

ISSUE 24 | FEBRUARY 2018

# BUG BUSINESS

BIOSECURITY BEST PRACTICE FOR NEW ZEALAND COMPANIES



AGRICHAIN-CENTRE.COM



## FRESH PRODUCE AND FOOD INDUSTRIES

We undertake Export Loadout inspections for insurance. If a container Loadout needs to be independently assessed, we can help.

*Read more on Page 6.*

# Welcome



Welcome to our February 2018 issue of *Bug Business*, our Biosecurity best practice newsletter. As a business we have been involved in Biosecurity for the last 17 years in a range of roles.

Our origins as a business stem from the fresh produce industry and we understand very well the effect of a new pest or disease has, when it becomes established in New Zealand.

The AgriChain Centre is no longer providing Transitional Facility Operator Training or Accredited Persons Training.

We continue to be actively involved in Biosecurity at an industry project level and supporting businesses to ensure they meet regulatory requirements.

A recent project was working with the fresh produce distribution industry in preparing an emergency response plan in the event of a fruit fly outbreak.

As a business we continue to focus on practical and no-nonsense support and advice. We are ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 17020 accredited and also accredited by JAS-ANZ as an inspection body. These accreditations underpin our approach to our work and our ethics.

One area we have worked on recently is the development of a Biosecurity Awareness Support Package that can be delivered in house by Transitional Facility operators themselves.

## IN THIS ISSUE



- Meet April Millman
- How Can We Help You?
- Transitional Facility Signage
- Biosecurity Equipment Kit
- Report A Find
- Pest Spotlight - Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
- Updated Import Health Standards
- Other Activities The Agrichain Centre Is Involved In
- What Sets Us Apart?
- Food Safety - Food Businesses Registering With National Programme 1
- Biosecurity Support Services Initiatives

Operators are required to ensure that staff are aware of the on-site requirements of the Biosecurity Act. Our support package can be delivered by inhouse trainers or the TFO. It is very practical and can be used as often as required at no extra cost.

The package could also be used to assist staff new to Biosecurity who need to attend the official training. The pitch of the official training can be daunting along with the knowledge that there is a quiz requiring a high pass mark. Our support package could assist and prepare staff prior to attending that official training.

Information on the Awareness Support Package is available at [www.agrichain-centre.com/biosecurity-awareness-onsite/](http://www.agrichain-centre.com/biosecurity-awareness-onsite/) or call our team on 0800 24 74 24.

Another area we can be of assistance is a review of Biosecurity processes in the business. The increasing costs of compliance in the Biosecurity area can be a burden on business.

Our specialist staff can assist in reviewing how you are managing your Biosecurity commitments and assess options for cost and efficiency management. This is especially useful for larger sites with complex requirements or large volumes of containers.

## MEET APRIL MILLMAN



April is our Senior Technical Biosecurity Consultant. She oversees the technical delivery of our work and is the go to person for specialist advice. Her years working in Biosecurity, as well as private sector experience, gives a practical edge to her advice. April manages our extensive peer review and technical knowledge processes to ensure you receive sound advice.

Contact April: [amillman@agrichain-centre.com](mailto:amillman@agrichain-centre.com)





# HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

*Our point of difference is that we come out of private enterprise and understand the challenges of managing multiple compliance requirements and dealing with different officials. In other words, no nonsense or complicated technical terms.*

## BIOSECURITY AWARENESS REQUIREMENTS ON-SITE

Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Biosecurity Regulations require that Transitional Facility Operators (TFOs) ensure a basic level of Biosecurity Awareness by all staff employed at a Transitional Facility.

This requirement is in addition to the need for trained Accredited Persons and Facility Operators.

Transitional Facilities undergo regular MPI Audits, and compliance with the Biosecurity Awareness requirement forms part of the Audit assessment.

The AgriChain Centre offers a Biosecurity Awareness DIY Kit to assist Transitional Facility Operators to comply with their obligations under the Biosecurity Act and MPI Regulations.

This will allow you to undertake training when it suits you. The material is in plain English and will assist the TFO to train staff at a time that suits in a practical manner. You can retain and use the material as and when it suits.

