

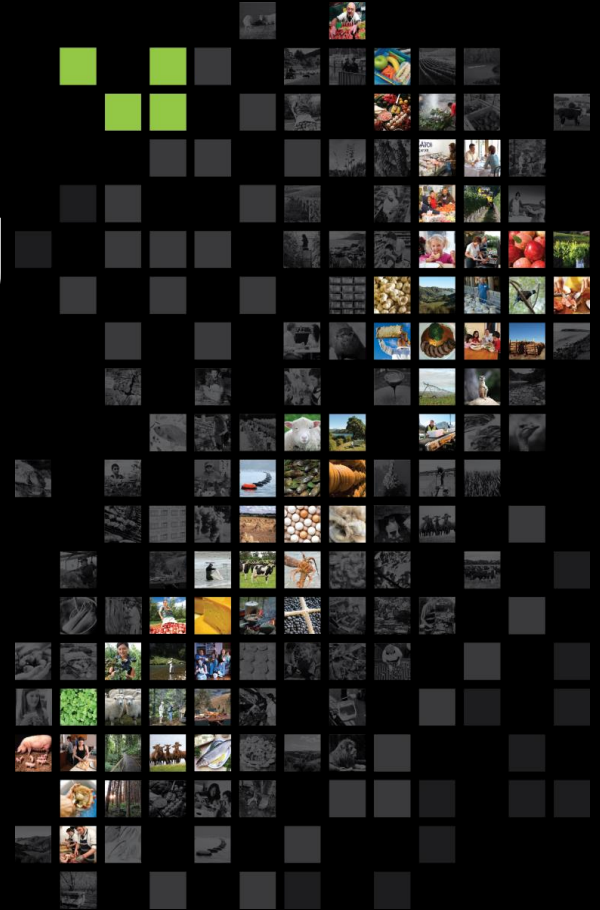
# GROWING AND PROTECTING NEW ZEALAND

---

## Yellow Spotted Stink Bug Response

Brendan Gould

Manager Surveillance and Incursion  
Investigation



Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua

---



# Overview



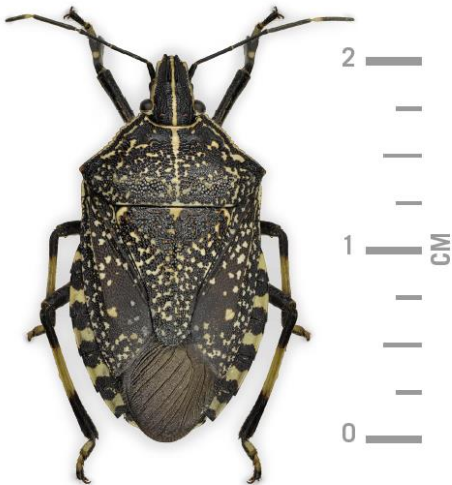
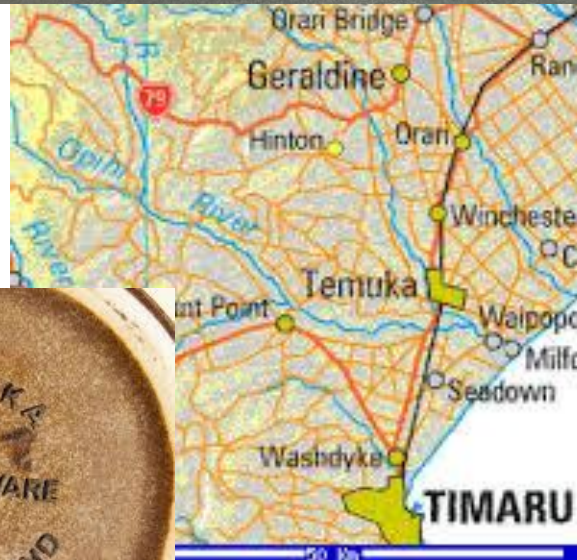
2

- Yellow Spotted Stink bug response
- First response under GIA
- How did it go?

1 CM

0

# Yellow Spotted Stink Bug (YSSB) – *Erthesina fullo*)



# Response Governance Established



## Response Strategic Leadership (RSL) Terms of Reference

### Context

RSL has the ultimate responsibility for the response, but delegates authority to the response manager.

### Response Strategic Leadership responsibilities

The RSL is accountable for the strategic direction of the response, setting objectives and outcomes, as well as ensuring these remain appropriate.

All members of RSL will have access to the same information to ensure the decisions.

