



## THE KIWIFRUIT CLAIM

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#### **COURT UPDATE 20 OCTOBER 2017**

The High Court trial in Wellington to hold the Government and Ministry of Primary Industries to account for the losses suffered during the PSA incursion, continued this week.

Earlier this week statistics expert Dr James Curran provided evidence for the plaintiffs that addressed the statistically probable date at which Psa-V began reproducing in New Zealand. Crown witness, David Bryant also provided commentary on the robustness of Dr Curran's evidence.

This week also saw the final witness, Dr Joel Vanneste, senior scientist at Plant & Food Research, give evidence about his involvement in the response to the Psa incursion, his knowledge and research on Psa along with giving his expert opinion on Psa transmission in pollen and Psa in China.

Crown witness, David Yard was recalled to answer questions about a 2013 document where MPI recorded a concern that improved testing processes might establish its negligence. MPI had sought to claim privilege over this document but ultimately agreed that we could introduce it into evidence.

Next week closing arguments from both the Crown and our legal team will be heard in court – which will wrap up the 12-week court case and provide a summary of evidence presented.

The Claim Committee will be attending court proceedings next week. As previously advised, you are most welcome to attend the High Court and listen to next weeks' closing arguments if you are in Wellington and wish to see for yourselves. Court begins at 10am each day, in Court room number 6. Please feel free to contact the committee if you would like to attend.

#### **MEDIA**

Media continue to be very interested in the court case. This weeks' Listener featured an article following interviews with Don Hyland and Russell Baker – the theme of the article, which is attached to the email, is that not all growers have rebounded from Psa and that not all growers are part of the success of SunGold

#### **TRIAL COMPLETION**

With closing arguments next week, this draws the trial to an end. In our next newsletter we will provide you with an update from the legal team with their views of the court case. At this stage it is not known when the Justice Mallon will make her decision, but we will continue to keep you updated.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us. Our chairman, John Cameron, can be contacted on 027 497 9534, or use the Q&A forum on the website: [www.thekiwifruitclaim.org](http://www.thekiwifruitclaim.org).

The Kiwifruit Claim Committee

20 October 2017