

Biosecurity New Zealand

Tiakitanga Pūtaiao Aotearoa

Seaport Biosecurity Awareness

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



What is biosecurity?

Biosecurity is the exclusion, eradication or management of pests and diseases that pose a risk to the economy, environment, cultural and social values, including human health.



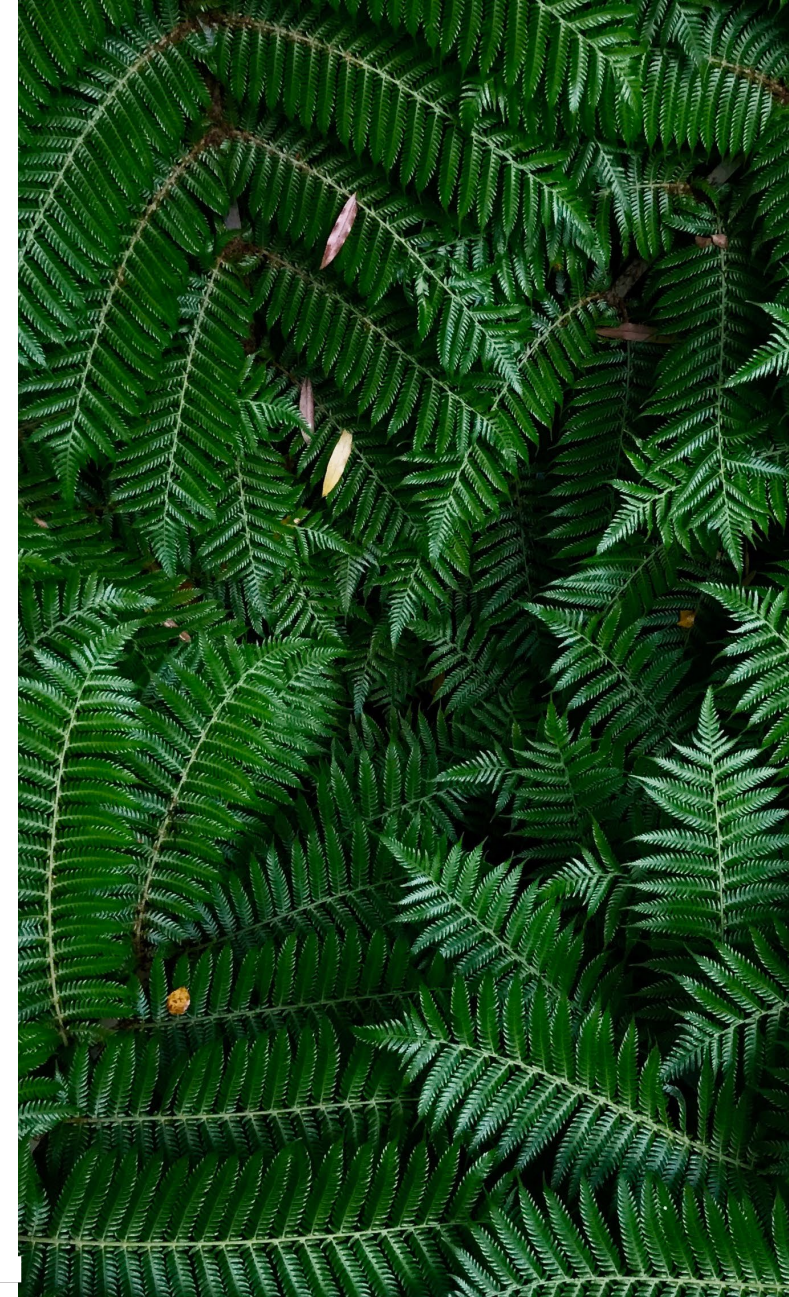
Why do we need to protect NZ

Environment

The unique biodiversity of our natural environment relies on being pest, disease and predator free.

Many native New Zealand species are only found here:

- All native bats, reptiles and native amphibians
- 90% of native freshwater fish, marine molluscs and insects
- 70% of native terrestrial and freshwater birds.



