

PSA-V TESTING

Introduction

Psa or *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* is a bacterial disease that affects kiwifruit plants. Symptoms on the plants include leaf spotting, vine cankers, wilting, and brown flower discolouration. Its spread is primarily through airborne mechanisms and it can move easily between plants and orchards in certain environmental conditions.

What to do if you think your orchard is infected by Psa?

If you find symptoms on your orchard, tag the vine and contact your Packhouse or Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH) to organise a sample to be taken. Alternatively, you can take the samples yourself and send them directly to Hill Laboratories using our free courier service. Just take 5 leaves (or 1 cane sample) from each of 3 locations on your orchard and seal them in a zip-lock plastic bag (one bag for each location). Label each bag with your identification number and KPIN. Double bag the consignment into another zip-lock plastic bag for secure transportation. Fill out the Sample Submission Form and send the samples to Hill Labs 221A Ellis Street, Frankton, Hamilton 3204.

Testing at Hills

- Testing is performed each Wednesday with results sent out the following day (unless repeat testing required). Samples should be received at Hills by Tuesday for the Wednesday run.
- Urgent samples can be tested on days other than Wednesdays – please select urgent on the sample submission sheet and contact the laboratory (additional charge applies).
- Results of the Psa tests will be sent to KVH, who will forward on as soon as possible.
- Price – The Psa test cost will be \$108 +GST per sample submitted or \$216 +GST for urgent samples. Please visit www.kvh.org.nz for further payment details.
- **Free courier service.** Sample test kits are available on request from the laboratory and can be ordered online.