

OPERATIONAL BIOSECURITY

**WE'RE ALL RESPONSIBLE
FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN**

Biosecurity conference 2019



Afternoon of Tuesday 5 March and all day Wednesday 6 March 2019
Scion (Rimu Room), Te Papa Tipu Innovation Park, 49 Sala Street, Rotorua

Purpose of the conference

The conference will raise awareness of operational forest biosecurity and provide lessons from other sectors.

Plantation forestry is a 'dirty' industry and relatively few precautions are currently taken to avoid the spread of pests both within and between forests and even islands.

Is this something that needs to change? What is the risk to the industry in carrying on the way we do?



PROGRAMME – DAY 1: Tuesday 5 March – 12 noon (lunch) to 6.00 pm

Venue: Rimu Room, Scion

Chair: Andrew Spelman, Acting Director, Readiness and Response Services, MPI

10:00am – 12 noon FOA/FFA Forest Biosecurity Committee (FBC) Meeting – closed meeting

12 noon to 12:30 Lunch (FBC and Joint Forum/Conference attendees all welcome)

1:00pm to 3:00pm MPI/FOA JOINT BIOSECURITY FORUM
CHAIR – Andrew Spelman, Acting Director, Readiness and Response Services, MPI
[See separate agenda](#) FOA website

3:00pm to 3:30pm – tea and coffee

3.30 to 4:30 WELCOME, HOUSEKEEPING AND INTRODUCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER
SPEAKERS – Venise Comfort, Dave Cormack, Andrew Spelman (introducing keynote)

Housekeeping, health and safety, order of service (Venise Comfort FOA)
Setting the scene (Dave Cormack FOA)
Introduce keynote speaker (Andrew Spelman MPI)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS - JOHN ROCHE (MPI)
The view from the other side (45 minutes including questions)

4:30 – 6:00pm TECHNICAL DISPLAYS
See end of programme for list of technical displays
Drinks (wine, beer, non-alcoholic options)
Attendees to circulate in their own time (a mix and mingle and interaction with display speakers and other delegates)

6:30pm DINNER AND NETWORKING
Urbano Bistro for dinner, drinks and networking – 289 Fenton Street
Drinks and dinner at your own organisation's expense (pre-paid)

Set menu with choices for main and dessert. If you have paid, your name will be on the list at the restaurant. If you have not paid, see Venise.

FOA has paid for platters for starters and your first drink

PROGRAMME – DAY 2: Wednesday March 6 – 8.30am – 3.30pm

Venue: Rimu Room, Scion

Tea and coffee available from 8am in the room or to the side room cafeteria

8.30 to 8:45am	LOOKING BACK OVER 2018 + WELCOME FROM SENIOR LEADERSHIP CHAIR – ANDREW SPELMAN (15 minutes) Open, welcome and introduction Speaker – Andrew Spelman, Acting Director, Readiness and Response Services, Biosecurity NZ, MPI.
8:45am to 9:30am	WHAT’S BEEN ACHIEVED IN 2018 (30 minutes) SPEAKER – DAVE CORMACK (FOA) Why the focus on operational biosecurity? A review of the previous workshop and outcomes and other forest biosecurity achievements. (15 minutes for discussion – including 2018 Action Items)
9:30 to 10am	AN OVERVIEW OF BIOSECURITY READINESS - WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE FOREST INDUSTRY (20 minutes) SPEAKER – BILL DYCK (FOA) Broad overview of FOA and industry initiatives – new Forest Biosecurity Surveillance programme and modern diagnostics and operational research. Questions (10 minutes)
10am to 10:30am – tea and coffee	
10:30 to 12:30pm	KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR PESTS (two hours including panel) CHAIR – BRENDAN GOULD More specific updates on operational issues (around 20 minutes each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul Bradbury (SPS Biosecurity) FBS update (20 minutes)• Rebecca McDougal (Scion) Diagnostics (20 minutes)• Venise Comfort (FOA) PineNet (5 mins)• Steve Pawson (Scion) General Surveillance app (20 minutes)• Brendan Gould (MPI) HRSS overview (20 minutes) Panel discussion to conclude

PROGRAMME – DAY 2: Cont.

Venue: Rimu Room, Scion

Lunch 12:30 to 1:30pm

1:30 to 3:00pm

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO BE PREPARED? (1.5 hours including questions at the end)
CHAIR BILL DYCK (FOA)

SPEAKERS

Karyn Froud – presentation of findings from report

Ed Massey - What does the wine sector do?

Matt Dyck - What does the kiwi fruit sector do?

Paco Tovar - What does the Australian forestry sector do?

Will Halliday– What does Beef + Lamb do?

