

KVH POLICY

Monitoring



Desired outcome

To provide information that enables Growers, KVH and other kiwifruit industry organisations to adapt their strategy and approach to management of Psa.

Background

The objectives of monitoring for Psa are to:

- i. comply with regulatory requirements under the NPMP (including to report against performance measures identified in the NPMP).
- ii. assess the National impacts of Psa on kiwifruit production to ensure appropriate strategies including level of investments, are in place to mitigate.
- iii. give timely and science-based information for growers for investment decisions to be taken, especially related to change over to new varieties; and
- iv. understand what is working in the field in order to provide best practice management advice to growers in order for them to minimise the impacts within orchard.

At the highest level, the overall impacts of Psa will be reflected in crop volumes and orchard grower returns after expenses.

Specific on-orchard monitoring is challenging in order to get meaningful results due to the large number of variables that come into play, depending on orchard management practices, varieties involved, spray program utilised, orchard location and environmental factors, along with the Psa situation in the neighbouring orchards.

NPMP requirements

The NPMP identifies monitoring as a 'principal measure', to enable an understanding of:

- i. the distribution of Psa;
- ii. where the levels of Psa present a significant risk to other orchards, regions, or other places;
- iii. the impacts of Psa on kiwifruit varieties and cultivars;
- iv. the overall impact of Psa on kiwifruit production;
- v. the effectiveness of Psa control tools and management practices; and
- vi. the levels of compliance with the requirements of the Plan.

Growers need such information to inform their individual orchard management decisions.

To enable effective monitoring:

- Rule 3 in the NPMP requires that symptoms, or potential symptoms of Psa, that are recognised for the first time in an orchard must be reported to KVH within 48 hours.
- Rule 4 in the NPMP requires provision of information that KVH or an authorised person reasonably believes is necessary to: monitor the distribution of Psa; or monitor the level of Psa present; or trace movements of any risk item in order to identify the source, or potential source, of any new Psa infection; or identify where a risk item has been moved to and whether that movement could result in further Psa infection.
- An authorised person can exercise a range of administrative powers where these are needed (e.g., power of inspection, power to give directions).

The NPMP proposal identified that minimum monitoring requirements are to be set on an annual basis and be specified in the Operational Plan that implements the NPMP (i.e. as required under s.100B of the Act).

Best orchard practices require Growers to have a good monitoring strategy in place for early detection of Psa symptoms. Spring and Autumn are considered high-risk infection periods.

The minimum annual monitoring requirements for Growers are set out in box 4, below

Box 4: Mandatory monitoring requirements

Mandatory monitoring for all orchards in all regions is required as follows:

Recovery regions—one round for all 'Not Detected' orchards between 15 September and 15 October (with reporting to KVH due 31 October)

- in November (reporting to KVH by 10 December).

Containment regions – one round for all 'Not Detected' orchards between 15 September and 15 October (with reporting to KVH due 31 October)

Exclusion regions – one round for all orchards between 15 September and 15 October (with reporting to KVH due 31 October)

Results of mandatory monitoring must be provided to KVH by all Growers by the dates specified above. Best practice advice on monitoring (including frequency and methods at different times of year, in relation to weather events etc.) is provided to Growers in KVH Best Practice: Monitoring for pests and disease available from the KVH website (www.kvh.org.nz/monitoring).

Implementation approach for monitoring

Roles in monitoring

In order to meet the objectives, KVH believes the monitoring activities being undertaken should cover several different components, some of which are undertaken by KVH, but other activities should be conducted by other groups in the industry as follows:

- Grower self-managed monitoring which includes web-based ability to report which is part of the mandatory requirements of NPMP and may be conducted by or in conjunction with post-harvest facilities.
- Early identification of Psa in exclusion regions (KVH and post-harvest).
- Overall performance of kiwifruit in a Psa environment (KVH, Zespri and post-harvest).
- Relationship between environmental factors and Psa (KVH, Zespri and post-harvest).
- Regional differences in the way Psa impacts orchards (KVH, Zespri and post-harvest).
- Impacts of different management techniques in dealing with Psa infection (KVH, Zespri and post-harvest).
- Establishment and performance of new varieties in infected orchards (varietal owners).
- Status of certified nurseries (KVH).