Why do we need to protect NZ

Economy: Tourism

We have a booming tourist, film and primary industries because of New Zealand's reputation for being green and clean.

Visitors to NZ can feel safe from biological threats found in many other destinations, if biosecurity control is breached, tourists may be less willing to visit NZ.



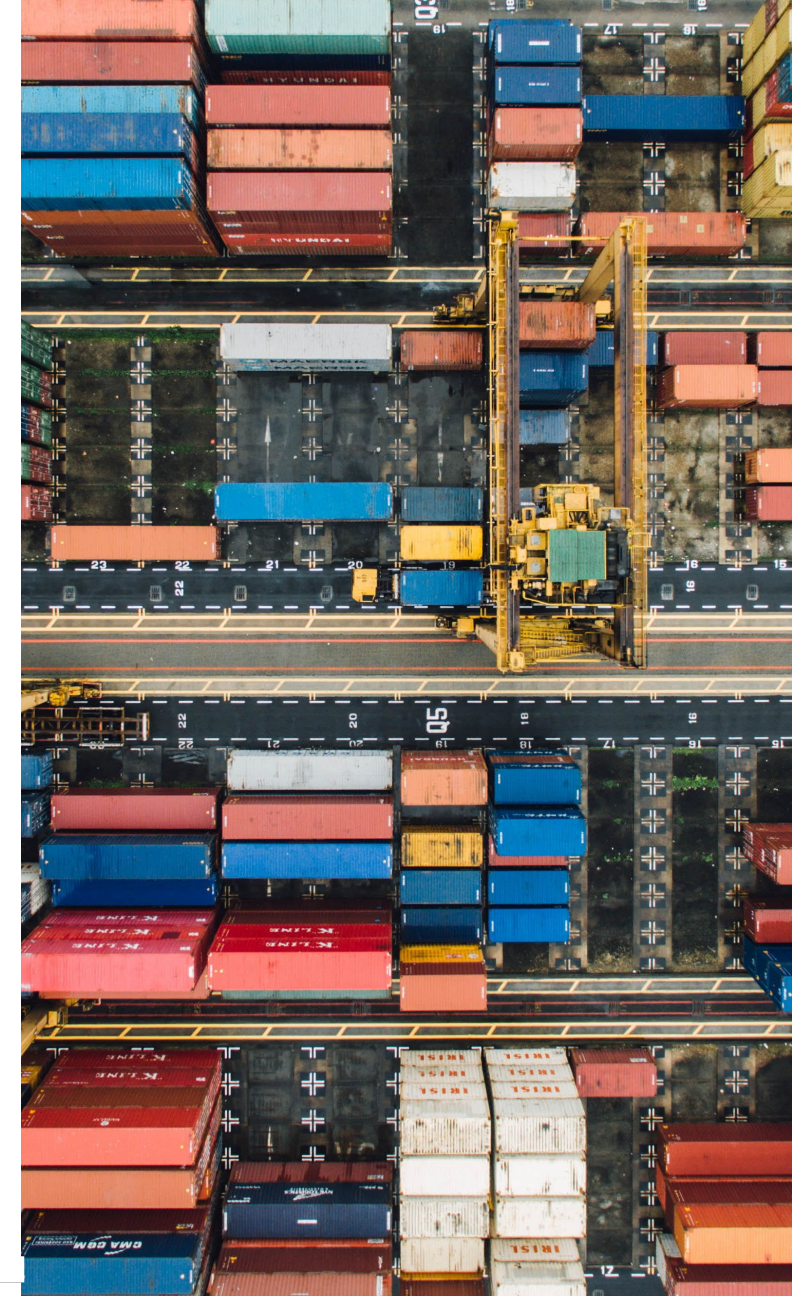
Why do we need to protect NZ

Economy: Trade

A huge 81.4% of our total exports come from the primary sector, approx. \$55 billion.

We are one of the world's biggest dairy and sheep meat exporters. We also supply the world with fruit, vegetables and forest produce.

Our economy, people and environment depend on our animals and land being healthy.



