



WINTER FIELD DAYS ROUND UP

After a busy week on the road with the field days it is time to sit back and reflect on the events, and provide some feedback

Each field day was a great experience and a good time to catch up with growers. We also met people in this industry for the first time which is always a pleasure. The support from all that attended was very positive and encouraging which gave us a good feeling that we are addressing topics that are on the growers' mind at present.

As a team we were most impressed with the turnout from the growers, especially given the winter pruning is running behind due to the weather. The individual participation with the workshop was fantastic and it was great to see everyone interacting and providing stimulating discussion.

The challenge for us now is to recreate the atmosphere into future events. This is a challenge we are prepared to take on as we always try to ensure a creative learning environment for all attending.

The feedback forms gave us some ideas for the next field day and pointed us in a direction of improvements moving forward. Two points that we have taken on board are firstly the need to provide chairs, and a welcoming and description of the orchard from the owners/manager.

We would like to take this opportunity to pay a special thank you to all involved through the week. This includes the Apata team, Leyla Gilbert, Emily Woods, and Erin Atkinson. Craig and Nigel from Biorich Compost for the coffee. Guest speakers at the organic day including Steve Cully from Biolchim and Phil Carter from Biostart. And a big thank you goes to those that hosted us; Dave Eglinton at Huakiwi our organic site, Poripori Farm A Trust at Poripori Trust Orchard, Paengaroa North K Trust at Paengaroa North B4B & K Trust Orchard and also Craig and Emily Wallis at Papatu Rd Orchard in Gisborne. We very much appreciate you allowing us onto your the properties and the support given to us on the day.



Gary demonstrates part of the HazelTrex process.

Click [here](#) to be taken to Zespri's webinars page. Following our conventional field days, it may be worth watching "Getting budbreak application spot on" and also "Hydrogen Cyanamide Alternatives."

We look forward to seeing you all at our next event.

TECHNICAL UPDATE

HOW ABOUT THE WEATHER?

NIWA OUTLOOK

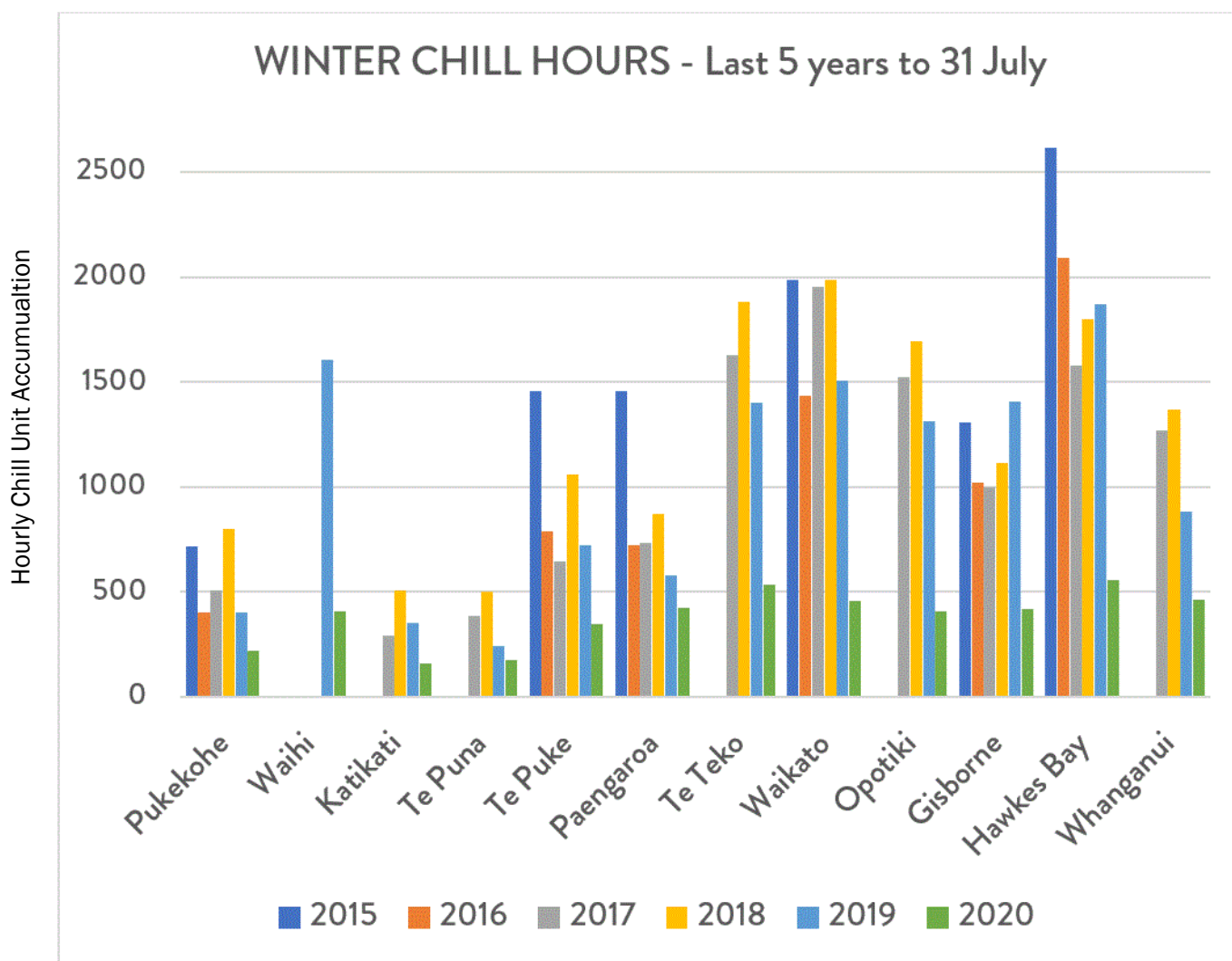
As we head into spring after a relatively mild winter, Niwa advises above-average rainfall in the coming weeks; hopefully replenishing our water sources as we head into the warmer months. Cold bites and frosts to be expected in the cooler regions during August, September, and October. La Nina is associated with northeasterly winds, bringing wetter conditions to the north and east of the country, which Niwa predicts will be at a 52% possibility over the next three months.