## SETTING UP A NEW SEA CONTAINER SITE

We offer the following package to make it easy for new sites to comply with MPI Standards & Regulations:

### BIOSECURITY SOLUTIONS PACKAGE FOR NEW SITES

Typically, this includes:

- A Site Assessment & Consultation with one of our experienced Biosecurity Advisors
- A customised Biosecurity Operating Manual for your site
- A Biosecurity Signage Starter Kit
- Biosecurity Awareness DIY Kit to enable Transitional Facility Operators to meet internal training requirements in your own time
- Ongoing Biosecurity support and Biosecurity updates
- Sign up for our *Bug Business* online newsletter.

WE  
ARE  
HERE  
— TO —  
HELP

## BIOSECURITY SOLUTION OPTIONS FOR ESTABLISHED SEA CONTAINER SITES

Your site will need to be officially inspected by MPI staff in order to meet Biosecurity Regulations.

The AgriChain Centre can advise you on make sure your site is "Biosecurity Ready" and act as your internal auditor if required. An Internal Audit is one of the requirements for Transitional Facilities under the Biosecurity Act. We can provide the following options.

- An Internal Audit / Check
- A Facility Operating Manual updated or renewed
- Site Assessments, including written reports
- Biosecurity Awareness DIY Kit to enable Transitional Facility Operators to meet internal training requirements in your own time.

We can review and update any manual we originally developed for you within two years of having completed the work. Any older manuals will have to be treated as a new project, because the regulations are constantly evolving.

## SPECIALISED FACILITIES

A quotation will be provided according to your specific needs.

WE CAN HELP! IF YOU REQUIRE ANY ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE PLEASE PHONE OUR TEAM:  
0800 24 74 24 OR EMAIL US: [info@agrichain-centre.com](mailto:info@agrichain-centre.com)

# TRANSITIONAL FACILITY SIGNAGE



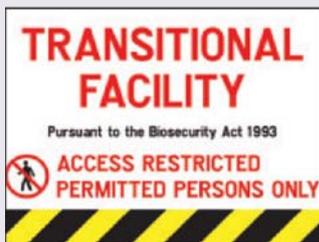
Businesses must have a prominent sign or signs identifying the area as a Transitional Facility under the Biosecurity Act.

Signs must warn that entry is restricted to permitted persons only. Signs are not permitted to display the Ministry for Primary Industries logo or the "MPI" acronym, as their use is restricted by the Flags, Emblems and Names Protection Act 1981.

Our high quality Biosecurity signs, kits and stickers continue to be available.

The signs come in several sizes and either as permanent fixed or magnetic and removable.

Go to [www.agrichain-centre.com-tfo-signage-and-kits/](http://www.agrichain-centre.com-tfo-signage-and-kits/) or contact our Biosecurity Team on 0800 24 74 24.



## BIOSECURITY EQUIPMENT KIT



MPI Regulations specify the type of equipment needed at a Transitional Facility. We provide a ready-to-use Biosecurity Kit with the basic equipment needed for most facilities.

If you would like to order equipment or need more information, please visit our website: [www.agrichain-centre.com-tfo-signage-and-kits/](http://www.agrichain-centre.com-tfo-signage-and-kits/) or contact our team on 0800 24 74 24.

We can also provide sticker packs if you need to label your equipment yourself.

## REPORT A FIND

Remember to report all live contamination to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) free Exotic Pest and Disease hotline immediately on 0800 80 99 66.

We are also keen to understand your Biosecurity finds. Transitional Facility Operators and Accredited Persons – have you recently found pests or contaminants in or on imported sea containers, machinery and vehicles?

**PLEASE POST YOUR PICTURES OR COMMENTS ABOUT YOUR RECENT FIND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:**



[www.facebook.com/the.agrichain-centre](http://www.facebook.com/the.agrichain-centre)





# PEST SPOTLIGHT

## WHY IS BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG SUCH AN ISSUE?

MPI are currently in “high season” for detection of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) and this coincides with the Northern Hemisphere winter when the bugs are looking for a place to hide out of the cold.

To date this season MPI have made 80 interceptions (media release 11 Jan 2018), and 39 of these have been from Italy. The largest interception of 118 dead bugs was found in a container of machinery and parts. Because of these finds, MPI have introduced a treatment requirement for all sea containers from Italy adding another layer of Biosecurity protection for New Zealand.

BMSB are a significant household nuisance and an agricultural pest where they have been introduced, primarily as a hitch hiker in cargo. The cost to New Zealand as a country will be significant if they establish here.