Why do we need to protect NZ

Social: Health & Lifestyle

NZ is free of dangerous wildlife such as snakes, scorpions and most venomous creatures and insects that carry serious human diseases.

It means we can enjoy being here without the threat of exotic diseases such as dengue fever or malaria.

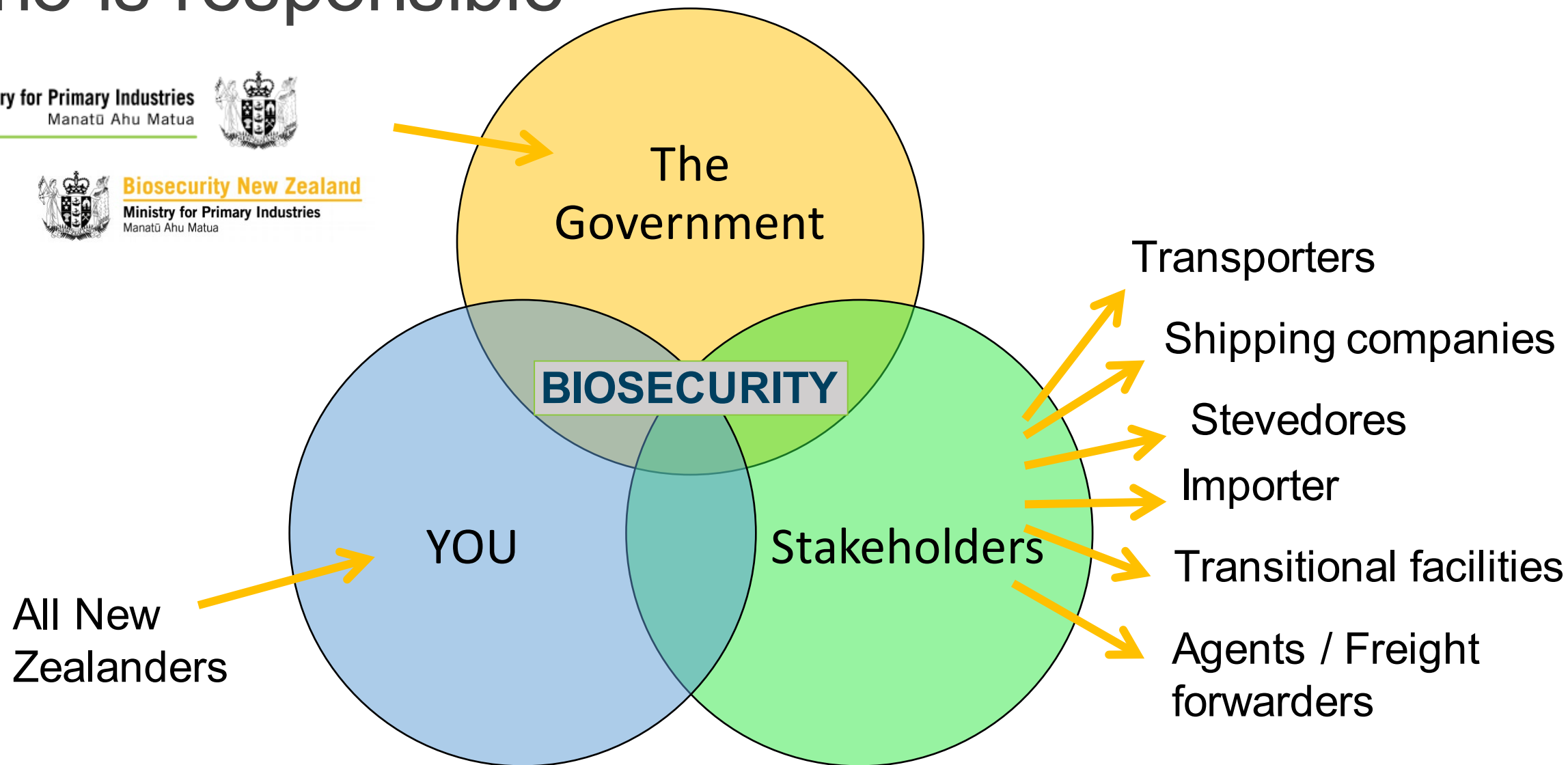


Who is responsible

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



At the port



PROUD PARTNER OF BIOSECURITY NZ

[Ports of Auckland and Biosecurity NZ - SeePort 2021 \(2.56\) – YouTube](#)

Biosecurity at the port

A port must be approved as a Place of First Arrival (PoFA) to receive and discharge international cargo.