WINTER CHILL UPDATE

As we come to the end of winter chill in 'an especially warmer than usual winter,' it is essential to adjust your calculations accordingly to maximise king flower and budbreak percentage.

See graph below for a comparison of the regions over a 5-year timeline. As always, this is just a snapshot and may not be the best indicator for your site – utilising the weather station located closest to your orchard would provide a better representation of your site.

Data courtesy of the KVH chill unit calculator found [here](#).



TECHNICAL UPDATE

MANAGING THE VINES

PREDICTING BUDBREAK

We have the BreaknSure test (rebranded to HazelTrex) back in our toolbox. For conventional growers, this is key to deciding the optimum time to apply a budbreak enhancer. There are some great tools available through Zespri OPC, which we've put links to below.

1. Budbreak Date Predictor: based on May/June temperatures. Originally a model developed for Hayward but has generally been a good indicator for Gold3 too.
2. OPC Budbreak Estimator: This model takes into account the temperatures beyond June as well. It allows you to enter your orchard temperature data if you have it.

Monitoring budbreak on untreated canes is a great way to capture a range of variables;

1. Natural budbreak date (and therefore how well-timed your budbreaker application was)
2. Natural budbreak percentage and flowering (and therefore how well your budbreaker performed in comparison)
3. An untreated comparison in case you suspect issues with your application

Sleeving is an easy process - click [here](#) to go to the instructional page

SAFE SPRAYING

Agrichemical spraying rules amended and incorporated into the Regional Natural Resources Plan last year, have been subject to further change in Plan Change 13, Air Quality for 2020.

These new requirements are essential for growers to read and understand, especially in these environmentally heightened times when Hydrogen Cyanamide is a sensitive subject within the community. You can find the new rules [here](#). Please read and understand the changes as, ultimately, you are responsible for safe spraying on your site.

