

NZ AVOCADO BIOSECURITY STRATEGY

Protecting industry growth



Vision: A resilient industry free of new and emerging pests and diseases

MISSION



To secure the future of the New Zealand avocado industry by collaboratively preparing for and effectively responding to new pest incursions.

DIRECTION STATEMENTS

- 1 Preventing production losses resulting from new and emerging biosecurity threats
- 2 Reducing potential quarantine/trade interruptions to industry
- 3 Targeted communication and universal uptake by industry participants of biosecurity preparedness/vigilance
- 4 Industry and its resources are prepared to rapidly respond and lead an effective response
- 5 The industry continues to have improved communication and influence with Government

Key Result Areas



Preparedness

Pre-emptive measures and international collaborations that ensure risk assessment, pest surveillance, quarantine technology, trade agreements and response planning are ahead of emerging threats and the industry is responsive to changing risk profiles



Response

Pre-agreed, threat specific and agile response strategies in place to minimise reaction times, costs and trade implications to industry



Sustainability

long term management options and funding arrangements to reduce the ongoing impact of pests that become established



Research

Targeted, applied research to meet knowledge gaps on host specificity, pathway measures, pest control methods and long term management options



Capability

Reaching across the value chain to identify stakeholder and government expertise, resources and capability to secure a comprehensive and long term approach to industry biosecurity



Awareness

Driving biosecurity awareness and engagement with all industry players to foster participation, early reporting and a commitment to biosecurity vigilance



Policy and trade

Maintaining industry awareness of international trade rules related to biosecurity (WTO- SPS agreement) with a continual review of risk pathways, to ensure risk based mitigation measures are in place along the biosecurity continuum, pre-border – border – post-border

AGREEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

- Signatory to the Government Industry Agreement (GIA) on biosecurity readiness and response
- Signatory to the cross-sectoral Fruit Fly and BMSB Operational Agreements
- Avocado Sector Operational Agreement in place
- Biosecurity Act (response) Levy established for the industry
- Member of the Biosecurity Excellence in Port Community's partnership
- Avocado nurseries aligned with the Industry's High Health (biosecurity surveillance) Scheme
- Biosecurity Managers collaboration
- Better Border Biosecurity research group (B3)
- National Biosecurity Capability Network (NBCN)
- MPI's Emerging Risks program
- Working groups of the Biosecurity 2025 strategy

ACTIVITIES AHEAD – WORK PROGRAMME

Project #1 Industry Biosecurity plan

An evolving document providing a comprehensive stocktake of the industry's biosecurity arrangements, priorities and approach to risk management.

Project #2 Market access agreements

Working with MPI/PMAC to pre-emptively agree market access conditions and quarantine measures and aligning these under an Official Assurance Programme for fruit fly.

Project #3 Engagement

Ensuring industry representation and interface with biosecurity research bodies and maintaining strong relationships with industry representatives in other avocado producing countries.

Project #4 Risk assessment and threat specific research

Pest establishment modelling, host preference studies, agrichemical/biocontrol use and other management options are researched for the industry's high priority pests.

Project #5 Nursery biosecurity initiatives

Maintaining disease testing and plant material traceability initiatives within the industry's High Health Scheme Avocado.

Project #6 On-farm biosecurity

Ensuring growers, packers, exporters, rural professionals and agricultural service providers/retailers are provided with up-to-date information on best practice biosecurity risk management and have a clear understanding of pest reporting procedures.

Project #7 Biosecurity within AvoGreen

Connecting AvoGreen pest scouts with priority pest awareness/training and evolving the AvoGreen community into a First Detector Network to promote on orchard observations.