Vessels arrive directly from overseas carrying sea containers and goods.

These vessels and goods may contain risks that could impact New Zealand.



What is a PoFA (Place of First Arrival)

A place of first arrival is an area of land, buildings, harbour, wharf and/or berthing areas that receives international aircraft / vessels and cargo, i.e. airport or seaport.



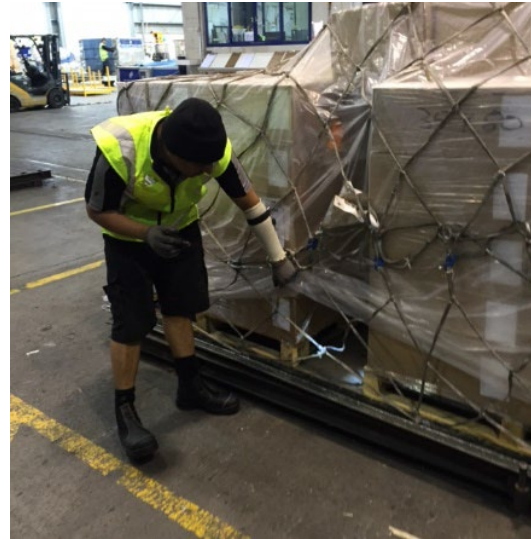
The biosecurity system

Pre-border



What we do before
goods get to NZ

Border



What happens when
goods arrive

Post-border



What we do once
something is here

Biosecurity at the port

Sea containers are a risk item.

They may carry contamination in the form of:

- live or dead organisms
- plant material or seeds
- soil or dirt
- diseases

MPI assesses the level of risk for all containers prior to, and on arrival to NZ.



Biosecurity at the port

MPI assesses risk based on:

- paperwork
- origin of container
- goods being carried

HIGH RISK containers are directed to be inspected by MPI. If contamination is found the container may be sent for treatment.

LOW RISK containers are directed to transitional facilities to be checked by accredited persons.

MPI audits a percentage of low risk containers.



Biosecurity at the port

All ports that receive international vessels must be MPI approved and could also have transitional facilities for holding, inspection and/or treatment.

MPI can approve ports for:

- Fresh produce or plant inspection
- Container washing
- Vehicle & machinery decontamination
- Treatment
- Transfer of other risk items

Where are the transitional facilities at your port?



Container wash TF at Port of Auckland

Biosecurity at the port

Accredited persons (APs)

- If the TF on the port devans containers they must have APs on site to carry out container inspections.
- APs have specialised biosecurity training
- APs can provide added biosecurity support to other port staff
- APs receive refresher training to maintain certification



What can you do to help?

When at the port look around any areas that could be a habitat for pests:

- areas with uncontrolled plants or long grass
- dunnage piles or old equipment
- places with low daily traffic
- around the container stacks

Report any unusual pests or plants to your local MPI office or the MPI pest line on **0800 80 99 66**.



What can you do to help?

If you are working on vessels look out for:

