Issue 119 | May 2012

pruning

WORLD CLASS
EastPack Ltd
ORCHARD to MARKET

EastPack **update** 2012 harvest summary

Please find below a brief summary of the 2012 harvest as at 1 May.

- EastPack has packed approximately its market share of the Green volumes and slightly less of its share of the Gold volume year to date.
- The overall season is approximately one week later than last year.
- One of the stand out features this year is the low level of rejects being presented to the packhouse by EastPack Growers.

May Payment

This month's crop payment for the 2011 harvest will be paid to Growers on 31 May 2012, rather than the usual 15th of the month. This payment is paid on 31 May to allow the Zespri board to finalise the Grower pools. The 31 May payment will be the final payment for fruit value (Green & Organic Growers will receive a small loyalty payment on 15 June).

Tony Hawken – CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Table 1. Summary of trays packed year to date comparing the previous two years

	GOLD				GREEN			
	2010 Trays Packed	2011 Trays Packed	2012 Trays Packed	Average Size	2010 Trays Packed	2011 Trays Packed	2012 Trays Packed	Average Size
EastPack	4.321m	4.880m	2.151m	32.94	3.127m	2.430m	2.487m	34.16
Industry	15.000m	13.030m	9.607m	31.99	27.090m	17.300m	15.553m	33.68
EastPack % of industry packed YTD	28%	37%	22%	-	12%	14%	16%	-
EastPack estimated % market share	28%	28%	27%	-	12%	14%	16%	-

Table 2. Grading table rejects YTD

Green rejects YTD	6.86% (including Class II but not undersize)
Gold rejects YTD	7.45% (including Class II but not undersize)

The above low levels of rejects have greatly assisted in the efficiencies of our packing operation.

New Varieties Update

New Variety harvesting and packing is well underway across all regions of the bay. At the time of writing this article, progress in harvesting our New Varieties is as follows:

G3 will likely be finished at the time of reading this update. There does not appear to be any great difficulty in achieving high TZG from this variety and by all reports from staff, it tastes great.

Harvesting of G9 is only just beginning to get underway, this is definitely a late maturing variety. Harvest Co-coordinators across all regions have noted that the soft fractiles do tend to drop away quickly once colour is nearing N protocol.

G14 harvesting is about halfway through. Good TZG results have been achieved in Te Puke but G14 in the Edgecumbe region appears to have difficulty in budging out of M band.

Next month we will summarise the key packing statistics for our New Varieties.

Growing Region		GA	GL	HE
Hawkes Bay	March Est	41,500	3,000	2,176
	Harvested YTD	35,778	-	2,176
	% Harvested	**100%**	-	**100%**
Opotiki	March Est	23,000	83,900	2,350
	Harvested YTD	2.063	-	-
	% Harvested	**9%**	-	-
Te Puke	March Est	107,700	97,000	34,200
	Harvested YTD	83,090	-	30,866
	% Harvested	**77%**	-	**90%**
Whakatane	March Est	113,040	167,000	58,870
	Harvested YTD	78,825	20,339	13,135
	% Harvested	**70%**	**12%**	**22%**
EastPack	**March Est**	**285,240**	**350,900**	**97,596**
	Harvested YTD	**199,756**	**20,339**	**46,177**
	% Harvested	**70%**	**6%**	**47%**

Zespri New Variety tastings and tender process meetings

14 May – 24 May 2012

DATE/ TIME	LOCATION/VENUE
Tues 15 May	
10.00am-12.00pm	**Hawke's Bay** Ron Flower's Packhouse Twyford Road, Hastings
5.00pm-7.00pm	**Gisborne** Bushmere Arms Hotel Main Road, Waerengahika
Wed 16 May	
10.00am-12.00pm	**Opotiki** Opotiki Golf Club Fromow Road, Opotiki
2.00pm-4.00pm	**Edgecumbe** Awakeri Events Centre Edgecumbe
Thurs 17 May	
11.00am-1.00pm	**Nelson** Top 10 Holiday Park 10 Feron Street, Motueka
Mon 21 May	
10.00am-12.00pm	**Whangarei** Barge Park Showgrounds State Highway 14, Whangarei

