

What's Been Achieved?

A Review of 2007 Workshop Outcomes and Other Achievements

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FOA/MAF Biosecurity Workshop

Rotorua – 7/8 Mar 2008



Outline:

1. What we said we would do from last year
2. What we actually did
3. Additional things
4. Our score for the year!



Last year's workshop

Emerging External Influences to Forest Biosecurity

Sixth Annual Forest Health Workshop

FOA/MAF Biosecurity Workshop

Rotorua – 8th/9th Mar 2007



Workshop Objectives

- 1. To provide an update on new and emerging influences in forest biosecurity, some of which may be a threat to commercial plantation forestry and trade.**
- 2. To review recent research results in forest biosecurity and forest health.**



What we said we'd do:

1. Continue to promote greater awareness of biosecurity issues to industry, Government, and other stakeholders (FOA, BNZ, Ensis)
 - Quite a bit happening; MAF Biosecurity mag, FBP + FBRC Reports, FH News, DFP, SIRWG
2. Continue to put emphasis on the key issues, such as sea containers. Consider greater fines for offenders (BNZ)
 - Constant review of risk from sea containers; Biosecurity and Quarantine merged; new Emerging Risks Committee established
3. Continue to strive for innovation and lateral thinking in research to solve existing forest health issues (research providers, FOA, BNZ)
 - Some new thing happening. 2 PhD, post-doc, collaboration. Thinking more like agriculture. B3 operating; BNZ international links
4. Encourage a better understanding of the role of both ERMA and MAF in dealing with applications for new introductions of organisms. (FOA)
 - Role of MAF vs ERMA a Court issue; subject of a submission
5. Encourage industry to engage more in setting research priorities (FOA)
 - Quite a bit recently with new FRST round

6. Ensure researchers understand the importance of accountability to industry (and Govt) funding, and that industry understands the issues facing researchers (FOA, research providers).
 - Value for money vs need for capability. FBRC discussed.
7. Is there a better research model that would get greater reward (money) to the scientists and assist in retaining capability? (all).
 - Haven't seen it yet.
8. Consider more focus groups to deal with forest health problems. Nectria could provide a model for other issues – e.g., Cyclaneusma, physiological needle blight, etc (FOA, research providers).
 - FBRC, Int'l Dothi alliance, STIMBR; what else?
9. Demonstrate need for species diversification and then lobby Govt for funding (FOA, FFA, Research providers). Develop a strategy that would include cost/benefit analysis, scenario modeling, and biosecurity risk analysis for new species.
 - Still an opportunity. Biofuels etc. Diversity included in FRST bids.
10. Ensure that any biosecurity system is accounting for increased risk from globalization (BNZ, FOA, Research Providers)
 - Seems to be a good awareness of this.

11. Consider making better use of our surveillance systems to achieve “area of freedom” if and when required. Being pro-active and providing phytosanitary assurances to trading partners, could also include assurances of safe importing practices – such as tissue culture for new germplasm imports. (FOA, BNZ).
 - FHS good review; FHS used for AoF for Phyt’; TC opportunities being missed
12. Encourage better integration of databases for biosecurity purposes and develop a strategic plan for database development (BNZ, research providers). Consider TIFBIS as an umbrella scheme (BNZ).
 - Some discussion with FHC; part of BNZ review; LCR/Scion discussion.
13. Encourage greater development of rapid diagnostic tools for biosecurity and also conduct an inventory as to what we already have (Research Providers).
 - Some progress; in new FRST proposal
14. Consider establishing a committee to help ensure public acceptance of incursion control tools (BNZ, FOA or SIRWG). - nothing
15. Work to identify the drivers for future technology developments that could help industry and Government. (E.g., phosphine as a replacement for MeBr is not only environmentally friendlier it is also more cost-effective.) (BNZ, FOA, Research Providers).
 - Drivers are there; new STIMBR strategy; Dothi Committee etc; MAF working closely with international agencies on MeBr

Additional Achievements

- Good research progress - FBRC and other - but still looking for more solutions. DFP in Chile is a Big New Worry!
- International conference planned for next year
- Forest Health Surveillance - positive international review - some tweaking needed
- Forest condition monitoring - currently being developed
- Incursions down; spraying down
- Good collaboration between MAF/BNZ and industry

So – how did we do overall?

- Last year we achieved an A- average, as we did the previous year.
- 4 years ago we scored a C+ (which was an improvement over the previous year)
- This year's score:

Scorecard for 2007/08: (06/07)

Improved awareness	A (A)
Collaboration	A (A)
Tackling key issues	B (B-)
Filling gaps in biosecurity	B+ (B+)
Improving surveillance	A (B+)
Strategic approach to research	B+ (B+)
Effective research	A- (A-)
Incursion response	A (A)