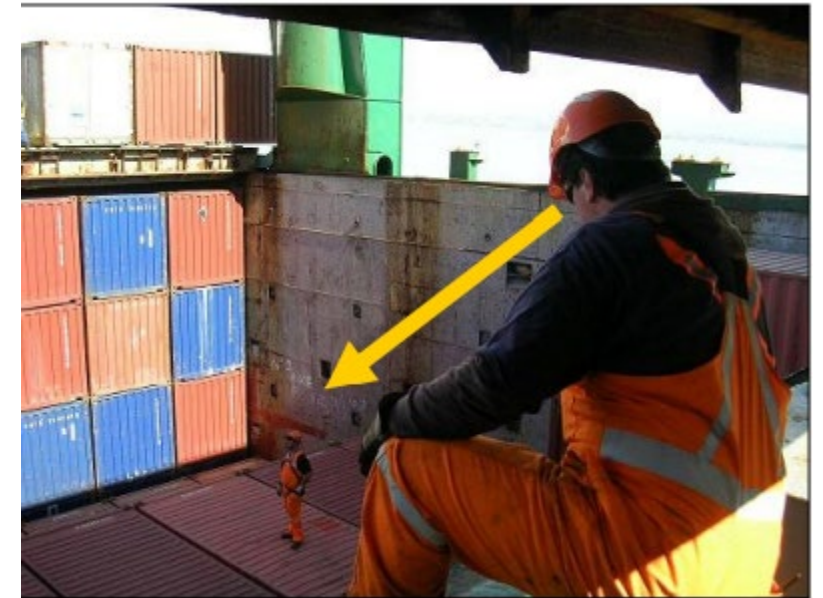
- old cargo residue (like grain)
- pests or contamination
- anything on the deck
- anything on the wharf

Personal safety is important, never put yourself at risk.

If you find contamination contact the MPI hotline
0800 80 99 66.



Try to look at containers from the straddle



What can you do to help?

If it is safe to do so, keep an eye out for specific parts of a container that could potentially hold pests:

- lugholes
- container locks
- edges and sills
- refrigeration units

NEVER PUT YOURSELF UNDER OR ON TOP OF A CONTAINER

Personal safety comes first!

If you find contamination contact the MPI hotline
0800 80 99 66.



What can you do to help?

Keep a look out for:

- soil/mud
- egg masses
- grass/leaves
- anything alive or dead e.g. snails, insects, animals
- nests
- seeds/grains
- rotten timber

Personal safety is important, never put yourself at risk.



A snail in a container key lock



A mud wasp's nest

What do you see?



Personal safety is important, never put yourself at risk.

What do you see?



Soil

Seeds



Blood

Personal safety is important, never put yourself at risk.

Common invaders: ants

Red Imported Fire Ants:

- Native to South America – but could come from any country
- Are particularly aggressive and will repeatedly sting anything that appears to be a threat
- Look for individual ants or nests on or around containers



Common invaders: snails

Giant African Snail:

- Native to east Africa
- Established in the Caribbean, Pacific and United States
- Commonly hitchhikes on containers and cargo
- Causes severe damage to vegetation
- Threat to native species and human health



Common invaders: Spongy Moth

Spongy Moth (previously called Asian Gypsy Moth):

- Lives in Europe, China, Korea, Japan and the east coast of North America
- The caterpillars have tiny stinging hairs that cause an itchy, painful rash
- They feed on many tree species such as oak, birch and pine trees



Male moth



Female moth

Common invaders: BMSB

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug:

- Native to Asia
- Serious pest in USA and Italy
- Arrived there via sea containers
- Hides in cracks/crevices and in paper and cardboard
- 400+ host plants including horticulture, forestry and arable crops



Common invaders: snakes and lizards

Snakes and lizards:

- Lizards and geckos can hitch-hike to NZ in or on containers
- Small geckos are a common find by APs
- Snakes are less common and can be dangerous. If you see a snake don't try to catch it – MPI has snake handlers
- Contact the MPI hotline **0800 80 99 66**



Common interceptions

Dirt or soil:

- Soil can carry micro-organisms or seeds
- Used machinery can be contaminated

Plant material and seeds:

- Small amounts of plants can get stuck to containers
- Look for grass, leaves, sticks or seeds
- Even small seeds could allow new weeds to enter and establish in NZ