DATE/ TIME	LOCATION/VENUE
2.00pm-4.00pm	**KeriKeri** The Centre at Kerikeri 43 Cobham Road, Kerikeri
Tues 22 May	
10.00am-12.00pm	**Auckland** Counties Inn 17 Paerata Road, Pukekohe
2.00pm-4.00pm	**Waikato** Prince Albert Victoria Street, Cambridge
Wed 23 May	
9.30am-11.30am	**Te Puke** The Orchard Church 20 MacLoughlin Road, Te Puke **Satara, Treveylans and DMS**
12.00pm -2.00pm	**Te Puke** The Orchard Church 20 MacLoughlin Road, Te Puke **Seeka and Aerocool**

DATE/ TIME	LOCATION/VENUE
2.30pm - 4.30pm	**Te Puke** The Orchard Church 20 MacLoughlin Road, Te Puke **Eastpack and MPAC**
Thurs 24 May	
9.30am-11.30am	**Katikati** RSA & Citizens' Club Cnr Henry & Main Rds Katikati **Aongatete, Satara, DMS and Birchwood**
12.00pm-2.00pm	**Katikati** RSA & Citizens' Club, Cnr Henry & Main Rds Katikati **Humes, Seeka, Apata and Eastpack**
5.00pm-7.70pm	**Tauranga** Fahys (Greerton Motor Inn) 1237 Cameron Road, Tauranga **Open meeting**

New Variety cut over

With the harvest of Gold over, for most of us living with Psa, the next priorities are ones around the cut out of 16A and the change to a more Psa tolerant variety.

The main issues to address at the moment are:

- When to start cutting out Psa vines
- When to start dropping off the leaves of the rest of the 16A
- How to dispose of the cut out material
- Grafting planning
- Which variety to change to
- Removing chinensis rootstocks and interstocks

When to start cutting out Psa vines

This is a bit of a compromise. On one hand, the longer that you can keep some leaf on the plant the better the plant will handle the grafting shock and the more successful the grafting will be. On the other hand the longer you leave Psa-infected vines before cut off, the more risk there is that the rootstock may become infected.

So in practical terms, now is probably late enough that the difference between cutting now or later when leaf drop has started naturally, is not terribly significant.

Best Guess

- Start cutting out the worst affected vines now and deal with unaffected vines or parts of the orchard later once leaf drop has started.
- Use a wound paint to seal the cut stump.

When to start dropping off the leaves of the rest of the 16A

Ideally this should be once the leaf drop process has started naturally. Use a leaf drop spray such as copper sulphate or urea or a combination of both. If the plants are not going to be cut off immediately, apply a protectant (copper) spray to protect the leaf drop scar.

How to dispose of the cut out material

The gold standard is to buck rake the material out to a suitable place to be buried, at least half a meter deep. This is a big job and may be too expensive to be practical in all situations.

The next best would be to move the cut off material out to a hole to be burnt in a hot fire.

Probably the cheapest method will be to mulch the pruned out canopy and allow it to decompose on the orchard floor. Spraying the canopy with a sanitiser to minimise the innoculum prior to cut off and repeating this to the mulched canopy on the orchard floor is probably a good idea.

The finer the mulching the faster the material will break down. It will also be necessary to add some nitrogen and possibly a digester product to speed up this process some more and the ensure that lack of nitrogen does not become a limiting factor to graft growth in the Spring. One to two hundred kg of urea per hectare over this time would be our best guess at this time.

Leaders and leader wires will have to buried or burnt and buried.

Grafting planning

There is a new method for stump grafting on offer this year and this will be supported by a precision scion cutting service. The main advantage of this system is that the stump is cut to receive the scion rather than being split.

Preparation is important. Good preparation will ensure that your grafter is comfortable and happy in your orchard. This will increase the success rate. Accurate marking of the new grafts will minimise mistakes and the amount of regrafting required. Completing the leader removal, the mulching and the re-establishment of the new leader wire will minimise the risk of grafts being knocked out.

Which variety to change to

It would have to be a Psa tolerant variety and the best choices at present are G3 and G14.

Both of these varieties do get Psa but they both have a high degree of tolerance. Managing these varieties in the future will involve continued measures to protect these plants and to minimise or eliminate the economic impact of Psa. There may well be some more and better choices in the future so it may be wise to delay this decision until the last practical moment.

Removing *chinensis* rootstocks and interstocks

All of the trial work and field observations point to *chinensis* (16A) material being particularly susceptible to Psa.