Response strategic decisions start and stop with RSL, comprising nominated strategic decisions makers, where decisions are within industry fiscal caps and MPI financial approval.

Specific responsibilities include:

1. Confirming appointment of the response manager
2. Setting response outcomes, objectives and resourcing levels (people and funding)
3. Providing strategic guidance and high level support to the response
4. Making strategic, rather than operational and technical, decisions
5. Ensuring the response is appropriately resourced
6. Approving the response plan and other strategic documents
7. Monitoring progress towards outcomes
8. Removing any impediments to the response
9. Supporting the response manager
10. Approving the declaration of a response
11. Providing the declaration of a response

## Response Objectives

- Determine presence/absence of YSSB in Temuka
- Assess biological and economic risk of this organism to NZ
- Maintain confidence in the NZ biosecurity system
- Ensure effective communications with GIA partners and stakeholders
- Prepare for possibility of an established population of YSSB
- Ensure MPI captures all lessons from this response



Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



## YELLOW SPOTTED STINK BUG

**Legal status: Unwanted organism insect.**  
We would like to know if you have seen this insect.

### WHAT IS IT?

Yellow Spotted Stink Bug (*Erthesina fullo*)

Adult YSSBs are large distinctive stinkbugs with yellow markings on their backs. Adults are 18-23 mm long, about the size of a 20c piece. Their natural distribution is through Asia including China and Japan.

The adult bugs lay eggs on leaves in spring and summer and the juvenile stages develop through to adults before winter. Some adults overwinter under bark or in natural crevices and emerge when temperatures warm up to begin breeding.

In their natural range in Asia there is limited information recorded about their host range or impacts on plants and trees, though impacts on timber trees and horticultural crops have been noted.

The bugs though, are noted to be polyphagous, meaning they feed on a variety of plants. They feed by inserting their sharp mouthparts (proboscis) into stems, leaves or fruits and sucking up the plant fluids containing sugars and nutrients.

### WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

*Erthesina fullo* is a large, shield-shaped bug with an adult length of about 18 to 23 mm (about the size of a 20 cent piece which is larger than shield bugs currently found in NZ). The body is blackish brown in colour and covered entirely with many small yellow spots.



### HOW COULD IT GET HERE?

MPI has a number of measures in place to reduce the risk of exotic pests being introduced including requirements for importers and screening at the border. However there is no such thing as zero risk and it is possible the insect could hitch-hike its way into the country.

The YSSB is a known hitchhiker pest which can arrive in New Zealand in containers, or amongst general cargo and used machinery and vehicles. This makes it difficult to identify and manage specific entry pathways.

### WHAT CAN I DO?

Keep an eye out for this distinctive bug. If you find any suspects call MPI on **0800 80 99 66**. If possible take a photograph or even better, if you can, put a sample in your freezer.