Used machinery inspection

Common interceptions



A bird's nest in the back of a reefer



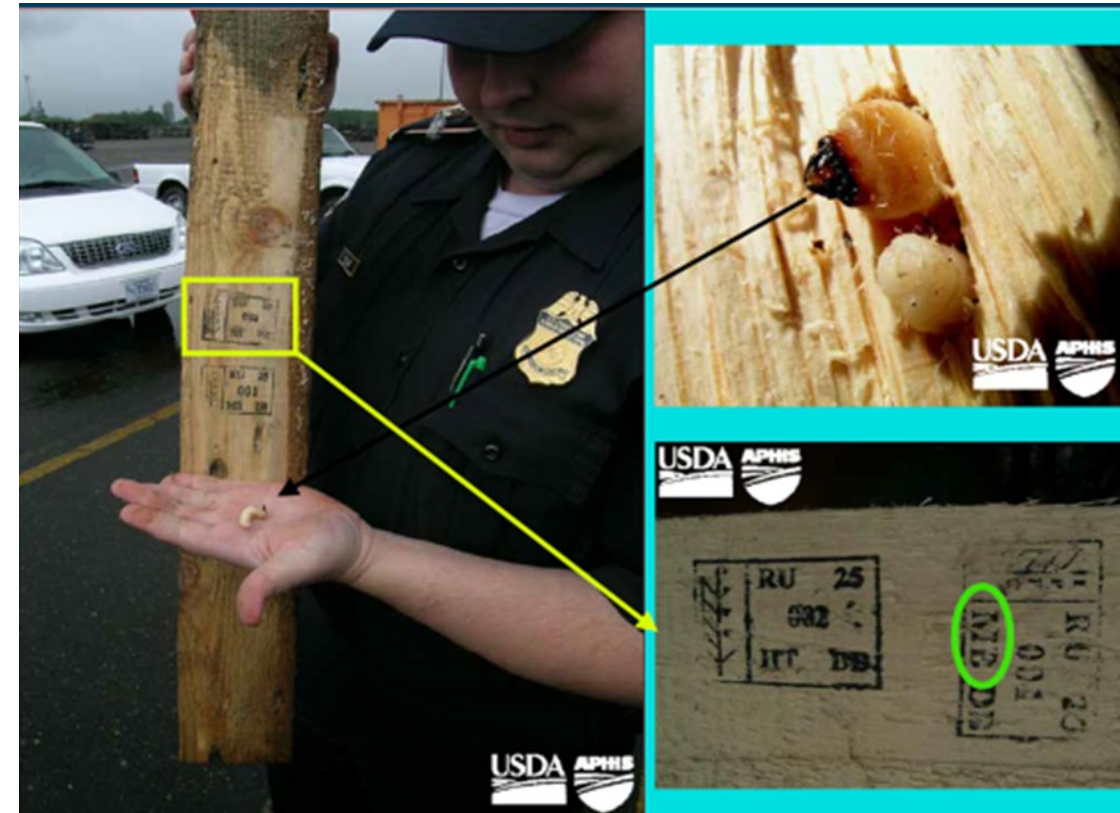
Grain on a container lock

Common interceptions

Contaminated wood packaging:

- Wood packaging can carry:
 - Fungus or mould
 - Wood boring insects
 - Bark
- Wood packaging should be ISPM 15 stamped
 - No timber/dunnage is to leave the wharf without MPI clearance or an ISPM 15 stamp – However, check that the wood is not contaminated

Ensure that you follow Health and Safety procedures – wear gloves.