The least risk procedure will be to remove all *chinensis* (16A) plant material before grafting. For plants established on Gold or *chinensis* rootstocks the whole plant will need to be replaced. For other Gold orchards the cut off will need to be below the Hort 16A (Gold) graft union.

Kiwifruit Rootstocks for the future

The kiwifruit industry is based on the use of *Actinidia deliciosa* seedlings as the most common rootstock. These are commonly known as Bruno or Bruno seedlings. There is a small amount of Kaimai a clonal rootstock used to improve floralness and taste but infamously difficult to graft. In later times seedling or cuttings of *Actinidia chinensis* have been used primarily as a rootstock for Hort 16A. With our new reality of Psa tolerance to this virulent disease is the new imperative. To date only Bruno seedlings and a new clonal selection Bounty 71, are showing a commercial level of Psa tolerance.

Bounty 71

Bounty71 is a rootstock that was identified in a 1997 rootstock trial. The vines were grown in a research setting without the use of exogenous growth regulators (hydrogen cyanamide, Benefit®, pruning gels) or intensive canopy management commonly used in commercial orchards. Hort16A was the only scion used in this initial trial.

Bounty 71 Traits in the 1997 Trial

Flower numbers and fruit size

When compared to the Bruno rootstock the Bounty71 rootstock promoted higher flower numbers and larger fruit size from the Hort16A scion, resulting in higher yields of export quality fruit.

Dry matter

Overall Hort16A fruit dry matter content was similar or higher with the Bounty71 rootstock, despite the increase in average fruit fresh weight. Hort16A fruit growing on the Bounty71 rootstock matured earlier and had a higher soluble solids, lower hue angle and lower firmness in storage when harvested on the same date as the fruit grown on the other rootstocks.

Canopy

The Bounty71 rootstock caused Hort16A to produce a slightly less vigorous and more open canopy than that produced by the Bruno and Kaimai rootstocks, primarily because of an increased frequency of self terminated shoots. Overall the data suggest that the mechanism for increased flowering, fruit size and dry matter with this rootstock could be a decrease in partitioning of carbohydrate resources to vegetative growth and an increase towards fruit development and storage reserves.

Budburst/flowering timing

The rootstocks in this trial had significant effects on the vigor of 'Hort16A' shoot growth, numbers of flowers per winter bud, and fruit development, but have only minor effects on the timing of budburst and timing of flowering once rootstock effects on wood type are accounted for.

Grafting

The Bounty71 rootstock produces high root pressures and copious exudation relatively early in spring, and therefore may need to be started and completed earlier than traditional rootstocks.

Commercial value

Results obtained from 1999 to 2007 in this trial demonstrate that Bounty71 provides consistent increases in Hort16A fruit size and fruit number without compromising dry matter, when compared to other rootstock in a research setting. Fruit maturity is also consistently earlier and shoot vigor lower.

Subsequent trials and observations

Flower numbers and fruit size

Additional yield and fruit quality data were obtained from new trials established with replicated trials involving Bounty71 rootstock grafted with Hort16A or Hayward at the Te Puke Research Centre. Budbreak and flowering of both Hort16A and Hayward scions were improved by the use of Bounty71 rootstock.

Hayward yield still being understood

Use of Bounty71 rootstock appeared to reduce the yields of Hayward fruit even though it produced more flowers per winter bud. This was associated with reduced trunk diameter, which could have reduced vine vigor. A change in plant density and/or pruning system may be required to maintain high yields of Hayward vines grafted with Bounty71 rootstock.

Tolerance to 'wet feet'

Grower observations with Bounty71 have suggested that the rootstock is more tolerant to water logged soils than Bruno rootstock. This was not based on experimental observations therefore Zespri cannot as yet verify the trait. Trials are underway to better understand the commercial benefits of Bounty71 in water logged soils.

Bounty71 with Gold3 as the scion

Trials have been established with Gold3 as the scion on Bounty71. Little quantitative data has yet been obtained. Preliminary data from one orchard assessed to date indicate Bounty71 indicated a negative effect on Gold3 fruit dry matter. The dataset indicated no difference in rootstock effect on fruit soluble solids concentration (SSC), flesh colour or firmness. Data collection is ongoing and Zespris not yet in a position to recommend the use of Bounty71 with Gold3.

