




Myrtle Rust (MR) Stakeholder Update – 27 June 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 MPI and DOC.</p> <p>Red text below indicates new information (based on 26 June update).</p>
<p>Background</p>	<p>Myrtle rust was confirmed in New Zealand in 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 June/ Te Puke in the Bay of Plenty • 21st May / Te Kuiti • 17 May / New Plymouth • 03 May / Kerikeri plant nursery
<p>Situation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myrtle rust has now been confirmed in Te Puke in the Bay of Plenty. More properties have now had infections confirmed and have been placed under restrictions. Following the trend of discovery in Taranaki, more detections in Te Puke are considered likely in coming days. • Investigations have confirmed that there is no direct link with the Te Puke infections with any other known infected sites. This lends weight to the possibility that this new location is a wind-borne infection. <p>CURRENTLY 74 confirmed sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bay of Plenty (15) / Northland (4) / Taranaki (53) / Waikato (2) • Property type: private (59), nursery (9), public land (2), commercial (2), depot (1), golf course* (1), orchard (1) and retailer (1) <p>*3 affected areas are on the same site.</p> <p>Plant species on which MR has been detected include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramarama: <i>Lophomyrtus bullata</i> (46) • Pohutukawa: <i>Metrosideros excelsa</i> and sp. (30), • Monkey apple: <i>Syzygium smithii</i> (3), • Mānuka: <i>Leptospermum scoparium</i> (1), • <i>Eucalyptus</i> (1) and • <i>Callistemon</i> (1) <p>List of plants susceptible to myrtle rust [PDF, 550 KB]</p>
<p>Incident Control</p>	<p>Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is the lead agency for the response with support from other central and local government agencies, industry and tangata whenua.</p> <p>Local coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Plymouth: Taranaki Emergency Management Office, 45 Robe St, New Plymouth (including Waikato operations) • Kerikeri: is maintained by DOC staff, who will respond to any public queries or suspect finds. • Te Puke: MPI staff, focusing on coordination of surveillance and response management activities.

<p>Operations</p>  <p><i>Image: Sampling team</i></p>	<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 plants and surfaces on confirmed properties. • Dispose of risk material on confirmed properties. <p>One team will continue with surveys and clearance audits on confirmed properties, and the remaining teams will carry out a survey 5km from confirmed properties.</p> <p>Bay of Plenty operations have commenced with the disposal of the infected plant, spraying and inspection of surrounding plants.</p>
<p>Intelligence</p>	<p>If you have information you wish to share or any questions about the response, you can contact MPI at the following email address: MR2017_Intel@mpi.govt.nz.</p>
<p>Planning</p>	<p>Development of long term planning options continues.</p> <p>Planning is underway for a number of meetings with iwi in affected regions.</p> <p>While MPI and DOC are managing the myrtle rust outbreak, DOC have been working to secure the long term future of some taonga species by seed banking. This activity is under review.</p>
  <p>Yellow bumps and brown patches typical of myrtle rust.</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>

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.

<p>Welfare support for affected individuals and businesses</p>	<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>Your GP or Practice Nurse</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>Compensation is available for losses caused by the exercise of powers under the Biosecurity Act 1993.</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>Advice for specific groups</p>	<p>There is a comprehensive information sheet with information and specific advice for beekeepers,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ feijoa growers, ○ other orchardists, ○ nursery owners, ○ home gardeners and ○ walkers/ trampers. <p>You can find it here: Information sheet [PDF, 141 KB] [http://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/18202]</p> <p>Our advice to those sourcing myrtle species :</p> <p>MPI RECOMMENDS that</p> <p>All nurseries and suppliers should check and follow the NZPPI website http://nzppi.co.nz/ for hygiene protocols to follow on plants susceptible to myrtle rust and</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. (See Welfare).</p>

Find out more

	<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]</p> <p>Myrtle rust – DOC website http://www.doc.govt.nz/myrtlerust</p>
Other information	<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>
Communication	<p>The next update will be sent out on Wednesday 28 June. Please feel free to share this information with anyone you feel will be interested.</p>
Information on detection	<p>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</p>

If you believe you have seen myrtle rust on plants in New Zealand:

Take a clear photo of symptoms and the host plant if possible

Immediately call MPI on 0800 80 99 66

Do not attempt to touch the plant as this may aid in the spread of the disease.