

Psa-V Risk Management Plans (post-harvest operators and processors)

Desired outcome

All post-harvest operators and kiwifruit processors have a plan for managing risk of Psa-V within their operation, and have confidence that they are meeting the requirements of the NPMP.

Background

Post-harvest operators and processors manage significant movements of people, vehicles, equipment and fruit that can be contaminated with kiwifruit leaf and plant material; moving these between orchards and the main post-harvest or processing facility. Post-harvest operators and processors already recognise this and play a key role in managing Psa-V risks associated with their own operations. By documenting how they manage these risks related to Psa-V they will produce a plan that will assist them in their operations, while also providing confidence that they are meeting the requirements of the NPMP.

There are some mandatory requirements that Psa-V Risk Management Plans must cover, some of which should already be standard operating procedures for these operations.

NPMP requirements

The NPMP requires that all post-harvest operators and kiwifruit processors must have in place, and operate in accordance with, a Psa-V Risk Management Plan by 1 August 2013. The Psa-V Risk Management Plan must include:

- The practices and procedures that will be applied in order to:
 - i. reduce the risk of bins of fruit becoming contaminated with kiwifruit leaf and plant material prior to transport;
 - ii. contain fruit that could be contaminated with kiwifruit leaf and plant material during transport (as required under the relevant protocol);
 - iii. remove, contain, and safely dispose of any residual contaminant kiwifruit leaf plant material after transport or during processing;
 - iv. sanitise fruit and any bins or other equipment used to transport or handle fruit prior to processing and packaging (as required under the relevant protocol);
 - v. ensure that any vehicles or equipment that leave the person's premises are free of kiwifruit leaf and plant material; and
 - vi. maintain a level of general hygiene that reduces the risk of any item that could be contaminated with Psa-V being moved from, or being allowed to leave, the post-harvest or processing facility.
- What systems exist for traceability of fruit and how the integrity of these systems are maintained.
- How the Psa-V Risk Management Plan complies with other requirements of the NPMP, such as controlled area notices, reporting and provision of information.

Post-harvest operators must provide KVH with a copy of their Psa-V Risk Management Plan, and provide any supporting information records that verify they operate in accordance within that plan upon request. These documents must be provided within one week of KVH making any such request.

Implementation approach for Psa-V Risk Management Plans

Post-harvest

Since the packing season of 2012, post-harvest operators have produced and submitted a Psa-V Risk Management Plan as a requirement under the Zespri Document Quality System (DQS). The new requirements under the NPMP have only resulted in a few minor additions to the content of the previous Psa-V Risk Management Plans.

KVH have produced a Psa-V Risk Management Plan 'systems audit report' document which is available on the KVH website. This document also serves as a template that post-harvest operators can use to create a Psa-V Risk Management Plan (by completing this document the operator will have created their Psa-V Risk Management Plan).

KVH provides feedback on proposed Psa-V Risk Management Plans. A finalised document, complete with any required amendments must be filed with KVH prior to the post-harvest operator commencing packing for the season.

An audit of the post-harvest operator must occur during the packing season to verify that the measures stated in the Psa-V Risk Management Plan are being implemented. This audit is conducted by Zespri as part of their regular audit programme; a scheme that includes all post-harvest operators.

Processors

The procedure for Processors to obtain an approved Psa-V Risk Management Plan is similar to that for post-harvest operators. Processors of kiwifruit must register with KVH. A KVH 'systems audit report' document is available for processors on the KVH website, which they can use as a template to produce a Risk Management Plan and submit this to KVH. A finalised Psa-V Risk Management Plan, including any amendments that KVH may request in their review, must be filed with KVH prior to any processing of kiwifruit for the season. A requirement as part of this procedure is that Processors are only able to obtain kiwifruit from post-harvest operators that already have approved Psa-V Risk Management Plans in place.

An audit of processors will be conducted on an annual basis to verify that measures stated in the Psa-V Risk Management Plan are being implemented; KVH will assist in the coordination of these audits.