Which Rootstock should be used?

Bruno seedlings can be used with a certain amount of confidence in most situations with most varieties.

Bounty 71 is probably a good consideration where whole blocks or whole

orchards are having to be re-established from the ground up due to losses from Psa. Bounty 71 will probably suit double planting, or planting where the plant footprint is around 20m² or less.

Bounty 71 is also probably a good choice for orchards having to re-established due to losses from flooding or 'wet feet'.

When will Bounty 71 be available?

Zespris providing budwood from 'Bounty71 to kiwifruit nurseries throughout the country. Propagation and growing on of Bounty71 plants will likely delay availability to Growers until the winter of 2013.

There will be some Bounty 71 available in November 2012, grown from cuttings suitable for growing on in a nursery situation to be field planted in the winter of 2013. However these will still need to

Bounty 71 with G14 graft

be grafted at some stage and this is a far from simple operation at this stage. Also available at around the same time, November/December 2012, will be a limited number of micro-grafted plants suitable for growing on in the nursery. These will have the scion of your choice subject to you having a suitable licence.

Grafted plants suitable for planting out in the orchard will be available in the winter of 2013.

Bruno seedlings for delivery in the winter 2012 are in very short supply and will probably have to be ordered soon for supply in winter 2013.

Ordering plants

EastPack is coordinating orders for rootstocks to be supplied from leading propagating nurseries situated outside of the current Psa priority zones. Contact your Grower Services Representative for more details or to place an order.

Technically **Speaking**

Water stain treatment in kiwifruit

Water stain comes from dead tissue in the canopy. There is a lot of dead tissue in most Gold canopies this year, due to leaf damage from wind and copper sprays early in the season.

Water stain is easily removed with an appropriate product.

- Kiwifruit, especially Hayward can be very difficult to wet effectively.
- The performance of water stain removal products can be improved by the addition of a wetting agent on difficult to wet crops.
- Use tank mixed chemical straight away.
- Coverage of the fruit without excessive run-off from the canopy is vital.
- The products need time on the fruit to work.
- Reapply after 15 mm or more of rain.
- Both Green and Gold kiwifruit should be sprayed pre-harvest with water stain spray this year

Best practice water stain removal sprays

- Use only an approved product.
- Use the product at recommended label rates.
- Apply to wet fruit if at all possible, or
- Use a relatively high water rate (3000 l/ha).

- Spray both directions in each row.
- Add some wetting agent on hard to wet crops.
- Use tank mixed chemical straight away.
- Apply to the fruit only. Try not to wet the leaves excessively.
- Apply one to two days prior to harvest.
- Reapply if there has been 10-15mm of rain or more.

Continued over

Technically **Speaking** *continued*

Red bin cards

Growers and harvest contractors are asked to use the red bin cards (supplied by EastPack) to identify bins picked in parts of the orchard where the fruit will need to be more closely examined by the grading staff. This allows the affected bins to be grouped together and the offending fruit to be graded continuously, making the grading process much more efficient and accurate.

The types of defect that should be red carded are:

- Sooty mould.
- Bad water stain.
- Spray residues.
- Silt on fruit.

Stones in bins

Stones in bins can be a problem. Some stones the size of small rocks, have been found on grading belts.

Stones damage the fruit causing fresh punctures but they can also cause significant damage to the bin dump, grading belts and machinery.

The stones are thought to come from loadout pads where forklifts are digging into the surface and scooping up stones. These are then dropped into bins as they are stacked for transportation.

Levelling bins

Fruit should be level with the top boards of the bin but not above. To check this, roll a broom handle along the edge of the top board and the handle should be clear of the uppermost fruit.

This bin should have the upper fruit levelled off, below the broomstick.

Post Harvest Psa Protection

After harvest there are two times of significant Psa risk that need to have effective protection to minimise the risk. These are:

- The picking scar
- The leaf drop scar

The picking scar

This can be easily protected with the application of a Psa protectant spay immediately after harvest. The objective is to cover the end of the fruit with the protectant chemical. The spray should be applied targeting the underside of the canopy with the spray allowed to run down the fruit stalk and form a drip off the end. There is no need to blow the spray up onto the upper canopy unless the existing cover needs to be replenished.

