Cq	Duplicate Sample Cq	Average
1.00E-09	2.63E+00	2.63E-01	-	-		-	-	
1.00E-08	2.63E+01	2.63E+00	-	-		-	-	
1.00E-07	2.63E+02	2.63E+01	-	-		-	-	
1.00E-06	2.63E+03	2.63E+02	30.08	30.85	30.47	-	-	
1.00E-05	2.63E+04	2.63E+03	28.03	28.56	28.30	30.15	29.31	29.73
1.00E-04	2.63E+05	2.63E+04	24.58	24.49	24.53	26.32	25.84	26.08
1.00E-03	2.63E+06	2.63E+05	21.11	20.81	20.96	23.26	21.83	22.55
1.00E-02	2.63E+07	2.63E+06	18.19	17.96	18.08	21.27	20.33	20.80
1.00E-01	2.63E+08	2.63E+07	15.20	15.19	15.19	15.52	15.98	15.75
1.00E+00	2.63E+09	2.63E+08	14.03	14.54	14.29	13.22	13.69	13.45

5.6 Appendix 4a Reduction of Psa-V on flowers and anthers by spraying data

Laboratory Job Number	958664	Objective 3 Sprayed	KPIN and PSA Status			Orchard location			Priority Zone or HRA	Variety HW / Ha	Long	Lat
			KPIN	Psa Test result	Isolate Type	Orchard Address	Town	Region				
Date Registered:	2/12/11 10:26											
File Creation Date:	12/12/11 12:43		5111	Positive	Psa-V	849 No1 Rd	Te Puke	TE PUKE	Te Puke Priority Zone	1.61	176.2935	-37.8546
Quote Number:	47283											
Sample Number	Sample Name	Sample Type	Dilution Factor	Cq Value	Result	Test Comments	Flower Weight	Saline (mL)				
1	2100000027125	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.6	Positive		175	350				
2	2100000027156	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.3	Positive		142	284				
3	2100000027187	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.4	Positive		71	142				
4	2100000027217	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive		193	386				
5	2100000027248	Bacterological saline washings	10	27	Positive		98	196				
6	2100000027279	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.4	Positive		160	320				
7	2100000027309	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.4	Positive		66	132				
8	2100000027330	Bacterological saline washings	10	22.2	Positive		108	216				
9	2100000027361	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.9	Positive		245	490				
10	2100000027392	Bacterological saline washings	10	26.3	Positive		73	146				
11	2100000027422	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.1	Positive		148	296				
12	2100000027453	Bacterological saline washings	10	22.5	Positive		192	384				
13	2100000027484	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.1	Positive		95	190				
14	2100000027514	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive		157	314				
15	2100000027545	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.1	Positive		98	196				
16	2100000027576	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.6	Positive		123	246				
17	2100000027606	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.1	Positive		118	236				
18	2100000027637	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive		65	130				
19	2100000027668	Bacterological saline washings	10	26.2	Positive		92	184				
20	2100000027699	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive		25	50				
21	2100000027729	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.5	Positive		195	390				
22	2100000027750	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.2	Positive		179	358				
23	2100000027781	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive		154	308				
24	2100000027811	Bacterological saline washings	10	22.1	Positive		153	306				
25	2100000027842	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive		29	58				
26	2100000027873	Bacterological saline washings	10	24	Positive		196	392				
27	2100000027903	Bacterological saline washings	10	26.8	Positive		147	294				
28	2100000027934	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.3	Positive		142	284				
29	2100000027965	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.1	Positive		205	410				
30	2100000027996	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.2	Positive		212	424				
31	2100000028924	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31.7	Weak positive		175					
32	2100000028955	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	30.4	Weak positive		142					
33	2100000028986	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.3	Positive		71					
34	2100000029013	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27.9	Positive		193					
35	2100000029044	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.8	Positive		98					
36	2100000029075	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31	Weak positive		160					
37	2100000029105	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29	Positive		66					
38	2100000029136	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31	Weak positive		108					
39	2100000029167	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	*	Not Detected		245					
40	2100000029198	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.4	Positive		73					
41	2100000029228	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	*	Not Detected		148					
42	2100000029259	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31.3	Weak positive		192					
43	2100000029280	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	26.3	Positive		95					
44	2100000029310	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.8	Positive		157					
45	2100000029341	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	30.4	Weak positive		98					
46	2100000029372	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27.6	Positive		123					
47	2100000029403	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27.1	Positive		118					
48	2100000029434	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.9	Positive		65					
49	2100000029464	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.7	Positive		92					
50	2100000029495	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	26.2	Positive	Only 3 g of sample	25					
51	2100000029526	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.3	Positive		195					
52	2100000030002	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.2	Positive		179					
53	2100000030033	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	24.1	Positive		154					
54	2100000030065	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	26.7	Positive	Only 3 g of sample	153					
55	2100000030125	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27.4	Positive		29					
56	2100000030156	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.8	Positive		196					
57	2100000030187	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31.4	Weak positive		147					
58	2100000030217	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31.6	Weak positive		142					
59	2100000030248	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28	Positive		205					
60	2100000030279	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	*	Not Detected		212					

