

Plant Production Biosecurity Scheme

Feedback sought from industry and stakeholders

In November 2017 NZPPI was contracted by the Ministry for Primary Industries to design a biosecurity scheme to manage biosecurity pest risk to plant producers and through the nursery stock distribution pathway.

The draft scheme and proposal is now ready for review and feedback from plant producers, industry and stakeholders.

We welcome feedback on any aspect of the Scheme. Additionally, this questionnaire identifies issues that we specifically want to hear from industry and stakeholders on.

Consultation and Scheme proposal documents can be downloaded from NZPPI's website www.nzppi.co.nz/ppbs. They will help you respond to this questionnaire. They include;

1. PPBS Consultation invite
2. PPBS scheme introduction
3. Consultation feedback we seek paper (this document)
4. Draft PPBS Scheme rules / overview paper
5. Draft 20 Steps to Better Biosecurity Hazard Management
6. Draft Nursery Production Flow
7. Draft Core Standard
8. Draft Core Standard Nursery Manual Template
9. Draft Core Standard Hazard Management Checklist
10. Draft Myrtle Rust Module
11. Research Stocktake – May 2018

Feedback, questions or comments can be sent to NZPPI, PO Box 3443, Wellington 6041, emailed to office@nzppi.co.nz or directed to Matt Dolan (027 622 9255), matthew@nzppi.co.nz or John Liddle (021 370 168, john@nzppi.co.nz) on or before Friday 6 July.

1. Introduction

What we're trying to achieve:

- Improved biosecurity risk management by plant producers and through the nursery stock distribution pathway
- Increased awareness of biosecurity hazards and their management among plant producers and stakeholders

To protect plant producers from the risk of pest incursion on their nurseries and the risks of pests being passed on through nursery stock distribution to plants producer's customers, the environment and the New Zealand economy.

These objectives are expanded further in Section 1.1 of the Scheme Rules / Overview paper

- Do you agree with what we propose the Scheme's intended to achieve? Why / Why not?
- What's missing from the above and the outcomes described in Section 1.1 of the Scheme Rules / Overview.
- It is envisaged that industry's ability and that of many individual plant producers to achieve the scheme's objectives will require training and upskilling. Can you suggest areas that will need attention?

2. Scheme Rules / Overview Document

Vision & Mission (Section 1.1)

Are there important industry features and issues that are not encompassed by the Scheme's draft Vision and Mission? Are any proposed that are not relevant?

Scope (1.2)

- Do you agree with our definition of a "pest"? Why / Why not?
- Do you agree with our definition of a "plant producer"? Why / Why not?
- Are there producers who should be included that are not, and are some included that should not be?
- Do you agree that the Scheme's scope encompass all plant species and all pests? Why / Why not?
- If some plant species and/or pests should not be included in the Scheme's scope, what are they and why?

Design Principles and HACCP methodology (1.3)

- Do you think that a single, flexible and scalable core standard covering generic, core biosecurity risks and hazards can be adapted by most producers and nursery types? Why / Why not?

Scheme Framework (2.1)

- Any comments?

Standards and Guidance (2.2, 2.3, 2.4)

- Does this information provide sufficient overview of Scheme Structure? Why / Why not?

Producer Participation (2.5)

- Does this information provide sufficient information of how you might engage with the Scheme? Why / Why not?
- Who should participate and how?
- Are some producers simply too small that they need not / should not be part of the Scheme? Why / Why not?
- Are there any producers who face or pose no biosecurity risk?
- How should the Scheme handle reluctant participants?

Registration and Certification (2.5.1, 2.5.2)

- What expectations might we have of producers at the time they register? Why?
- Should those who register have to undertake some early biosecurity risk management and provide evidence of having done so? Why / Why not?
- Certification questions?

Target Organisms (2.6)

- Do you agree with the proposal that the Core Standard does not specifically identify pests of concern? Why / Why not?
- Does the use of “practical freedom” provide sufficient confidence in a producer’s ability to provide plants meet the needs of the scheme and their customers?
- If specific biosecurity pest threats need to be identified in the Core Standard what are they and why?
- What Specific Modules do you feel are a priority? Why?

Monitoring and Testing (2.7)

- The proposed Core Standard does not require routine testing of plants for any pest. Do you agree with this? Why / Why not?
- Do you disagree with the proposal that if a pest, or signs or symptoms of a pest are detected and are unable to be identified, that diagnostic testing should be undertaken? Why / why not?

Registration and certification processes (2.8)

- Any comments?

Equivalence (2.9)

- What alternative quality assurance schemes and/or programmes should we consider for recognition?
- What are the features of an alternative scheme that are important to ensure the integrity of the PPBS is maintained?

Verification (2.10)

- Do you agree with the principle of performance-based auditing where the performance of a producer during an external certification audit can determine the frequency of future audits? Why / Why not?

Documents and claims (2.11)

- Any comments?

Compliance (2.12)

- Any comments?

3. 20 steps to tick off for better biosecurity management (Document #2)

- Is this useful as starting checklist for producers? Why / Why not?
- What's missing
- What's not relevant?

4. Nursery Production Flow (Document #3)

- Does this document adequately describe/summarise typical nursery production flow and steps for wide range of producer and nursery types? If not, what's missing?

5. Core Standard (Document #4)

We welcome feedback on any aspect of the Core Standard. Core generic ...

Specifically, for all hazards and identified measures we seek feedback from industry and stakeholders on

- Issues that are duplicated
- Things that are not relevant (to managing biosecurity risk)
- What's missing
- Too many issues/controls/measures, or too few
- Onerous issues
- Matters that are not clear, poorly-defined or misleading
- Anything that is not directed at the outcome we desire or is not achievable

6. Core Standard Hazard Management Checklist (Document #5)

We welcome feedback on any aspect of the Hazard Management Checklist.

Specifically, for all checklist items we seek feedback from industry and stakeholders on

- Issues that are duplicated
- Things that are not relevant (to managing biosecurity risk)
- What's missing
- Too many issues/controls/measures, or too few
- Onerous issues
- Matters that are not clear, poorly-defined or misleading
- Anything that is not directed at the outcome we desire or is not achievable
- The appropriateness of the levels assigned (Critical, major, minor – see definitions in Core Standard Section 10.3)

7. Nursery Manual Template (Document #6)

We welcome feedback on any aspect of the Nursery Manual Template.

- Is it useful? Why / Why not?
- What's missing?
- Can it be improved? How?

8. Myrtle Rust Module (Document #7)

We welcome feedback on any aspect of the Myrtle Rust Module.

Specifically, for all hazards and identified measures we seek feedback from industry and stakeholders on

- Issues that are duplicated in the Core Standard
- Things that are not relevant (to managing myrtle rust biosecurity risk)
- What's missing
- Too many issues/controls/measures, or too few
- Onerous issues
- Matters that are not clear, poorly-defined or misleading
- Anything that is not directed at the outcome we desire or is not achievable
- The appropriateness of the levels assigned (Critical, major, minor – see definitions in Core Standard Section 10.3)