The leaf drop scar

This is a little more difficult to protect effectively. This is because the leaf drop process happens over an extended time period making it difficult to choose just one time to cover all of the exposed scars without waiting for an extended time with some leaf scars unprotected.

Part of the solution to this is to accelerate the leaf fall process using a product, usually copper sulphate or urea, or both to effect the leaf drop over a condensed time frame.

If a product is used to help accelerate the leaf drop, this should not be applied until this process has started naturally.

Apply a Psa protectant spay approximately half way through the leaf fall process, targeting the leaf scars immediately below the winter bud on the dormant cane.

Another application should be made once this process is substantially complete. Applications should be timed before significant rain events.

For products to use and their use rates, talk to your EastPack Grower Services Representative.

Winter pruning 2012

Winter pruning is the basis of next seasons production, it sets the potential for our next harvest. A poor job in the winter will limit the crop that can be there at the end of the season. You can never make up for a poor winter prune through the rest of the growing season.

However it is essentially really simple, just select the best quality wood and tie it down at the optimum spacing, make sure this is achieved consistently through the bay and in every bay in the orchard.

The only trick part is to be able to make this happen on your orchard.

Pre-Pruning

Immediately after harvest is a good time to develop a strategy for your winter pruning.

Whether you want to do some renovation work on your leaders, cutting out those ugly knobs, or just get a head start on the winter pruning, after harvest is the ideal time to work slowly through the orchard making the important decisions.

Winter pruning is made up of four main functions.

These are:

1. Cutting out the reject wood.
2. Deciding what wood is to be tied down.

3. Cutting out the excess wood.
4. Tying in the required wood at the ideal spacing

The success of the winter pruning job will be determined, largely by the quality of the decision making.

This is a highly skilled part of the job and all too often this is left to the people who are contracted to do the cutting out and tying down.

Much better then, to separate out at least part of this job and have a skilled person work through the orchard bay by bay and cut out the wood in each bay that you don't want to be considered to be tied down in the winter prune.

This can be done while the leaves are still on the vine.

It is then easy to follow up a week later and cut (trash) out all the wood with wilted or dead leaves. This will make the winter prune and tying down much more straight forward and will reduce the risk of having wood tied down that you are not totally happy with.

Now is a good time to revisit the basics.

The Basics

There are only four things that are absolutely essential to a kiwifruit production system.

These are:

1. A canopy to harvest sunlight (solar panel).
2. Fruit (this is the only thing that you get paid for).
3. A framework upon which to hang next year's crop.
4. Enough stored reserves to start up the whole process again in the spring.

Anything else that you produce in your kiwifruit system is a waste to the system and usually costs money to remove. It is also a waste of energy and carbohydrate harvested by the plant and not contributing to the productivity of the system.

The waste products are typically prunings, both winter and summer, and fruit or flowers that have to be thinned off.

Plan to minimise waste.

Winter Pruning (the framework)

The basic aim of winter pruning is to set up the framework which will carry next year's crop.

In Hayward this framework should consist of good quality fruit stalk wood of moderate vigour with prominent buds that has been grown in sunlight for the whole of the season.

This wood should be evenly spaced with 35-40cm gaps between the fruiting wood in all directions.

Your best fruit will come on the best quality wood. Remember everything that ends up on the ground is a loss and a waste to the system.

Bud Numbers

Winter bud numbers are less important than the winter bud quality.

Most of the consistent very high yields that we see in Hayward come from canopies with 20-25 winter buds per m^2. If it's not part of your production system, don't grow it.

Hort 16A Gold

The basic principles for winter pruning Gold are just the same, moderate vigour, well lit (grown in sunlight) fruiting wood with prominent (fat) buds and short internodes, well spaced.

The real difference with Gold is that it is much more vigorous and floral than Hayward.

The real skill in pruning Gold is to limit the number of buds to the sort of number that you need and to have these buds on the best possible quality winter wood.

Avoid the temptation to tie down more than you need as this will compromise the quality of the wood carrying at least part of your crop and it will commit you to unnecessary cost and waste correcting the situation in the spring.

Because of its relatively vigorous growth habit, it is important that Gold canopies are kept as flat as possible.

Prune out all the vertical growth, spurs, stubs and any hooped structures that may still be part of the permanent framework.

Step by Step Winter Prune

Establish the framework to carry next year's crop.

