

See Contain Report



October 2014

From the Editors...

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide regular updates on planned operational changes and other relevant information for the management of transitional/containment facilities by operators, accredited persons and staff.

The Minister for Primary Industries Nathan Guy has stated '**biosecurity is my number one priority**'. With the increasing volume and variety of risk goods being imported into New Zealand, MPI is ensuring a robust approach is taken to the management of all facilities to protect the environment and primary industries.

Facility stakeholders have told MPI they want more incentives for those that comply, tougher enforcement action against those who do not comply, and better targeting of MPI resource to risk. Therefore, MPI is "raising the bar" to ensure operating an MPI approved facility is a privilege, not a right. Your role in this system is crucial to the overall success of our border management. If you have any questions or issues, please contact us.

Chris Denny (chris.denny@mpi.govt.nz)

Dave Nendick (dave.nendick@mpi.govt.nz)



Chris & Dave

Know the Enemy: Giant African Snail

Recently, several giant African snails, considered to be one of the most damaging land snails in the world, have been found on sea containers from Honiara in the Solomon Islands at Australian ports. This snail is not established in NZ and would pose a threat to agriculture, the environment and human health if it became established.

It has a voracious appetite and can attack more than 500 different kinds of plants, including ornamentals and most species of vegetables. It is quite large with a relatively long conical shell, usually light brown with alternating brown and cream bands.

It can be transported attached to containers (air and sea), crates, machinery, motor vehicles and plant material. Cargo and containers from high-risk giant African snail infested countries are inspected by MPI on arrival.



If you see anything that looks like this pest on imported risk goods please catch or spray it and call MPI on 0800 80 99 66

Operator Training Update

The MPI Education and Training Group is consulting with both MPI and external stakeholders to update operator training material. This will likely be available in your training courses in late 2014.

See Contain Report: phone your nearest MPI office to report contamination

From the Frontline

Introducing Sabrina Montgomery



I provide business support nationally to the facilities space. This involves providing support, information and direction to people applying for approval of a facility, ensuring a line of communication between our inspectors and stakeholders for facility approvals/audits, processing TSW application lodgements, and liaising with other MPI directorates linked with TF operations.

The advice I would give to operators would be to try to keep as up-to-date as possible with the current state of biosecurity in New Zealand, which may provide a better understanding of the importance of their role as an operator. It is also important that operators are aware of their legal obligations once they are approved, and that they must inform MPI of any changes at their facility, for example, change of operator, moving location, change of company name, etc, to avoid non-compliance penalties.

Review of TFGEN

A review of the MPI Standard - General Transitional Facilities for Uncleared Risk Goods (TFGEN) and the associated guidance document (GD) is underway. TFGEN specifies the requirements that TFs must have and their operators must follow. The review will provide clarification and remove areas of ambiguity. Updated requirements will provide the detail to specify what MPI needs regarding information on imported risk goods, how they will be managed and what information must be recorded. Any changes that need to be made to TFGEN will be formally and thoroughly consulted with stakeholders and will be finalised by 30 June 2015. Contact Dave Nendick (dave.nendick@mpi.govt.nz) for details.

Wood Packaging Material

There is a contradiction in the accredited person training material and online Operating Manual Template around what actions APs should take with wood packaging material that is not ISPM15 stamped. To clarify, wood packaging material should be dealt with as per the following:

- ISPM15 compliant wood packaging material (i.e. with a stamp as shown in the picture) must be checked by the AP. If there are any signs of contamination then MPI must be contacted.
- If wood packaging material is not stamped, APs are to contact MPI for further instruction.



So regardless of whether the wood packaging material is clean and free from contamination, APs cannot conduct inspections of wood packaging material that is not ISPM15 stamped.

MPI's Training and Development Group will update the training material as part of its review process. Contact Rachel Barker (rachel.barker@mpi.govt.nz) for details on training and Leyton Hackney (leyton.hackney@mpi.govt.nz) for any operational questions.

FAQs

Is there an updated Operating Manual available to be downloaded from the MPI website?

Yes. This is able to be downloaded at: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/trans/register>

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Training Stats: Jan – Sep 2014

The following table shows the number of APs and operators trained by our training providers

New APs	2,078
Re-trained APs	2,635
Total APs trained	4,713
New operators	1,353
Re-trained operators	1,185
Total operators trained	2,538

Recent Finds

On 30 September, MPI's Chantelle Hurst received a call from an eagle-eyed AP at a transitional facility (NZL Group Limited) about a dead bat found in a sea container from China. MPI Inspector Olivia Wood collected the bat and it was destroyed. Nice one NZL Group!



Air Containers & Biosecurity Risk

MPI is revising the current Import Health Standard for importing air containers. This is because air containers are known to have introduced invasive pests into countries. For example, in 2001 MPI spent \$1.5 million to eradicate the red imported fire ant that was found near the Auckland airport.

This revision will include aligning this standard with other relevant standards as well as clarifying the roles and responsibilities of transitional facilities operators receiving air containers and the biosecurity repercussions of not complying. Contact Jo-Anne Stokes (jo-anne.stokes@mpi.govt.nz) for additional details.

Contaminants Reported by APs: Jan – Sep 2014

The table below shows the main contaminants reported by APs who continue to do excellent work in this area.

Contaminant Type	Number	%
Spiders	774	27.4
Insects (except ants)	700	24.8
Seeds	313	11.1
Other (e.g. cobwebs, rubbish)	266	9.4
Soil	243	8.6
Plant products	129	4.6
Mould	72	2.5
Insect damage	65	2.3
Non-ISPM15 WPM	60	2.1
Reptiles	41	1.4
Ants	39	1.4
Fungal attack	30	1.1
Bark/Straw	40	1.4
Amphibians	24	0.8
Animal product	19	0.7
Snails (except giant African snail)	7	0.2
Mammals (e.g. rodents)	6	0.2
	2828	

MPI Contact Details

- General Inquiries: 0800 00 83 33
- Biosecurity Import Clearances: 0800 22 20 18
- Entomology Lab: 0800 66 61 22
- Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline: 0800 80 99 66
- Imported Animal Service: 0800 62 35 55
- International caller number: 64 04 894 0100
- Transitional Facilities and Containment Facilities go to: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/trans>

Please email MPI at seacontainer@mpi.govt.nz if you have any comments or questions about this newsletter, APs or Operators.

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