Buds	Positives/Weak Positive	ND	
	30	0	
	Mean	sd	%cv
	24.5	1.3	5.3

Anthers	Positives/Weak Positive	ND	
	27	3	
	Mean	sd	%cv
	28.9	1.9	6.6

5.7 Appendix 4b Reduction of PsA-V on flowers and anthers by spraying data

Laboratory Job Number		Objective 3. Non-sprayed		KPIN and PSA Status		Psa Test result	Isolate Type	Orchard Address	Region	Priority Zone or HRA	Variety HW / Ha	Long	Lat	
958716		47283		KPIN	5111	Positive	Psa-V	849 No 1 Rd	TE PUKE	Te Puke Priority Zone	1.61	176.2935	-37.8546	
Sample Number	Sample Name	Sample Type	Dilution Factor	Result Text	Flower Weight	Saline (mL)								
1	210000028016	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.3	Positive	165	330							
2	210000028047	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.2	Positive	109	218							
3	210000028078	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.3	Positive	129	258							
4	210000028108	Bacterological saline washings	10	23	Positive	189	378							
5	210000028139	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.2	Positive	231	462							
6	210000028177	Bacterological saline washings	10	19.81	Positive	169	338							
7	210000028207	Bacterological saline washings	10	20.7	Positive	224	448							
8	210000028238	Bacterological saline washings	10	20.1	Positive	245	490							
9	210000028269	Bacterological saline washings	10	20.6	Positive	241	482							
10	210000028290	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.1	Positive	114	228							
11	210000028320	Bacterological saline washings	10	26	Positive	76	152							
12	210000028351	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.7	Positive	192	384							
13	210000028382	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.1	Positive	168	336							
14	210000028412	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.5	Positive	118	236							
15	210000028443	Bacterological saline washings	10	21.6	Positive	212	424							
16	210000028474	Bacterological saline washings	10	22.5	Positive	104	208							
17	210000028504	Bacterological saline washings	10	22.4	Positive	167	334							
18	210000028535	Bacterological saline washings	10	20.2	Positive	181	362							
19	210000028566	Bacterological saline washings	10	17.66	Positive	264	528							
20	210000028597	Bacterological saline washings	10	23.3	Positive	176	352							
21	210000028627	Bacterological saline washings	10	20.8	Positive	168	336							
22	210000028658	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.8	Positive	218	436							
23	210000028689	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.3	Positive	185	370							
24	210000028719	Bacterological saline washings	10	21	Positive	104	208							
25	210000028740	Bacterological saline washings	10	20.4	Positive	163	326							
26	210000028771	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.1	Positive	244	488							
27	210000028801	Bacterological saline washings	10	25.3	Positive	220	440							
28	210000028832	Bacterological saline washings	10	22.9	Positive	214	428							
29	210000028863	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.2	Positive	171	342							
30	210000028894	Bacterological saline washings	10	24.1	Positive	220	440							
31	210000029372	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	24.1	Positive	165								
32	210000029402	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	24.5	Positive	109								
33	210000029433	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.4	Positive	129								
34	210000029464	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.7	Positive	189								
35	210000029495	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	30.5	Weak positive	231								
36	210000029525	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	32.2	Weak positive	169								
37	210000029556	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.6	Positive	224								
38	210000029587	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	36.7	Weak positive	245								
39	210000029617	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	30.4	Weak positive	241								
40	210000029648	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	26.8	Positive	114								
41	210000029679	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	25.1	Positive	76								
42	210000029709	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.9	Positive	192								
43	210000029730	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.8	Positive	168								
44	210000029761	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	25	Positive	118								
45	210000029792	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	30.3	Weak positive	212								
46	210000030279	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	25.2	Positive	104								
47	210000030309	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	25.2	Positive	167								
48	210000030330	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.6	Positive	181								
49	210000030361	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	24	Positive	264								
50	210000030392	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.6	Positive	176								
51	210000030422	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.3	Positive	168								
52	210000030453	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	*	Not Detected	218								
53	210000030484	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	*	Not Detected	185								
54	210000030514	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	*	Not Detected	104								
55	210000030545	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27.4	Positive	163								
56	210000030576	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	31.4	Weak positive	244								
57	210000030606	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	27.6	Positive	110								
58	210000030637	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	29.2	Positive	214								
59	210000030668	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	30	Positive	171								
60	210000030699	Kiwifruit Flowers / Buds	10	28.8	Positive	220								