Growers must notify neighbours within 50 m of your property when spraying – no more than 72 hours before and no less than 12 hours before, of the:

- the address and location of proposed application
- the date/s of proposed application
- name and type of agrichemical to be applied
- name and phone number of person carrying out the spraying.
- Parties notified, signed by all parties, and reviewed annually

Method of notification

Signage must be prominently displayed to indicate spraying is taking place. Signs must be in place no less than 24 hours before spraying and removed five days after re-entry.

Checklist

Use AI nozzles and adjuvants to reduce spray drift. Take all possible steps to ensure the potential for any drift beyond the boundary is limited, and no adverse effects arise.

- Check wind conditions before spraying. Avoid spraying if wind conditions are more than a light breeze wind felt on skin, leaves rustle)
- Plant evergreen shelter or erect artificial shelter on boundaries, especially road frontages. If there is no shelter or the shelter is incomplete, a no-spray buffer of 30 m must be used to minimise drift onto neighbouring properties, including roads.
- Take special care during application in sensitive areas such as roads, walkways and schools to avoid affecting school children, rural posties, dog walkers, etc.
- Ensure all applicators have relevant training.

TECHNICAL UPDATE

AROUND THE ORCHARD

PESKY PESTS

It is an excellent time to reflect on what pests we saw at pack out, and what we can do going forward to help control these pesky pests. Scale was still a contender, followed by Thrips, and Pink Caterpillar this season.

SCALE

Each year there seems to be an ongoing discussion about scale. We did, however, see a very slight decrease in scale this year with 18 finds on average per pack run compared with 22 in 2019. So, whatever you did last season, maybe look to follow the same process as a slight decrease is better than nothing. Unidentified scale results in market restrictions to Japan, and quarantine markets restrictions to Australia, Indonesia, India, Korea, Mexico, and Taiwan. Quarantine markets means they will take some pest finds, but they must be under 20 finds per batch. Anything over this and it will result in a major market restriction = no go!

Key Reminders for scale:

- Target old, gnarly crowns during winter pruning where scale love to hide over-winter. This will eradicate their habitat and improve spray coverage.
- For conventional - Remember that a PVH/Cicada control spray counts as a scale spray for this period. It will assist in control if you have or are doing one. Another option could be to follow the organic recommendations below.
- A winter oil application, in combination with copper, has proven effectiveness in scale control and Psa -V control in late August. The recommendation is for a 1% excel oil, and Nordox 75W at 37.5 per 100 L rate. Be cautious and mix the oil first before adding the Nordox 75W. A follow-up application in mid-late October when shoots are 5-20 cm long is recommended.

PINK CATERPILLAR

Another pest problem that hadn't been apparent for several seasons was the pink caterpillar (Pyroderces sp), as featured in these pictures. Pink caterpillar finds results in fruit that can't be shipped to Japan and South Africa.



TECHNICAL UPDATE

The pink caterpillar generally appears from February to May on the surface of the fruit and can be found around the calyx. There isn't a lot that we can do concerning control other than following the program for leafroller. Zespri is looking at a BT application during February under a JA; fingers crossed this comes out in the next Crop Protection Standard.

THRIPS

Thrips continued to be another issue, especially Greenhouse Thrip. Unidentified thrip finds at packing will lead to quarantine and major market restrictions, it can only be shipped to Canada, Vietnam, Europe, Z7, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore (some of the lower paying markets). To help reduce these, we send the pests away for Identification. Once the pest has been correctly identified, most of the time, we can remove a lot of the market holds. Greenhouse thrip finds will result in fruit that can't be shipped to Japan, Korea, US, and South America.



Greenhouse Thrips



NZ Flower Thrips



Given their small size, it can be hard to spot thrip on orchard. TIP: they like to feed on the leaves, sucking the goodness out of them, leaving behind a silvery trail of destruction, which leads to leaf death (See above right.)

Because Greenhouse Thrips need high humidity to thrive, numbers can be limited by ensuring that humidity in the crop is minimised. Maintain an open canopy, good airflow and try not to let areas become heavily shaded. Cryptomeria shelters, pine trees, avocados, and many ornamentals can be significant alternative hosts. However, the very wide host range of these thrips means that removing alternative hosts to restrict populations is unlikely to work. If a high incidence of thrips is observed, you can choose to apply an approved pyrethrum spray (during Jan/Feb by JA only).