**Catch it, call us.**

**0800 80 99 66**



Growing and Protecting New Zealand

# HAVE YOU SEEN ONE OF THESE?



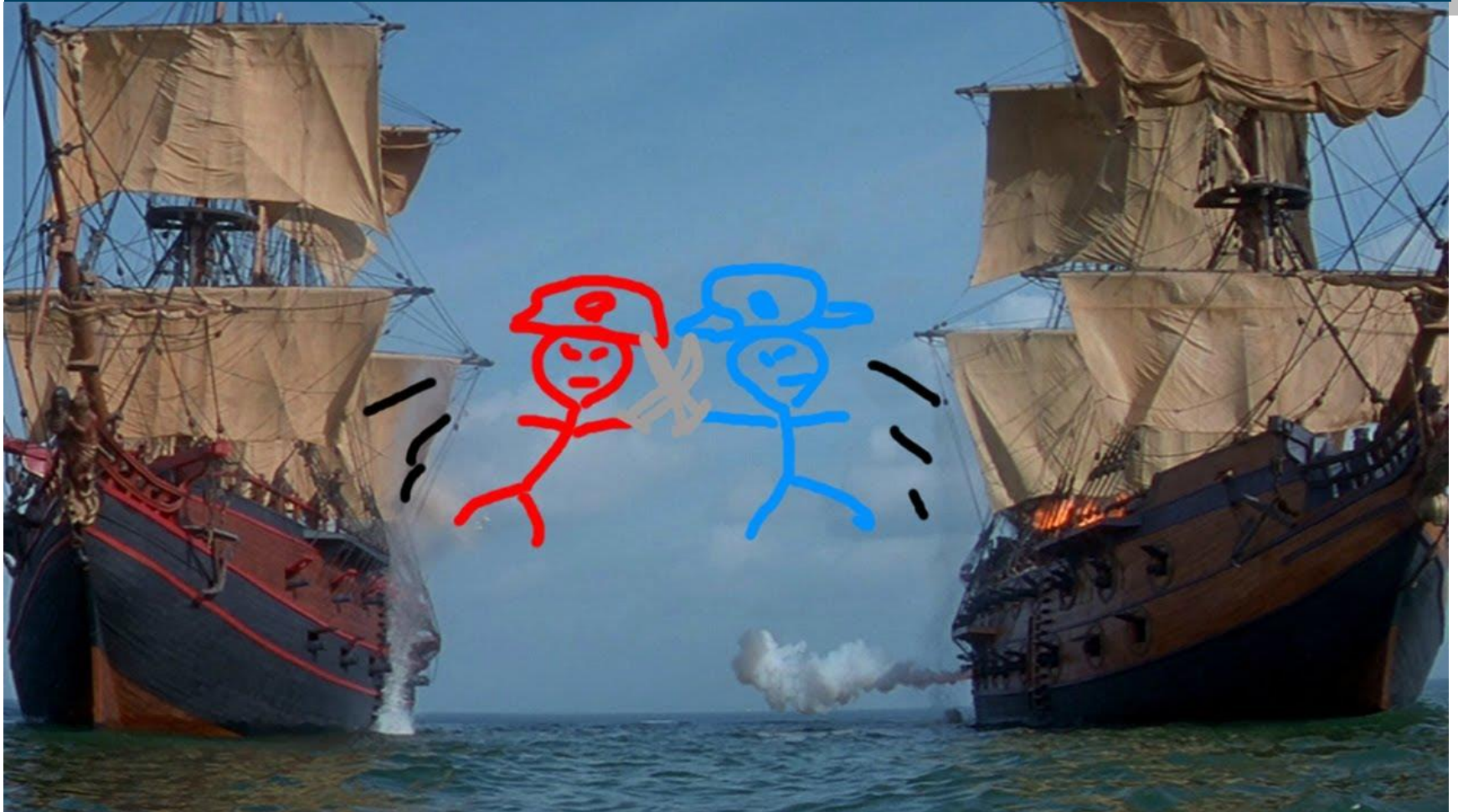
# CATCH IT. CALL US.

## EXOTIC PEST & DISEASE HOTLINE 0800 80 99 66

A yellow spotted stink bug has been found in Temuka and could be a threat to our primary industries and environment. If you find one: Catch it. Call us.

Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua

# How did it go?





# What went well

- GIA partners in Governance **added value** and helped break down misconceptions. This was a **good first of GIA in progress**.
- Industry **realistic** about use of **resources available and cost effectiveness**.
- **Willingness** by MPI to **accept** industry's expertise.
- Meetings were **well organised** with people engaged and well supported.
- Governance and the Incident Management Team (IMT) were **responsive and adaptive**.
- **Governance was supportive of the IMT**.
- Pipfruit NZ – **crisis action plan was activated** seamlessly
- **Clear reporting** from teams.



# What could be improved

- Need information in timely way to allow decision making to Governance and reporting within IMT.
- Need to improve 'nailing down of things' to ensure clear follow up is done ensuring visibility of priority and progress of actions.
- Clarity of when information is to be provided.
- Measuring effectiveness of comms collateral.
- Less jargon/plain English to be used in comms.
- Contingency planning and consulting international expertise to aid with this.
- Pre-agreed template for reports for Contingency Plan in easily accessible format
- Better contingency planning for stink bugs – BMSB and YSSB.

# Feedback from Mike Butcher 10/12/14

- Industry participants used the event as chance to **learn more of the response process** for what may in the future be a more serious organism
- Response is a **steep learning curve** for industry participants and MPI need to recognise they are also in a **mentoring role** at this time
- RSL **simulation exercises** for signatories (including MPI) would be helpful familiarisation activities
- The reality of **making decisions with incomplete information**
- The reality that **not all incursion will initiate** a full blown expensive exercise
- Industry was able to provide, at the table, **practical knowledge of local production** that assisted the response

To report suspected exotic land,  
freshwater and marine pests, or exotic  
diseases in plants or animals, call:

**0800 80 99 66**

**Ministry for Primary Industries**  
Manatū Ahu Matua



Visit [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz) for more information on exotic pests, diseases and biosecurity issues in New Zealand