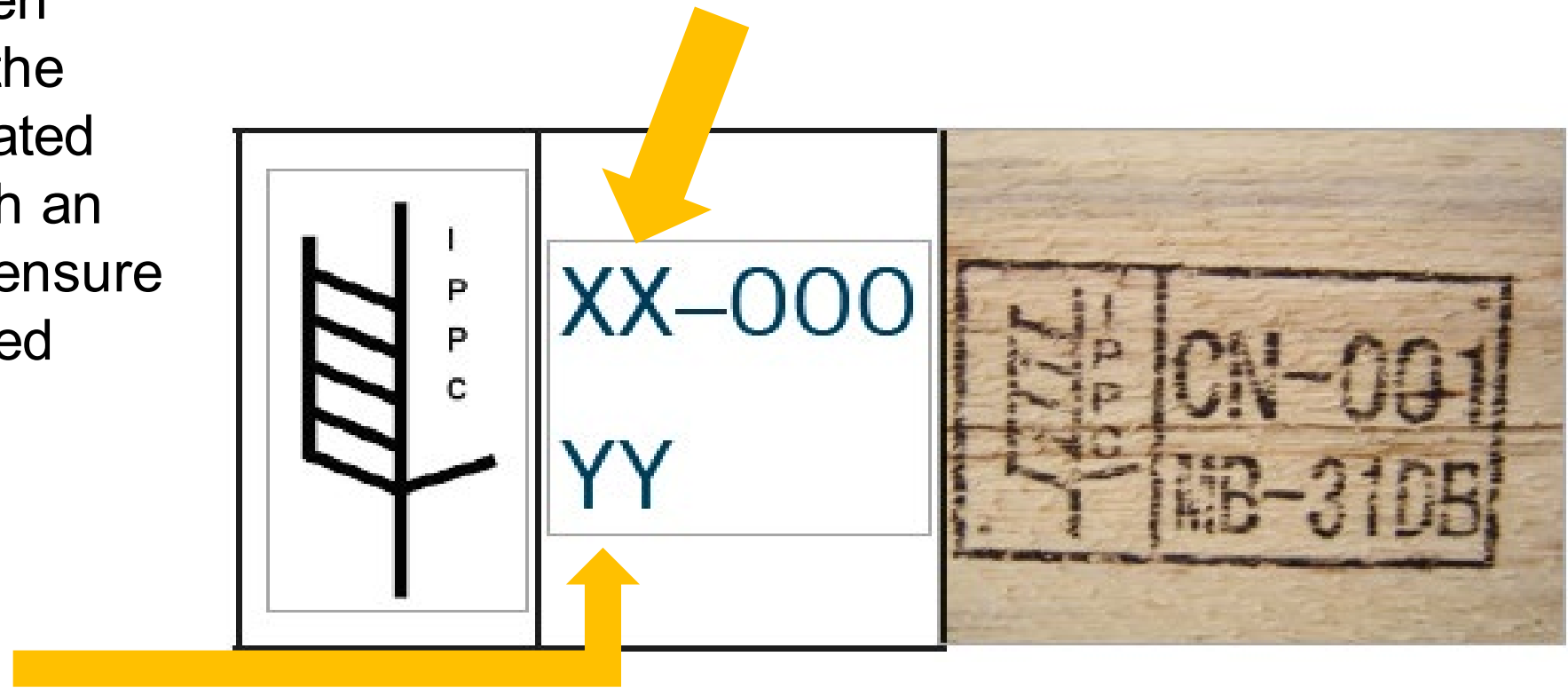
Treated timber

ISPM 15 – International Regulations

- If the wood has been stamped it means the wood has been treated
- Check all wood with an ISPM 15 stamp to ensure it is not contaminated

Treatment that the wood packaging has undergone

Two letter code for the country in which wood packaging was treated



Spotted something unusual?

If it is ALIVE:

- Contain it, if it is safe to do
- Inform others around you or your manager
- Call the MPI hotline **0800 80 99 66**

If it is DEAD:

- Arrange for it to be collected and disposed of in a biosecurity bin
- Report it to MPI as soon as possible



MPI hotline 0800 80 99 66

Biosecurity waste

All ports should have biosecurity waste holding areas.

There may be small or large bins used for containing biosecurity waste and/or untreated wood packaging.

They will be clearly marked.

Where is the biosecurity waste area at your port?



All working together

An AP at one of our seaports recently alerted MPI to a live BMSB on a crate of vehicle parts that had arrived out of the USA. Our responding officers located more live bugs and the AP was able to help in securing and transporting the unit over to the treatment chamber.

Once there, the fumigation company provided advice on what could and couldn't be fumigated and a second port worker was able to assist MPI in organising a flat rack for the goods to go on to be tarped and fumed.

In the end there were 17 stink bugs found.



Biosecurity – we need your help!

New Zealand is unique with very few introduced pests – we need to keep it that way!

We all need to be vigilant.

Biosecurity is **EVERYONE's** responsibility.