In homes and businesses they are a nuisance pest due to their behaviour of entering human-made structures and aggregating in large numbers during cold weather. In the USA they estimate the removal of BMSB from one home exceeded 26,000 bugs!

Principal habitats for BMSB include buildings, cultivated agricultural land, managed forests and plantations and urban areas.

The insect feeds on more than 300 host plants including fruit trees, woody ornamentals and field crops, e.g. citrus, pip fruit, stone fruit, berries, grapes, asparagus, sweetcorn, honeysuckle, maple, roses, hibiscus, cypress.

Adults generally feed on mature and immature fruits, while nymphs feed on leaves, stems and fruits. The result is severely disfigured fruit – depressed or sunken regions,



## WHAT TO DO:

If you think you have found BMSB in your container, cargo or packaging...

1. Stop unpacking!
2. Spray with insecticide!
3. Close the container!
4. Call the MPI hotline on 0800 80 99 66!

abnormal shape, discolouration and lesions in the form of scabs, spots or pitting. Leaves and stems show signs of external feeding resulting in necrotic areas (areas of leaf and stem death).

For commercial producers (orchards and berry farms) this is an added cost to production, in the form of sprays that need to be applied to control the BMSB population to ensure minimum damage.

To household and business premises where the bugs enter during cold weather, the cost will be to remove the bugs or apply some form of spray or physical barrier to reduce the possibility of thousands of these insects entering the premises.

This insect will affect everyone in New Zealand should it establish here. The cost to produce food will increase, our home gardens will be impacted, as the BMSB has a wide range of plants that it feeds off – this impact will be our vegetable gardens, trees on our property’s (both fruit and specimen trees), our flower gardens and our business and home premises.

No one will be missed in the impact this insect will have. Our best way forward is to be informed on what to look for, how to identify this stink bug from the four other shield-type bugs we currently have in New Zealand, and to be proactive with MPI if you think you have seen it. **Preventing the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug from establishing in New Zealand is our best option.**



FOR ANY QUERIES PLEASE PHONE OUR BIOSECURITY ENQUIRIES TEAM:  
**0800 24 74 24** OR EMAIL US: [info@agrchain-centre.com](mailto:info@agrchain-centre.com)

# UPDATED IMPORT HEALTH STANDARDS

The Import Health Standard for vehicles, tyres and machinery was updated on 25th January 2018.

The major changes are:

- The format of the document has been restructured.
- Sections have been added about Brown Marmorated Stink bugs from both USA and Italy, and associated treatment procedures.

Transitional Facilities who operate under this Standard must have a copy of this updated Import Health Standard readily available on site and should be familiar with the requirements.

The updated Standard can be downloaded here:

[www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/other/vehicles-and-machinery/](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/importing/other/vehicles-and-machinery/)



WE CAN HELP! IF YOU REQUIRE ANY ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE PLEASE PHONE OUR TEAM:  
0800 24 74 24 OR EMAIL US: [info@agrchain-centre.com](mailto:info@agrchain-centre.com)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES THE AGRICHAIN CENTRE IS INVOLVED IN

We are heavily involved in the Fresh Produce and Food Industries.

If there is a quality problem with imported fresh produce, there is a good chance we get involved in assessing the size of the problem. We also work with other food products where there is a need to quantify a problem such as physical contamination of a manufactured product.

We undertake Export Loadout inspections for insurance. If a container Loadout needs to be independently assessed, we can help.

Our staff have been very busy over the recent summer fruit season checking containers bound for export. We check both the product and the refrigerated container settings for accuracy. If this is a service you need we are happy to oblige.

WE CAN HELP! IF YOU REQUIRE ANY ADVICE  
OR ASSISTANCE PLEASE  
PHONE MASSIMO (MAX) CICCIONI:

0800 24 74 24 OR EMAIL US:  
[info@agrchain-centre.com](mailto:info@agrchain-centre.com)

## What Sets Us Apart?

### PROFESSIONAL SKILLED PEOPLE

All our technical staff have post graduate horticultural qualifications.

### CUSTOMER CENTRED

We focus on your product and your need.

### TIMELINESS

We understand the level of pressure the horticulture industry operates under and we recognise the need for timely and quality services.

