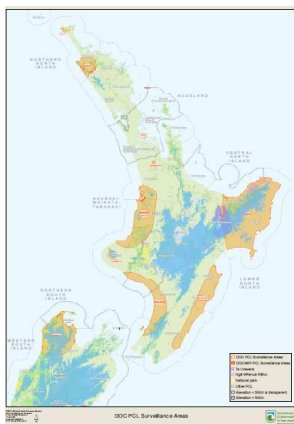




Myrtle Rust (MR) Stakeholder Update – 17 August 2017 5:00pm

<p>For information about this update, contact MR2017_Liaison@mpi.govt.nz</p>	<p>This update includes key information from the daily situation reports (SITREPs) from both Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and Department of Conservation (DOC). Red text below indicates new information since the 15th of August update.</p>
<p>Background</p>	<p>Myrtle rust (MR) was confirmed in New Zealand in 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 June – Te Puke in the Bay of Plenty • 21 May – Te Kuiti in Waikato • 17 May – New Plymouth in Taranaki • 3 May – Kerikeri in Northland
<p>Situation</p>	<p>Currently</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 111 confirmed sites • Regions: Bay of Plenty (32), Northland (4), Taranaki (73), Waikato (2) • Property type: private (94), nursery (8), public land (2), commercial (3), depot (1), golf course (1), orchard (1) and retailer (1) • Plant species on which myrtle rust has been detected include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ramarama: <i>Lophomyrtus bullata</i> (70) – Pōhutukawa, Northern rata, Southern rata: <i>Metrosideros excelsa</i> and species (40) – Monkey apple: <i>Syzygium smithii</i> (3) – Mānuka: <i>Leptospermum scoparium</i> (1) – <i>Eucalyptus</i> (1) – Bottle brush: <i>Callistemon</i> (3). – Willow myrtle: <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> (1) <p>List of plants susceptible to myrtle rust [PDF, 550 KB]</p> <p>Iwi Liaison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iwi Surveillance Training is taking place on the 21st and 22nd of August in Taranaki. <p>Surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPI continues to focus surveillance in the areas where myrtle rust is known to be present. In the Taranaki region, surveillance has extended out to the Controlled Area boundary including Inglewood and Stratford. • The Controlled Area extends 10km from known infected sites in Waitara and includes New Plymouth city, Spotswood and Inglewood. Moving myrtle plants or green waste out of the Controlled Area is illegal. The map of the controlled area is available here. • MPI has asked DOC to undertake surveillance in targeted areas in other parts of the country: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DOC conducted surveillance to detect whether myrtle rust is present on public conservation land in the eastern Wairarapa, Kapiti, Horowhenua, Manawatu/Whanganui, Egmont National Park and Motueka/Golden Bay.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public conservation land sites in coastal Taranaki/Maniapoto/ Waikato, East Coast/Whakatane, Coromandel, Great Barrier, Kaitaia and possibly Te Paki are also being visited by the end of the month. Within these areas, a sample of trees at selected sites are being checked thoroughly. <p>To date, no myrtle rust has been detected on public conservation land (PCL) in the areas checked by the survey parties. Access here DOC's PCL map in high resolution (PDF, 7,190K)</p>
Incident Control	MPI is the lead agency for the response with support from other central and local government agencies, industry and tangata whenua.
Operations  <i>Image: Sampling team</i>	<p>Staff from MPI, DOC and the Northland, Taranaki and Waikato local and regional councils continue to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● treat infected plants on confirmed properties ● dispose of risk material on confirmed properties. <p>They continue with surveys and clearance audits on confirmed properties, and the remaining teams will carry out a survey 5km from confirmed properties.</p> <p>DOC have completed seed banking of some taonga species for this season with seed collected from over 1000 trees to assist with recovery efforts should the rust prove damaging in the future. Over winter, surveillance in some parts of the country and additional seed collection for winter seeding is underway.</p>
Planning	<p>Development of long term planning options continues.</p> <p>Planning is underway for a number of meetings with iwi in affected regions.</p>
Welfare support for affected individuals and businesses	<p>We know that the impact of the myrtle rust response may stress both you and your business. If you need a chat or more support the following groups can help.</p> <p>Rural Support Trust: 0800-787-254 http://www.rural-support.org.nz/</p> <p>Healthline: 0800 611 116</p> <p>Lifeline: 0800 111 757 (open 24/7)</p> <p>Depression Helpline 0800 611 116 (open 24/7)</p> <p>MPI Myrtle Rust Response Welfare Team: MR2017_Welfare@MPI.govt.nz</p> <p>Your GP or Practice Nurse</p> <p>Compensation</p> <p>Compensation is available for losses caused by the exercise of powers under the Biosecurity Act 1993.</p> <p>Where a Notice of Direction is served on a nursery and restricts the movement of goods, then the nursery may apply for compensation.</p> <p>Refer to the MPI website for details: http://www.mpi.govt.nz/law-and-policy/legal-overviews/biosecurity/biosecurity-act-compensation/</p> <p>If you think your application may take time to document, please consider applying for those losses that are easily documented separately (e.g. refunds for plant destruction) from those that may take more time (e.g. quantifying loss of business).</p>