1. Remove the obsolete and unsuitable wood. This is a skilled job and involves significant decision making. It may be considered as being separate from the normal winter prune.

Continued over

Technically **Speaking** *continued*

Winter pruning 2012 continued

2. a. make any saw cuts that may be necessary.
   b. take out any wood that is not to be considered part of the pruning job.
   c. paint the saw cuts with Bacseal.
3. Remove all the spent wood.
4. Remove all the weak wood (thinner than pencil thickness) and all the shaded or late grown hairy wood.
5. Select the best quality wood and tie down. Use a clip for each wire and secure the ends of canes with a bungy if they are overhanging.
6. Adjust the spacings. 35-40cm in each direction for Hayward and 30-40cm for Gold.
7. Maintain at least a 30cm space between the wood of opposing females.
8. Maintain at least the 30cm spacing between female wood and male wood.
9. Adjust the bud numbers.
   a. Count the bud numbers in a number of bays each day as they are being pruned.

   b. Reduce the buds to your target range if they are too high by removing the weakest wood and adjusting the spacings.
10. Fine tune the winter prune. Ideally this can be done at a later time.
    a. Go through the pruning bay by bay and focus on removing weak and late grown wood.
    b. Remove any vertical stubs or spurs.
    c. Remove wood that is too thin.
    d. Adjust the spacings.
    e. Secure any unsupported canes or spurs with a bungy.
    f. Try to even up any bays that stand out as being too different.
    g. Check on the bud numbers in several bays in each maturity area and adjust if necessary.

May summary

Water stain will be more prevalent this harvest and it will be important to use pre-harvest water stain removal sprays, especially on Gold, but also on Hayward crops.

Decay of badly phytotox leaves, die back shoots and cut shoots left to dry out in the canopy, as well as a high rainfall summer, are all factors contributing to more than normal levels of water stain this year.

Cicada sooty mould on Gold may also benefit from pre-harvest water stain removal sprays.

Reject rates – There appear to be many Hayward crops with significant amounts of reject fruit still hanging on the vines. Although there is no packing charge for packed Class 2 fruit this year, it is still important to minimise the amount of non Class 1 fruit harvested. A final pre- harvest groom to minimise rejects is strongly recommended, especially for Hayward, but this is also probably true for Gold as well.

Orchard Operations Reminder

May

- Pre-harvest water stain removal spray.
- Meet with harvest contractor
  - Discuss Psa protocols.
  - GAP compliance
  - Update hazard register.
- Harvest.
- Apply post-harvest spray to protect picking stalk scars from Psa.
- Post-harvest foliar spray (N & Mg).
- Make a plan for New Varieties licence release
  - Organise grafter
  - Talk to labour contractor about cut-out.
- Arrange for soil test to be taken.
- Arrange for fertiliser recommendation.
- Make a plan for winter pruning.

June

- Make a plan for the Psa recovery pathway for your orchard.
- Start preparing for grafting to New Variety
  - Repair structures
  - Cut off canopy and remove old leader wire
  - Mulch prunings
  - Spray weed strips
- Manage leaf drop process with copper sulphate and/or urea
  - Note: Do not start before leaf drop has started naturally
- Apply copper spray to protect leaf scars from Psa
- Start winter pruning.
  - Only prune in dry weather
  - Sanitise all tools at least every plant.
- Apply copper spray to protect winter pruning cuts.

July

- Continue with winter pruning
- Graft to New Variety
  - String for graft support
  - Apply slug and snail bait
- Apply base fertiliser applications for Gold
- Organise Teepee poles and strings.

Financial **Update**

EET Average Forecast Class 1 payments for May 2012 are as follows:

	Zespri Progress	Net Incentives	Estimated May Average
Green	$0.10	$0.01	$0.11
Gold	$0.11	$0.01	$0.12
Organic	$0.10	$0.01	$0.11

The average fruit value rates per Class 1 tray are shown in the table below.
These payments will be direct credited into your account on 30 May 2012 (Please note the change in date for this months payment).

At the time of printing, the May payment rates had not been confirmed by Zespri, therefore, estimated rates have been used.

Progress payments by size are shown below.

