



November 2019

From the Editors

Apologies for the delay in the issuing of this edition of the newsletter. The main updates for this edition include a reminder of AP and Operator responsibilities, information about infringement notices, consequences of releasing goods (including containers) without MPI authority, and some interesting work being carried out to detect brown marmorated stink bugs.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact us: Chris Denny (chris.denny@mpi.govt.nz) or Pauline Williamson (pauline.williamson@mpi.govt.nz).

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide regular updates on planned operational changes and other relevant information for the management of containment or transitional facilities (TFs) by approved TF Operators, Accredited Persons (APs) and staff. To see this and previous See Contain Report editions, go to <https://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/importing/border-clearance/transitional-and-containment-facilities/resources-for-transitional-and-containment-facilities/>

AP Responsibilities

Seed, grain, pooled water, dead mosquitoes and dead brown marmorated stink bugs (BMSB) are now considered by Biosecurity NZ as high risk. If found, Accredited Persons (APs) should report them by phoning the Pest Hotline **0800 80 99 66**. Our officers want to know about them, have the opportunity to ask questions, and then give directions on a case-by-case basis. The reasoning for these items to have a higher profile is:

- Seed and grain may be viable seeds and grow.
- Pooled water may have mosquito larvae.
- If dead mosquitoes or brown marmorated stink bugs are found, there may be live ones.

Other example			biosecurity bin.
			Close the container.
Pooled water	Grain	Seed	
			Report it - Call MPI on 0800 80 99 66 as soon as practical and your local MPI office if appropriate.
			Tell your TF Operator (or PoFA manager/supervisor).
			Record it on a Log Sheet or Air Container Report.
			Record it on the Con Checks website. 

Advisory: MPI Biosecurity Requirements – Uncleared Imported Goods

Biosecurity New Zealand (MPI) would like to remind all importers, customs agents and transporters of imported unclassified risk goods, including imported empty sea containers, of the legal requirements associated with a Biosecurity Authority Clearance Certificate (BACC) and Customs Delivery Order (CDO). Both of these authorities impose specific conditions on the movement of the risk goods. Where a change in the terms of the authority is required, the importer or agent should seek amendment to the authority from Biosecurity NZ. Every person who receives authorisation from us must act within the terms of the authorisation. You must also take all reasonable steps to communicate the terms of the authorisation to all other people who come into possession or control of the goods before they are given a biosecurity clearance and to ensure that other relevant people act within its terms. If you are in doubt, then check the authority issued for the goods or contact Biosecurity NZ.

Annual Facility Fee

Our finance team has identified that several hundred TFs have not paid their annual facility fee. This may be because they have changed their contact details and not informed Biosecurity NZ. All these TFs will be sent one final reminder. If nothing is received, the TF will be suspended for non-payment and the details sent to Baycorp. The next annual facility fee invoice for the 2019/20 financial year will be sent out in a few weeks.

Online Internal Audit

Thank you to those TF Operators who have submitted your online internal TF audit ([New audit portal](#)). This new online internal audit replaces your old hardcopy internal audit – you can either print out the automatic reply or save it electronically for your records. This portal is currently being updated. We will send a reminder when this is ready so you can submit your internal TF audit for the 2020 year.

Infringements

Infringements were introduced in April 2019. Since then, officers have issued 15 infringement notices. Examples of offences include not having an Operator present, not having an AP during container unloading, or releasing goods without a BACC Authority to do so. You can see we have only issued a few infringements so far. We continue to assist Operators to comply with the standards and address non-compliances by the use of corrective action reports (CAR).