### HORTICULTURE FOCUS

We have been working in the fresh produce industry for more than 30 years.

### TRANSPARENCY

Customers can have confidence in what we offer, how it will get done and at what cost.

### COST EFFECTIVE

A service level commitment with comprehensive on time and within budget delivery.

### POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

Building an on-going professional relationship with stakeholders.

**FREE TRIAL**  
**PHYTOSANITARY**  
**CERTIFICATE VERIFICATION**

Call Max for a free trial: 0800-24-74-24

# FOOD SAFETY

## Food businesses registering with National Programme 1

*We are also involved in businesses needing to meet increased Food Safety Requirements under the Food Act 2014.*

Low risk food businesses such as distributors or transporters of food products, horticultural food producers and horticultural packing operations (packhouses) will need to operate with a National Programme Level 1 (NP1) under the Food Act 2014.

In addition, these low risk food businesses must apply for their business registration by 30th Nov 2018.

Please click the link below for the timetable for moving to the Food Act 2014

<http://mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/11006-timetable-for-moving-to-the-food-act-2014>

If you are unsure as to what you need to do and need some practical support and advice, call Yvonne on 0800 24 74 24.

National Programme 1 includes a set of rules that low risk food businesses need to follow to comply with the Food Act 2014 and these rules are used to help manage food safety risks.

### **NP1 covers rules such as:**

- Places and equipment
- Competency and training
- Cleaning
- Personal hygiene
- Sourcing, receiving and tracing food
- Safe storage and display
- Separating foods
- Keeping foreign matter out of food
- Transporting food
- Recalling food



WE CAN HELP! IF YOU REQUIRE ANY ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE PLEASE PHONE OUR TEAM:  
0800 24 74 24 OR EMAIL US: [info@agrchain-centre.com](mailto:info@agrchain-centre.com)

# BUG BUSINESS



## BIOSECURITY SUPPORT SERVICES INITIATIVES



### FREE BIOSECURITY COMPLIANCE ADVICE

We will take your calls for advice on complying with Biosecurity requirements. Please contact our Biosecurity Enquiries Team during office hours.

**We can help.**

Phone us on  
(09) 414-4536 or  
0800 24 74 24



### SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER

*Bug Business* is The AgriChain Centre's own regular communication tool for Transitional Facilities. We aim to inform and assist in understanding how businesses can satisfy the Ministry for Primary Industries requirements in a sound and rational fashion.

**BUG BUSINESS**

Signup at:

[www.agrichain-centre.com/bug-business-biosecurity-newsletter/](http://www.agrichain-centre.com/bug-business-biosecurity-newsletter/)



### TFGEN UPDATES FOR TFOs

TFGen is the Standard that Transitional Facilities need to comply with. Compliance requirements do change and we will work with you to make sure you stay up to date.



### HELPFUL BIOSECURITY INFORMATION

We provide a links page on our website, pointing to all the relevant technical pages on the MPI Biosecurity website. Please visit our website to access it: [www.agrichain-centre.com/biosecurity-nz-technical-information/](http://www.agrichain-centre.com/biosecurity-nz-technical-information/)



### KEEPING IN TOUCH

Please **LIKE** our Facebook page to stay up to date with the courses, advice and solutions we offer - plus relevant news articles and more. We're also on LinkedIn.



[www.facebook.com/the.agrichain-centre](http://www.facebook.com/the.agrichain-centre)



[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

The AgriChain Centre also has strong **FOOD SAFETY** and **TRACEABILITY** expertise. We would be happy to assist you with your needs in that area of your business.

[www.agrichain-centre.com/food-safety/](http://www.agrichain-centre.com/food-safety/)

Remember that low risk food businesses must apply for their business registration by 30th Nov 2018.



AGRICHAIN-CENTRE.COM



### PUBLISHER'S CONTACT DETAILS:

The AgriChain Centre Ltd  
PO Box 101-245, NSMC,  
Auckland 0745,  
New Zealand.  
Telephone: +64 9 414 4536 or  
0800 24 74 24. Fax: +64 9 414 6140.  
[www.agrichain-centre.com](http://www.agrichain-centre.com)

Dr Hans Maurer Publisher

Lisa Ritchie Media Co-ordinator  
[lritchie@agrichain-centre.com](mailto:lritchie@agrichain-centre.com)