	Zespri Fruit Payment To 15/04/2012	Zespri Progress 30/05/2012	Total Zespri Receipts	EP Base Coolstorage YTD	EP Port & Transport YTD	EET Advance (Base CS, P&T and Progress)	EET Total Paid YTD (May inclusive)
Green							
18/22	4.60	0.11	4.71	-0.72	-0.15	-	3.84
25/27	4.88	0.10	4.98	-0.72	-0.15	-	4.11
30/33	4.57	0.10	4.67	-0.72	-0.15	-	3.80
36/39	3.80	0.10	3.90	-0.72	-0.15	-	3.03
42	2.13	0.10	2.23	-0.72	-0.15	-	1.37
Gold							
16/18/22	6.38	0.11	6.49	-0.73	-0.15	-	5.61
25/27	7.40	0.11	7.51	-0.73	-0.15	-	6.63
30/33	6.90	0.11	7.01	-0.73	-0.15	-	6.13
36/39	5.42	0.11	5.53	-0.73	-0.15	-	4.65
Organic							
18/22	4.90	0.13	5.03	-0.74	-0.15	-	4.14
25/27	5.35	0.10	5.45	-0.74	-0.15	-	4.56
30/33	6.33	0.12	6.45	-0.74	-0.15	-	5.56
36/39	5.52	0.10	5.62	-0.74	-0.15	-	4.73
42	3.96	0.11	4.07	-0.74	-0.15	-	3.18

EET Indicative Average Class 1 Payments for 15 June 2012 are as follows:

	Loyalty	Estimated June Average
Green	$0.05	$0.05

EastPack Pink Ribbon Morning Tea for Breast Cancer Awareness

Growers, you are invited to join us at the packhouses for morning tea on Friday 18 May at 10.30am

- Our aim is to raise $1000 for this cause
- Gold coin donation appreciated
- Morning tea supplied
- Dress in pink to show your support

If you are unable to make it but would like to donate towards our efforts please visit our page at:

http://www.nzbcf-fundraising.org.nz/eastpack
to make a donation

Growing Excellence

As part of EastPack's Growing Excellence programme the team is looking to build knowledge and expertise in what is best practice and the associated impacts of not following best practice.

To this end EastPack are looking to run three different trials this season. The three trials include:

1. Harvesting technique vs physical damage

What is the impact of Green harvesting technique on physical damage at packing and storage damage?

The trial will look at the difference between unsupervised and supervised best practice techniques at picking and loading. The planned outputs include quantifying the cost savings of harvesting fruit to best practice standards.

2. Throughput rates vs physical damage

What is the impact of throughput rates on physical damage identified at packing and storage damage?

Initial trials at Opotiki in 2011 showed that there was no impact on physical damage at packing however, there is a desire to repeat the trial and extend the analysis to include storage damage.

3. New Varieties throughput rates

For Green HE and Gold GA the trials will include gathering data on achievable throughput rates and looking at storage damage.

All of these trials are designed to limit as many variables as possible and to allow us to quantify the cost of packing with the potential fruitloss on storage. We look forward to informing you of the results and thanking everyone involved in advance of their assistance.

Health and Safety Tractor Safety

In April there were two people injured in separate tractor accidents on orchards.

In the first incident a 61 year old man suffered head injuries and cuts & bruises when the tractor he was driving flipped on an orchard pinning him beneath it.

Firefighters freed the man from beneath the tractor and the man was taken to Tauranga Hospital by St John Ambulance.

In the second incident, a 15 year old male was hit by an out of control tractor. The teen was picking fruit on a kiwifruit orchard when he was hit by a tractor where the driver had lost control, pinning him beneath the wheel.

It is believed the teen suffered internal injuries and multiple broken bones.

The second incident occurred when a young man drove the tractor without permission. The Department of Labour have advised that a practicable step to prevent this incident happening in the future is to have designated drivers for the tractors on orchards. When the designated driver is not on the tractor the keys should be removed from the vehicle.

All drivers on orchards should be trained and competent to use equipment and vehicles.

Zespri Grafting Field Days being held early June 2012

Zespri will be running national field days aimed at Growers who are thinking of doing grafting work themselves. These field days will be pitched at an introduction/beginner level.

The areas covered will include:

- Toolkit required.
- Hygiene considerations.
- Scion preparation.
- Demonstration of different grafting techniques i.e. Cleft, Kerf etc.
- Post-graft care.

As it is intended for Growers to have an opportunity to do some grafting work themselves, Zespri need to restrict the number of Growers at any one field day.