TF Operator Internal Staff Training

Operators should check regularly that their APs know what to do when they find contamination and how to report it online. They need to follow the 'See, Contain, Report' actions on the Contamination Charts. Please ensure you have the latest version (Oct 2018) of these charts. Contamination chart posters are available from your local office or can be printed from files downloaded from the [MPI website](#) as follows:

Guidance for an Accredited Person

[Contamination charts poster – know the actions to take and when to notify MPI](#) [PDF, 4.7 MB]

[Contamination charts – 11 single posters](#) [PDF, 22 MB]

[How to report contamination on the Container Checks website](#) [PDF, 1.2 MB]

Know the Enemy: Japanese Beetles

Adult Japanese beetles (*Popillia japonica*) are nearly 15 mm long and 10 mm wide. They are metallic green with copper wing coverings. White tufts of hair are visible along the sides and rear of the abdomen. They feed on more than 300 different plant species, including crops such as maize, grapes and stone fruits. They also attack common landscape trees and other ornamentals such as roses. The larvae commonly cause damage to grass areas such as golf courses and parks as the eggs are laid in soil.



The beetle has been shown to be very invasive when introduced to new countries. It is likely to be able to establish in New Zealand due to the suitable climate and host plant availability. The beetle larvae can be spread by soil, such as on plant roots or on vehicle tyres. Adults may be associated with plant material, but they are also notorious hitchhikers and can be associated with vehicles, aircrafts and containers.

If you see an unusual contaminant or pest, please bag it, catch it, clean it up or spray it, shut the container and call MPI on 0800 80 99 66 or your local MPI office as soon as possible.

Australia puts its foot down on the brown marmorated stink bug

See this link for an interesting article on what our Australian neighbours are doing in relation to BMSB: <https://container-mag.com/2019/05/02/australia-puts-foot-stink-bug/>

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Pheromone Traps in Sea Containers

Biosecurity NZ has been informed that some sea containers exported from Italy may arrive in New Zealand with BMSB pheromone traps installed inside (see photos). These traps may have battery-powered blue lights fitted although, by the time they arrive, the lights will likely not be working. The pheromone is only viable for six weeks and so it is also unlikely to still be effective after arrival in New Zealand. The traps also include internal sticky pads or cards, which may catch insects attracted to the pheromone.

Accredited Persons (APs) should check the contents of these traps at the time of devanning. It is possible BMSB, or other insects, could be in or near the trap. Any suspect BMSB found should not be removed from the sticky pads, or paper, as this could cause damage to the specimens, making identification difficult or impossible. If the card cannot be easily removed from the trap, then the card and trap should be kept intact. **If APs are unsure how to proceed they should contact their local Biosecurity NZ office for further advice.**



Any suspect BMSB found – dead or alive - must be reported to Biosecurity NZ by phoning **0800 809 966**. Before submitting sticky cards or traps with suspect BMSB (or awaiting collection of the cards by Biosecurity

New Zealand), they should be placed in a plastic bag, or wrapped in shrink-wrap carefully, so that the insects are secured. Any traps without trapped bugs present, and with no biosecurity contamination, must be disposed of within a secure, closed refuse bin and removed from the site within 10 working days. This is to ensure that, if the pheromone is still viable, it will not interfere with any BMSB surveillance traps that may be nearby.

Biosecurity Excellence in Port Communities

Biosecurity surrounding Tauranga's port is a key priority for Biosecurity NZ, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, primary industry groups (Kiwifruit Vine Health, FOA, NZAvocado, DairyNZ) and the Port of Tauranga itself. These organisations have established an initiative to define and achieve biosecurity excellence in and around the port. Progress achieved through this initiative will be tracked by a project run by AgResearch and Scion called '**Biosecurity Excellence in Port Communities**', which will measure the progress toward biosecurity goals over time. This includes a survey by AgResearch tracking biosecurity knowledge of staff at TFs in the Bay of Plenty. We look forward to seeing how this initiative progresses.

Email MPI at seacontainer@mpi.govt.nz if you have any comments or questions about APs or TFOs.

MPI Contact Details

- General Inquiries: 0800 00 83 33
- Biosecurity Import Clearances: 0800 22 20 18
- Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline: 0800 80 99 66
- International Caller Number: 64 04 894 0100

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