

Pseudomonas syringae pv. actinidiae (Psa) Response.

Government & Industry Working Together



Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Te Manatū Ahuwhenua, Ngāherehere



What is Psa?



Bacterial vine infection

Causes vine canker

Potentially serious losses to the kiwifruit industry

Previous outbreaks in Europe and Asia.

These have caused significant losses in production

Fruit is **not** a risk pathway



What happened?



First reported to MAF on Friday 5 November at 4.30pm

Response initiated immediately

Initially thought to be confined to small region in Te Puke

As testing scaled up, found to be much more widely spread.

Industry and MAF active from the first minute of this response



The Response



Rapid large scale response to confirmation of PSA

Funding package to aggressively manage PSA

\$25M Crown and \$25M Industry

Transitioning to an industry led response

The Strategy to manage PSA overseen by independent body
(Kiwifruit Vine Health – KVH)

Eradication is not considered feasible



How do we aggressively contain?



Initial advice from industry was to heavily prune vines showing primary symptoms.

Pruning back to the graft was only to be used on vines showing secondary symptoms, where the disease had become systemic

Backed up by use of copper sprays to reduce bacterial loading.











Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH) Strategy

Prevention

- To prevent the establishment of virulent Italian haplotype in the Exclusion Zone

Containment:

- To contain the Italian haplotype within the Containment Zone.

Recovery

- Within 5 years enable the return to viable production those orchards that have been affected due to the Italian haplotype

The current situation



Psa identified as being widespread across New Zealand, 147 separate orchards are now positive

May have been here for some time

2 or 3 distinct isolates of Psa have now been identified – Italian and Asian.

Italian isolate appears to have the potential to be more virulent as secondary symptoms appear to be associated with this type of isolate.

Appears to be restricted to a small isolated zone in Te Puke



The Current Situation



Currently 41 Italian positive sites have been identified
Programme geared around containing the isolate in this area
and reducing the bacterial loading to a manageable level
Response is transitioning to industry but MAF still providing
technical input and oversight.
MAF provide governance input by representative on the KVH
Board



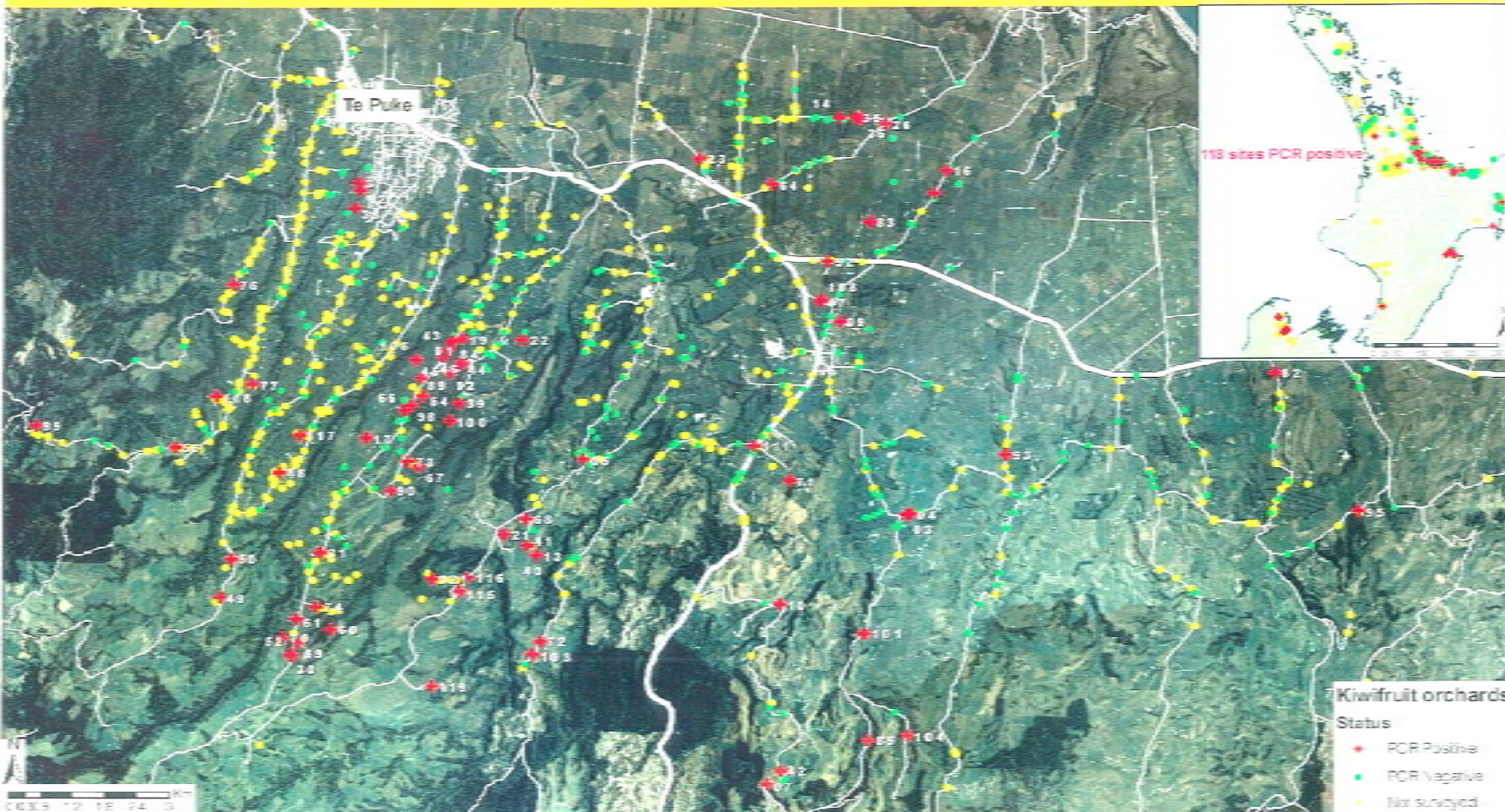


Output: 2/12/2010
 Projection: NZTM
 Data sources:

Kiwi fruit Psa current status (15/12/10 - 11:00am) Bay of Plenty

Project name: PsaKiwiPun
 Folder name: 2010_April_10_Pun
 File name: PunKiwiPun_15_12_10.doc
 Published name: Kiwifruit_Psa_15_12_10.doc
 Date drawn: 15/12/10
 Scale: 1:70,000

Topographic data sourced from Land Information New Zealand Crown Copyright reserved

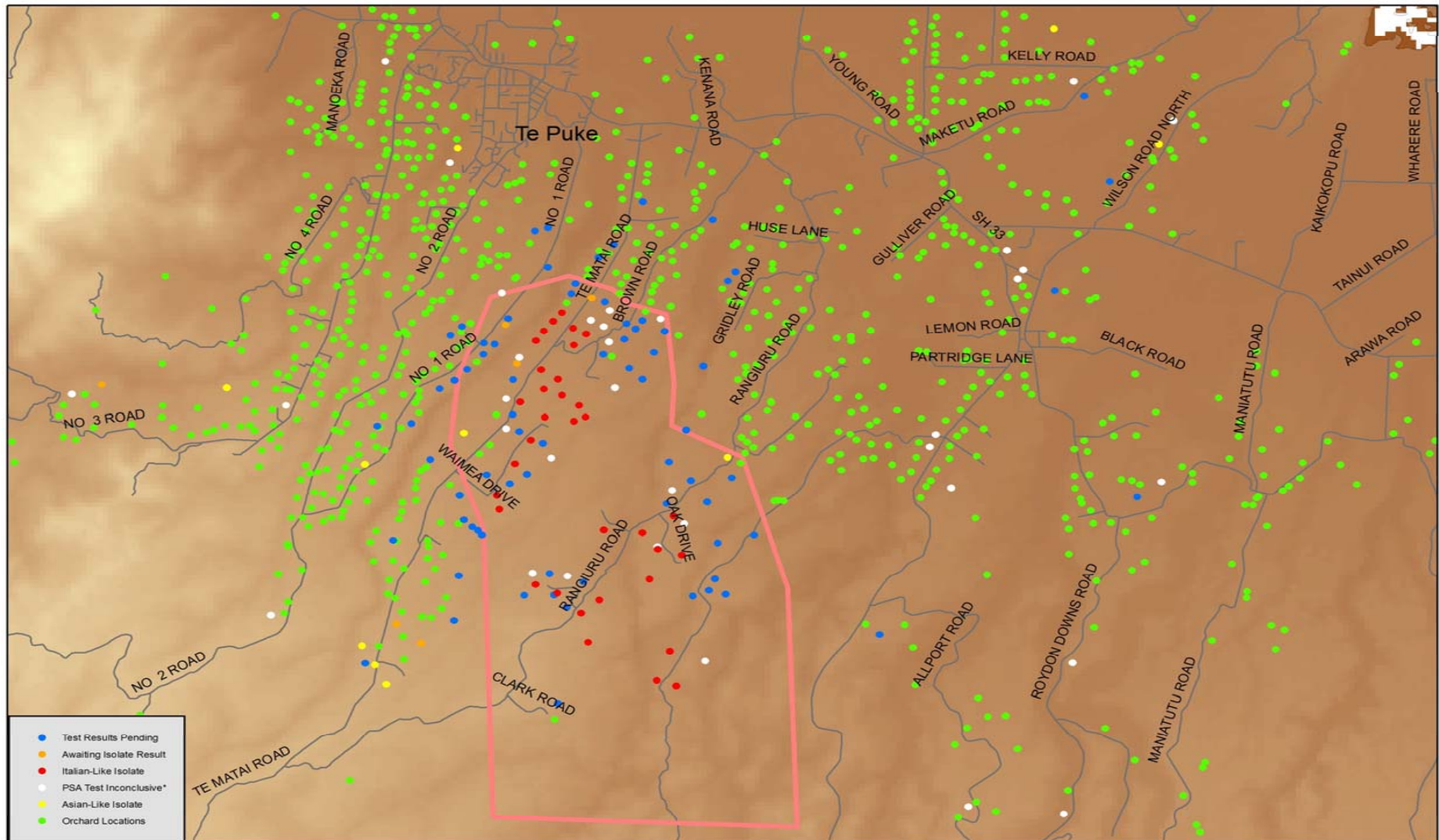


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*The white dots indicate Psa-positive orchards where isolate test results have either not identified any Psa (because it's dead or crowded out by other bacteria on that leaf sample) or have identified Psa but weren't able to isolate a colony for further testing – further testing of these orchards is underway.

PSA Response: What did we learn



MAF and Industry have different expertise and we need each other in a large response

focus on the issue (rather than the debate!) and tackling it yields huge benefit through better decisions and prompt action

Being ready! E.g. Importance of surveillance, scale up of laboratory expertise and capacity



PSA Response: What did we learn



Vigorous debate in the back office kept us aligned
Engagement between MAF and Industry at ALL levels of the response from the very first minute
Establish Trust
Disposal was difficult

Project management skills and improved resource planning
Have response team based at Zespri
Technology: Some using phones others emails . Email overload





- It's a huge challenge
- great working with industry

Thanks