Growers are asked to register their general interest in attending by contacting Zespri's Grower Contact Centre on 0800 155 355 or email contact.canopy@zespri.com.

Classified

For Sale

Feijoa Trees

$10.00 per tree

Ph 0276-672 2044

Heat Dragon

Manufactured by Splash Equipment, Te Puke.

Excellent condition. $10,500 +gst ono

Phone Chris Friis on 06-844 2905 evenings or 027-444 3091

Electric Motor with Grundfos pump attached

Grundfos Pump: Model 100 x 65 - 200.

Impellar diameter 198.

Motor is a 2009 model 22Kw TECO high efficiency (93.5) 3 phase induction

Pump is attached to the motor.

Please ring Mike on 07-312 3198 evenings.

Mulcher

Trimax Mulchmasta, 2.2m width.

Excellent condition. $2500

Phone Pete on 07-315 6849

Casuarinas

1000 Casuarinas in PB5 1 metre $3.50 ea (+GST)

1000 Cryptomerias in PB5 $3.50 ea (+GST)

Phone Hugh Stuckey on 027-223 5007

Two pneumatic pruning hand pieces

$250.00

Phone Alan on 027-485 9910

Irrigation Laterals

Complete with Tornado Ray Jets

2 x 55 litres/hr

Per 5m bay 19mm, 16mm 13mm

Call Geoff Harcourt on 027-498 0672

For Hire

Tractor with forklift

For hire during the picking season.

Ph Maunder Collier on 022-648 0016

Wanted to Buy

Bruno Rootstock

Ph Jenny 07-573 4828

Swing Arm Mower

Ph Pat 0274 735 099

All Terrain Mast Forklift

AUSA CH150X4 preferred, but all forklifts considered.

Phone Mark on 021 460 292

Houses To Let

Cottage available to rent

Small Cottage available, long term rent. 1½ kms from Te Puke township. Suit two quiet adults. No dogs sorry.

Ph 07-573 8611

Courses

First Aid Courses

OSH, GAP, NZQA.

Held monthly in Te Puke

Phone Doug 021-108 1515
Email: dougallan@slingshot.co.nz

Trade Services

SONICSPRAY Horticulture Spray Specialists

Experienced spray contractors for all your kiwifruit spraying requirements. Very high orchard hygiene standards for Psa control.

Phone Richard Alloway on 0274-999 459

Active 4 Solutions

Taca Tungsten Grit Hardfacing

Proven solution for worn mulcher flails

Applying Taca will increase flail life by up to 4 or 5 times depending on conditions.

We can supply all types of mulcher flails, complete with Taca.

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Bay Farm & Industrial Pumps

Pumps and water meters

Frost protection and irrigation systems

Design, supply and install. Free Quotes

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027-277 5295 or 07-578 4405
56 Fifteenth Ave, Tauranga
Email: daryl@bayfarmpumps.co.nz

Bay Sluicing

For all your sluicing needs.

Call Kevin Massey on 0800 877 566

Fox Contractors (Edgecumbe)

Quality pruning and harvest contractors.

Our focus is to supply the highest quality harvesting standards available.

Edgecumbe based.

Ph Steve 07-304 6000 or 027-304 6001

BOP Trenching Services

- Irrigation systems for orchard or farm
- Frost and irrigation, bores, rivers or dam supply
- Diesel or power pumps
- Design, supply and install
- Free quotes.
- New systems or reinstate old systems

Phone Roger Johnson on 07-533 1517 or 027-452 5330

Superior Kiwifruit Vines

Needing to graft Kiwifruit vines this winter? Let us do the hard graft for you!
Over 25 years grafting experience and a success rate of over 99%.

Call Stuart on 022-080 5669

Email: Superiorkiwifruitvines@gmail.com

Trade Services Wanted

Kiwifruit posts and wire to be removed

4.5 canopy hectare lot to be removed

Contact Tere 07-573 5356

EP Prunings Deadline

For articles and advertising 1st of each month. Please also advise when your adverts are to be removed. **Contact Kyra Ormsby:**
Phone 07-573 9309 Fax 07-573 9310
kyra.ormsby@eastpack.co.nz

Te Puke's Grader 3 robots in full swing as we head into mainpack

Contacts

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027-234 2513

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