

Strategic trans-Tasman collaborations enhance arable and vegetable IPM in Australia and New Zealand

Paul Horne *¹, David Teulon ²

¹ IPM Technologies, P.O. Box 560 Hurstbridge, VIC, 3099 Australia

² The New Zealand Institute for Plant & Food Research Limited, Private Bag 4704, Christchurch, NZ

The considerable similarities in pest and beneficial arthropod complexes in Australian and New Zealand arable and vegetable crop systems represent large opportunities for co-development of IPM Strategies in a range of crops between these two countries. This paper examines how strategic trans-Tasman collaborations can enhance arable and vegetable Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Australia and New Zealand and serves as an introduction to and overview of a series of symposium papers on the same subject. To place the subject in perspective, the major arable and vegetable sectors (hectares, \$\$ returns) are reviewed for Australia and New Zealand to establish the relative importance of each crop in each country and to indicate where research collaborations might be worthwhile. Successful historic research collaborations that have contributed to the development of IPM in Australia and New Zealand are reviewed and commonalities identified. The paper summarises some current initiatives where collaboration between Australia and New Zealand researchers has proved beneficial to the development of arable and/or vegetable IPM in either country. It identifies current and potential sources of funding to drive research collaborations between Australia and New Zealand in the future and examines which aspects of IPM would be especially worthwhile to pursue in Trans-Tasman collaborations (e.g. biosecurity threats, classical biological control, diagnostics for pests and diseases, registration of pesticides).