Questions at the end – short stretch, no afternoon tea

3:00pm to 3:30pm

WRAP UP AND ACTION ITEMS – WHAT HOPE DO WE HAVE?
CHAIR – ANDREW SPELMAN

Panel - Dave Cormack, Karyn Froud, Ed Massey, Matt Dyck, Paco Tovar, Brendan Gould, Will Halliday.

ACTION ITEMS LIST – LED BY CHAIR ANDREW SPELMAN.
CONCLUDING REMARKS FROM FOA AND MPI IF REQUIRED



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. John Roche

Dr. John Roche is the Department Chief Science Adviser for New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries, Managing Director and Principal Consultant for Down to Earth Advice Ltd, and an Honorary Academic in the School of Biological Sciences at University of Auckland. Until recently, he was Principal Scientist for Animal Science at DairyNZ. He has also held science appointments with the National Centre for Dairy Production Research at Moorepark in Ireland, the Department of Primary Industries in Australia, and the University of Tasmania.

Dr. Roche has published more than 150 peer-reviewed science journal articles and book chapters. He is a regular contributor at international science and farming conferences and has been a section editor for Journal of Dairy Science since 2012.

During the last two decades, his animal science programme has focused primarily on dairy cow peripartum nutrition and the role of body condition score and energy balance on milk production, health, and reproduction. His review, body condition score and its association with dairy cow productivity, health, and welfare, was the most cited article in the Physiology and Management section of Journal of Dairy Science in 2010-11.

Dr. Roche has also been involved in numerous genotype x diet comparison studies, identifying physiological reasons for differences in body condition score change and reproductive efficiency in different genetic strains of Holstein-Friesian cows. His research work in intake regulation identified diurnal patterns in the endocrine profiles of grazing dairy cows that explain observed behavioral responses to feeding.

Dr. Roche also has extensive publications in grazing management, with a particular focus on the responsiveness of temperate grasses to carbon depletion, and is well known for his expertise in grazing farm systems, having published some of the seminal applied studies in stocking rate and farm system profitability.

Andrew Spelman

Acting Director, Readiness and Response Services, MPI

For the last eight months Andrew has led the Readiness and Response directorate, which is responsible for the management and delivery of Biosecurity Responses, developing and maintaining MPI and industry Readiness capability and the delivery of ongoing Long Term Management programmes.

During that time the RRS directorate has developed ongoing readiness and people capability, stood up and managed a wide range of biosecurity responses, continued to work through long term management of recovery from responses and ongoing pest management, including the Wilding Conifer programmes and Kauri Dieback programmes, compensation for those financially affected by biosecurity events, and negotiated signed agreements with our GIA partners.

Prior to this role, Andrew has held a number of Operations roles at MPI, most recently being the Manager Central and South for Border Clearance Services responsible for the delivery of border clearance functions ranging in locations from Gisborne to Bluff along with being the national lead for the delivery of Passenger pathway activities.

Andrew has an agricultural background having grown up on a sheep and beef property in the Manawatu and holds a Bachelor of Agriculture from Massey University along with a Master of Public Management from Victoria University.

Dave Cormack

Chair, FOA/FFA, Forest Biosecurity Committee (FBC)

Dave is the Chair of the FBC and has been in the role for the last five years. He has been the CE of Wenita Forests since 2009, based in Mosgiel and is responsible for 28,000 hectares of pine plantation in the Otago region.

Bill Dyck

FOA, Forest Biosecurity Manager

Bill is a Science and Technology Broker and has been the CEO of his own company since 1999. Previously he held the role of GM Forestry Carter Holt Harvey and before that was a science manager in the New Zealand Forest Research Institute. Bill, (aka “Mr Phytosphthora) contracts to the New Zealand Forest Owners Association as their Forest Biosecurity Manager and is passionate about protecting our biodiversity and productive ecosystems from pests and pathogens.

Venise Comfort

FOA Advisor

Venise manages the work programme for the FBC at FOA based in Wellington. She coordinates projects such as the recent biosecurity review, the FBS programme, contract management, and project management for biosecurity activities, as well as managing the work programme for small scale forest owners and the Environment Committee. She has been involved in the forestry sector for three years, with a previous career in qualitative research.

Brendan Gould

MPI, Manager of Biosecurity Surveillance and Inursion Investigation

Brendan manages Biosecurity New Zealand's team of technical specialists who look after New Zealand's national biosecurity surveillance programmes and also follow up and investigate any detections or reports of suspect pests and diseases across the animal health, plant health, aquatic and environment sectors, including Asian foods, traditional Chinese medicines and risk goods. His team also play critical technical and operational roles in all biosecurity responses. His background is in marine science and marine biosecurity and he started his career in MPI implementing and operationalising New Zealand's marine biosecurity surveillance programme. As the least qualified person in his team he is now relegated to a management role.