	<p>Identification information</p> <p>Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information: https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/myrtle-rust</p> <p>Symptoms to look out for on myrtle plants are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bright yellow powdery eruptions appearing on the underside of the leaf (young infection) • bright yellow powdery eruptions on both sides of the leaf (mature infection) • brown/grey rust pustules (older spores) on older lesions. <p>Some leaves may become buckled or twisted and die off.</p>
<p>Advice for specific groups</p>	<p>MPI is preparing a FAQ document for beekeepers, link will be provided when finalised.</p> <p>There is a comprehensive information sheet with information and specific advice for beekeepers, feijoa growers, other orchardists, nursery owners, home gardeners and walkers/trampers. http://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/18202 [PDF, 141 KB]</p> <p>Our advice to those sourcing myrtle species:</p> <p>MPI RECOMMENDS that all nurseries and suppliers should check and follow the NZPPI website http://nzppi.co.nz/ for hygiene protocols for plants susceptible to myrtle rust.</p>

Find out more

<p>About myrtle rust</p>	<p>Myrtle rust web page on the MPI website https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/myrtle-rust</p> <p>Read more about myrtle rust http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/finding-and-reporting-pests-and-diseases/pest-and-disease-search?article=1484</p> <p>Download the myrtle rust fact sheet [PDF, 409 KB] http://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/3641</p> <p>Myrtle rust – DOC website http://www.doc.govt.nz/myrtlerust</p> <p>Videos on YouTube featuring 'Bug Man' Ruud Kleinpaste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myrtle rust explained • Help look for myrtle rust
<p>Other information</p>	<p>Protocols for plant producers, production nurseries and garden retailers on managing the risk of myrtle rust can be found on the NZ Plant Producers Incorporated website: http://nzppi.co.nz/</p> <p>Partners and stakeholders entering native forests are reminded to ensure they are keeping up hygiene protocols for Kauri dieback disease. These protocols can be found on the Kauri Dieback website: http://www.kauridieback.co.nz/prevention</p>
<p>Communication</p>	<p>Updates are sent on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</p> <p>The next update will be sent out on Tuesday 22nd of August. Please feel free to share this information with anyone you feel will be interested.</p>

Information on detection

Remember, early detection is vital to any attempt to control myrtle rust. Full information including media updates, pictures and a fact sheet is at: www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/myrtle-rust

IF YOU SUSPECT MYRTLE RUST

If you think you've seen myrtle rust on any plants, **do NOT touch it**. Touching myrtle rust or trying to collect samples will increase the spread of the disease.



CALL the MPI Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline immediately on
0800 80 99 66



You can also help:

If you have a camera or phone camera, take clear photos, including the whole plant, the whole affected leaf, and a close-up of the spores/affected area of the plant.