If you are unsure whether you had any pest finds at packing or do not quite understand the market restrictions, contact your Grower Services Rep, and they can help assist with this.

TECHNICAL UPDATE

CROP PROTECTION UPDATES

SUSTAINABILITY

The last Kiwifruit Journal (June/July) 'Water you Waiting for' encompassed some essential articles on sustainability from nitrogen input, enhancing soil biology through compost applications, and riparian plantings, to kiwifruits hidden emissions. All thought-provoking topics in our quest to reduce waste through our waterways and create biodiversity.

If you missed our winter Field Days, we had an interactive demonstration from Gary, covering the different forms of nitrogen and the timings to minimise leaching and maximise plant uptake. There will be an expansion on this in our Spring Field Days in October.

An interesting article featured in the latest Kiwifruit Journal 'Protecting our Water' written by Christina Robinson and Sophie Merwe looks at sediment and nutrient control through riparian planting. Establishing the critical source areas (CSAs) where land is susceptible to surface run-off and erosion before determining what you are aiming for. To read the full article, click [here](#).

GENERAL INFORMATION

ADVANCE NOTICE

Apata Suppliers Entity Limited's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 3.30pm at the Tauranga Yacht Club, Sulphur Point, Tauranga.

Nominations are open for Directors/Grower Trustees for the Entity close on Wednesday 26 August 2020.

You are able to download a copy of the nomination form [here](#).

Nominations must be received by Wednesday 26 August 2020 via mail to;

- Apata Suppliers Entity Limited, 9 Turntable Hill Road, RD 4, Katikati, 3181

or by email to;

- dinah.rutherford@apata.co.nz or
- reception@apata.co.nz

Please note that further communication will be provided if there is any upward change to the current Covid-19 Level 2 status regarding attendance at the AGM.

Here's one for the Amateur Astronomers out there...

For some zero-cost wonder and amazement, one needs only look into our night sky at the moment. Jupiter appears midway up the eastern sky after sunset as the brightest "star" in the evening sky. Saturn is below and to the right of Jupiter, although somewhat duller.

The image below, taken from <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/night/new-zealand/auckland>, shows how it would have looked on August 17 at 6:15pm. Do yourself a favour, take the time to be amazed.



ZESPRI GROWER ROADSHOWS AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2020

Grower roadshows are a great opportunity for growers to hear from Zespri senior management. Mark the dates in your diary – we'll see you there!



DATE	REGION AND LOCATION	TIME
TUESDAY 25 AUGUST	WAIKATO Mighty River Domain, CRNZ Community room, Lake Karapiro, 601 Maungatautari Road, Cambridge	9am - 11am
	AUCKLAND Navigation Homes Stadium, Cnr Franklin Road and Stadium Drive, Pukekohe 2120	2pm - 4pm
WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST	KERIKERI Bay of Islands Golf Club, Golf View Road, Kerikeri	9am - 11am
	WHANGAREI Northland Events Centre, 51 Okara Dr, Whangarei, access via East Corporate Entrance	2pm - 4pm
	Nelson Top 10 Holiday Park, 10 Fearon Street, Motueka	11am - 1pm
THURSDAY 27 AUGUST	TE PUKE The Orchard Church, 20 MacLoughlin Drive, Te Puke	10am - 12pm
FRIDAY 28 AUGUST	KATIKATI Katikati Rugby Club, Moore Park, Fairview Road, Katikati	2pm - 4pm
	HAWKE'S BAY The Crown Hotel, Corner Bridge Street and Hardinge Road, Ahuriri, Napier	10.30am - 12.30pm
MONDAY 31 AUGUST	GISBORNE Bushmere Arms Hotel, Main Road, Waerengahika	5pm - 7pm
	OPOTIKI Opotiki RSA, 103 Saint John Street, Opotiki	10am - 12pm
TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER	EDGEcumBE Matata Rugby Club, 12 Division Street, Matata 3194	2pm - 4pm
	TAURANGA Zespri Offices, 400 Maunganui Road, Mount Maunganui Registration required for Tauranga Roadshow: www.zesprievents.co.nz/taurangaroadshow	6pm - 8pm