Dr. Steve Pawson

Scion, Research Leader - Entomology

Steve is the Research Leader Entomology at Scion based in Christchurch. Scion manages the BioHeritageNZ and Envirolink Tools general surveillance programme – Find-A-Pest. Steve has a history of working on biosecurity activities that include border protection and alternative phytosanitary treatments for forest exports. Steve is particularly interested in the interface between biological sciences and engineering to develop new solutions to difficult biosecurity problems.

Karyn Froud

PhD, Biosecurity Epidemiologist

Karyn Froud has a PhD in epidemiology researching risk factors for disease at the population level. She spent 10 years as an entomology scientist with Plant and Food Research, followed by 10 years at MPI leading their biosecurity incursion investigation group. For the last 7 years Karyn has worked on applying epidemiology research to biosecurity responses and preparedness and is currently involved with Kauri dieback, myrtle rust and *Mycoplasma bovis*.

Edwin Massey

NZ Winegrowers, Biosecurity and Emergency Response Manager

Edwin is the Biosecurity and Emergency Response Manager at New Zealand Winegrowers, based in Blenheim. To date key achievements in the role have included developing the New Zealand Winegrowers Biosecurity Strategy; driving the process that led to New Zealand Winegrowers signing the Government Industry Agreement Deed in May 2017 and the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Operational Agreement in July 2017. Edwin is a member of GERMAC (Plant Germplasm Advisory Committee), Chair of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Council and Xylella Action group and writes regular biosecurity columns for several national and regional industry magazines including New Zealand Winegrower.

Matt Dyck

Kiwifruit Vine Health, Biosecurity Manager

Matt's focus as Biosecurity Manager at Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH) is on reducing the likelihood and impact of another biosecurity incursion to the New Zealand kiwifruit industry. In this role Matt has developed technical knowledge and international networks to ensure awareness of emerging threats to the kiwifruit industry; regularly undertaken readiness and response activities in partnership with Biosecurity New Zealand; and worked closely with Zespri Innovation to drive biosecurity research.

Before working for the kiwifruit industry Matt studied as a marine scientist working as an Environmental Manager for a large finfish aquaculture project in Malaysia, and Project Manager for a selective breeding project in Singapore.

Paco Tovar

Plant Health Australia, National Forest Biosecurity Coordinator

Paco works at Plant Health Australia and is charged with implementing the Australian National Forest Biosecurity Strategy. Funded by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) and the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), this strategy aims to establish a National Forest Pest Surveillance Programme. The Programme will coordinate forest biosecurity activities across multiple forest stakeholders. Paco previously worked in Western Australia for ten years managing forest health research and surveillance programmes for the Industry Plantation Management Group (IPMG).

Will Halliday

Beef + Lamb, Senior Advisor

Will is the Senior Advisor – Biosecurity and Animal Welfare at Beef + Lamb. He was born and raised on a Hawke’s Bay sheep and beef farm, and has degrees in Forestry Science and Veterinary Science, six years’ experience in clinical practice and three years with MPI.

Dr. Rebecca McDougal

Scion, Microbiologist

Rebecca is a microbiologist specialising in forest pathology. Her role is to apply molecular biology techniques in developing diagnostics tools and characterising pathogen populations, to understand plant-pathogen interactions and for biosecurity.

TECHNICAL DISPLAYS

Dr Rebecca McDougal and Dr Dagmar Goeke

Portable PCR machine for field-based diagnostics

Dr. Rebecca McDougal (Molecular Forest Pathologist, Forest Protection team, Scion) and Dr Dagmar Goeke (Molecular Geneticist, Forest Genetics team, Scion) will demonstrate the use of a portable PCR machine. Rebecca develops diagnostics tools for characterising pathogen populations, understanding plant-pathogen interactions and for biosecurity. Dagmar is involved in Tree Breeding and Genotyping research and field observations of genetic trials. Together they are trialling the use of portable PCR for field-based diagnostics (DNA-based identification) of needle diseases

Stuart Fraser

Developing a Management Strategy for Red Needle Cast (RNC)

Stuart Fraser is a Forest Pathologist at Scion. His research focuses on the management of RNC. Stuart will be available to discuss current research on management strategies for this disease and will demonstrate a prototype decision tool for the control of RNC with copper fungicide.

Jackson 3

Professional tools that make footwear hygiene easier to practice every day

Jacson3 is a Hamilton based company that specialises in cleaning and disinfecting footwear hygiene solutions. Their invention the Jacson Cube won the innovation award at the 2018 NZ Biosecurity awards.

<https://www.cleanboots.co.nz/>