

## The Ministry for Primary Industries emerging risk system

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Identifying potential and emerging threats is an important component of biosecurity risk management. While staff from across MPI have historically kept watch on new and emerging pests and diseases for some time, an independent review of import requirements and border processes following the inadvertent introduction of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (Psa) into New Zealand in 2010 recommended that we “renew efforts to centralise the identification and management of emerging risks”. In response, MPI has now developed the Emerging Risks System. The emerging risks system creates “alerts”, and systematically evaluates new information about biosecurity risks emerging around the world in the areas of plant, animal, and aquatic health, and will soon expand to include food safety risks. For some emerging risks it is found that the potential pathways are already managed in a way that will prevent entry of the pest. For others it is necessary to modify the existing Import Health Standards, or modify risk management in another way. The emerging risk system reports on any risk management actions taken, including implementation of specific control measures where needed. In some cases information is passed on to Quarantine officers at the border. In the current talk the MPI emerging risks system is described and examples of risks involving invertebrates are given.