	Mean	sd	%cv
Buds	22.9	2.1	9.4
Anthers	Positives/Weak Positive	ND	
	27	3	
	Mean	sd	%cv
	28.4	2.9	10.1

	Unsprayed Vines		Sprayed Vines	
	Flower bud	Anthers	Flower bud	Anthers
Positive (n)	30	27	30	27
Not Detected (n)	0	3	0	3
Mean Cq of Positives	22.9	28.4	24.5	28.9
SD of Positives	2.1	2.9	1.3	1.9
% CV of Positives	9.4	10.1	5.3	6.6
= cfu load (per g)	2.0e 08	1.8e 07	1.0e 08	6.0e 06

5.8 Appendix 5 Risk of Psa-V contamination of pollen harvested according to the KVH Pollen Production Best-practice Pollen Source Guideline

956728 Objective 4					
26-Nov-11					
47168		qPCR		Psa	
Sample Name	Sample Type	Dilution Factor	Cq Value	Result	Test Comments
2100000023479	Bacterological saline washings	10	34.8	Not Detected	Weak positive for LV
2100000023509	Bacterological saline washings	10	35.6	Not Detected	
2100000023530	Bacterological saline washings	10	34.2	Not Detected	
2100000023561	Bacterological saline washings	10	37.1	Not Detected	
2100000023592	Bacterological saline washings	10	32.8	Not Detected	
2100000023622	Bacterological saline washings	10	33.3	Not Detected	
2100000023653	Bacterological saline washings	10	33.5	Not Detected	
2100000023684	Bacterological saline washings	10	33.7	Not Detected	
2100000023714	Bacterological saline washings	10	33.1	Not Detected	
2100000023745	Bacterological saline washings	10	35.5	Not Detected	
2100000023776	Bacterological saline washings	10	34.3	Not Detected	
2100000023806	Bacterological saline washings	10	34	Not Detected	
2100000023837	Bacterological saline washings	10	36.7	Not Detected	
2100000023868	Bacterological saline washings	10	35.3	Not Detected	
2100000023899	Bacterological saline washings	10	38	Not Detected	
2100000023929	Bacterological saline washings	10	36.8	Not Detected	
2100000023950	Bacterological saline washings	10	31.9	Not Detected	
2100000023981	Bacterological saline washings	100	35	Not Detected	Note different dilution
2100000024018	Bacterological saline washings	10	30.1	Not Detected	
958618					
2100000032471	Bacterological saline washings	10	33.3	Not Detected	Weak Positive for LV
2100000032501	Bacterological saline washings	10	32	Not Detected	
2100000032532	Bacterological saline washings	10	33.6	Not Detected	
2100000032563	Bacterological saline washings	10	35.1	Not Detected	