

An update on Operational Agreement processes

September 2013



Background

- KVH established in wake of Psa, but has subsequently been tasked to lead the kiwifruit industry's preparedness and response to other biosecurity risks
- Initial focus on identifying offshore risks and ensuring import and border control measures are sufficient to keep them out
- Another priority is to be prepared and have response plans and sufficient resourcing for new risks
- Fruit fly major risk to NZ Horticulture, and KVH is working with MPI and other horticultural sectors to align thinking on future approaches
- Wanting to use fruit fly to build biosecurity operational capability within the industry

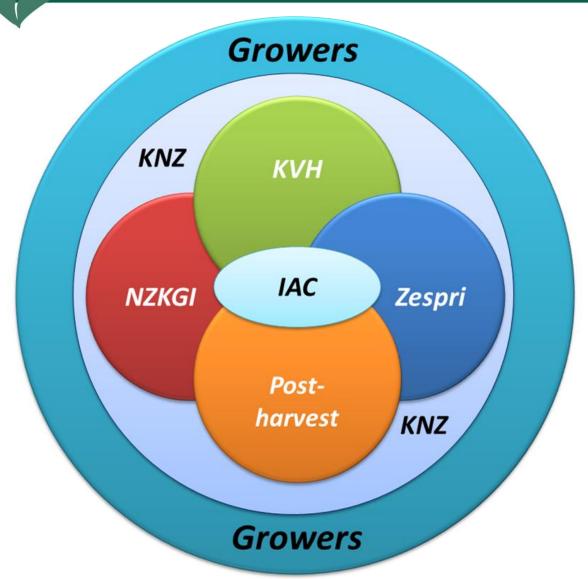


GIA drivers for kiwifruit industry

- Partnership and shared accountability
- Need for greater biosecurity protection
- Need for certainty of response
- Market access must be protected
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities
- Value for money
- Innovative
- Fit for purpose
- Leverage to other biosecurity preparedness
- Drives good biosecurity outcomes

New Zealand Kiwifruit Industry Structure







Role of KVH

- Management agency for the NPMP for Psa
- Monitor and identify biosecurity risks, undertaking surveillance, preparing for responses by ensuring adequate operational arrangements are in place, and leading biosecurity responses along with government and other industry groups as needed
- Promoting research and raising awareness related to biosecurity risk management, including surveillance
- Membership from all major marketers including Zespri and T&G, NZKGI (who represent all growers), and all post harvest supply entities
- KVH is preparing to be a signatory to the Deed as soon as it is available



Operational agreement for fruit fly

- Fruit fly proposal developed by KVH and NZKGI
- Based on horticultural sectors taking responsibility for readiness and response in related growing regions (e.g. kiwifruit in the Bay of Plenty)
- Government responsible for readiness and response in urban areas, and around Ports first arrival
- Kiwifruit developing response capability will enable industry preparedness for other biosecurity events
- Seeking to introduce innovative approach that still retains international credibility
- Fruit fly technical preparedness and response well defined, so less uncertainty about what happens when



Approaches examined

- 1. Shared responsibility/joint delivery across all NZ
- 2. Responsibilities aligned to each party best placed to respond, with industry adopting a collective model
- 3. Responsibilities aligned to each party best placed to respond, coordinating where it makes sense
 - Option 3 preferred approach in first instance
 - Transition period needed in order for industry to develop capacity
 - Governance by Council of signatories
 - MPI policy is that non signatories still liable for costs and not eligible for discounts



Next steps

- Part of GIA OA working group with Secretariat and MPI to further develop generic approach ✓✓
- Preparing an application to Minister to be recognised as industry organisation under 100ZA ✓✓
- On-going engagement with growers and industry leadership bodies ✓✓
- Needing to begin engaging with MPI on development of operational agreement for fruit fly (October)?
- Want other horticultural sectors to be involved in development, even if they are non signatories ✓
- By July 2014 want agreement in to be in place ??



The consultation conundrum

- Trust, mutual respect and alignment of outcomes all needed for an effective working partnership
- Industry consultation to get support will cause tensions
- Many industry participants still feel MPI should be paying for GIA, so needing to message Government have changed rules and time to move on
- In Kiwifruit industry recognition that we must be around decision making table, as overreliance on MPI comes with risks in light of Psa experience
- Not agreeing that we sign up to a predetermined response approach, that may be Government centric?
- Culture of sharing information essential, but tested recently with unauthorised kiwifruit seed investigation



Final comments

- Delaying better biosecurity is not an option for the kiwifruit industry
- Effective partnerships based on trust and real commitment will result better biosecurity
- Rules have changed and we need to accept and adapt
- While GIA Deed is important it will not result in improved biosecurity, but operational agreements will
- Too much talking past each other so we wanted to put a proposal forward that will result in more constructive engagement on a real significant risk

