

## October 2024

Hello growers, welcome to your October Newsletter, hope the season is kicking off well for you.

Grab a cuppa and give yourself 30 mins catching up on news - there are lots of important information links, and we need every member and newsletter recipient's help on a SGNZ survey. Warning - ignoring this survey is not an option - we will hound you...

### Save the date! Lunchtime yarn with Sam Whitelock, Ambassador for Farmstrong Monday 18 November

After the huge response to Marc Gasgoine at our conference, talking with us about wellbeing on farm, (See [here](#) Marc's latest article) we have arranged a webinar with **Sam Whitelock** that you and your teams can join to talk further about how to take care of the 'top paddock'.

Make a date of it. Sit down at lunchtime with all your crew and take a moment to prioritise wellbeing. It's getting pretty busy but this webinar is a timely reminder of how to keep yourself and your people - the most important assets on your farm - working well. More details and bookings to come very shortly.

### Keeping SGNZ strong: we need to update your details

SGNZ is obligated by the new Incorporated Societies Act to maintain improved records about our members and associates. And we would also like to update our records on all who are on the email list. This week an email was sent to you from Sophie, asking you to please provide details via a [link](#). **Please** take the time to fill in your details by **October 18**. It will take less than 5 minutes, I promise. It's so important - it helps us to comply with the new Act, and provides crucial data to the Board to ensure we are driving the sector's success and growth.

Sophie will have to call everybody on our membership and email list who does not respond, so please help us to get this important task sorted. If you are no longer growing strawberries or wish to receive the newsletter, we would appreciate knowing this too.

**Do it now!** It's so easy to say 'later', but then the job gets drowned in the to-do pile..... That [link](#) again

Thanks in advance for your contribution and time.



# FREE HortNZ Training on Managing Risk - Pukekohe, Hawkes Bay and Levin

## +IMPAC

### Introduction to Managing Risk in Horticulture



– learn how to proactively identify and control risks

*This workshop was developed specifically for the Horticulture sector. It is an introduction to managing risk in horticultural businesses and gives frontline managers and owners the tools they need to identify and control risks that may harm their workers.*

The horticultural sector harms a significant number of workers - and the numbers continue to trend upward.

In response to this trend, Health + Safety specialists at +IMPAC have developed this tailored horticultural training session to aid in the reduction of harm within the sector, to assist growers to meet their legal duties under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, and to provide useful tools and knowledge that can be utilised to create safe systems of work for their teams.

In our highly interactive *Introduction to Managing Risk Workshop*, participants will gain an understanding of the risk assessment process and practice and apply these concepts to horticultural situations.

#### Workshop outcomes for participants:

- ✓ Understand the legal requirements for risk assessment
- ✓ Define the key terms including hazard, harm, risk & risk controls
- ✓ Explain the steps within the risk assessment process
- ✓ Apply 3 specific tools to identify hazards
- ✓ Define a critical risk & the importance of managing these
- ✓ Understand what a safe system of work is, and its importance

#### Introduction to Managing Risk in Horticulture Workshop

Complimentary course at **no cost to the grower or packhouse**. (Funded by HortNZ in partnership with ACC)

Duration: 4 hours

Ideal for: Frontline Managers and Owners

#### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

**Pukekohe** Tue 22 October 8:30am – 12:30pm Plant & Food Research, 49 Cronin Rd, Pukekohe 2676

**Hawkes Bay** Wed 30 October 8:30am – 12:30pm Landwise/The Green Shed, 21 Ruahapia Rd, RD10, Hastings

**Levin** Wed 13 November 11:00am – 2:15pm The Library Café, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, 10 Bath Street, Levin

+IMPAC [contactus@impac.co.nz](mailto:contactus@impac.co.nz) | 0800 246 722



To book, email [training@impac.co.nz](mailto:training@impac.co.nz) with HortNZ and the location in the subject line. List your attendee(s) name and email addresses in the email itself. **Limited spaces, so book now!**

## **And another survey - help out Skye with research on plastics on farm and WIN**

Skye is a Massey Uni masters candidate researching perceptions of growers on horticultural plastics: how they see them, how they rate the disposal options, and their perceptions on downstream effects.

You might have kids doing research or remember back when you were undertaking study; it's damned difficult for candidates to get good data. Skye has an anonymous 8 minute survey for growers across the horticulture industry, in as many sectors as possible, from vines to flowers to berries and everything else. So let's help her out and make strawberries one of the best contributing sectors! You might even win a \$100 prezzy card. Her research will help illuminate local perspectives, support farmers in the use and disposal of agricultural plastics, and shape future research directions and priorities. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and begin. Prize will be drawn at completion of the project. Thanks, you kind-hearted people. 😊

## **Exporting to Thailand - changes signalled**

We have a record number of exporters for Thailand this year, but there are some concerning changes for 2025 indicated by Thai authorities. SGNZ have updated exporters this year, but if you are interested in hearing more, please contact me

## **Exporting to Indonesia - Fraud warning**

Recently there have not been exports to Indonesia, but just a heads up. MPI informed us of fraudulent activities in Indonesia regarding SNI certificates under the Indonesian National Standard of the National Standardisation Agency in Indonesia. The target of these activities so far has been honey and horticulture exports. The fraudsters advise exporters wishing to export to Indonesia that their product requires SNI certification and asks for approximately \$15,000NZD to source this certification. Most primary products **do not require SNI certification for Indonesia**. If you are considering Indonesia, please reach out to me before engaging at all with this request for certification.

## **Exporting to Vietnam -official documents for available**

Exports commence in a couple of weeks. Vietnamese importers are already visiting NZ to check out our berries. We will keep you updated on this exciting new opportunity. All the official documentation is up online now- if you are planning ahead for next season it's well worth reviewing: [OAP](#) + [Pack house and producer registration](#).

## **A reminder for those with Dams**

Dam Safety Regulations are in force from May 30, 2024. If you have a dam that has a height of 4 or more metres or stores 20,000 or more cubic metres volume of water (or other fluid), you must meet The Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022. MPI has advised less than half the dam owners have complied. I realise the paperwork and requirements are the last thing growers need right now, but this is now law, and you don't want to get this wrong. Find the steps you must take and resources to support you [here](#)

## **Strawberry promotions beginning this month!**

Link your socials: Glenn Forsythe on RNZ talking strawberries on Friday, and watch out for our 5+ a day promotion.

### **To do:**

- Book 18 November for Sam Whitelock in your Diary
- Pukekohe, Hawkes Bay and Levin Growers: book your team for the Managing Risk workshop
- Dam owners: get your paperwork sorted
- Help Skye get her master's degree
- Update SGNZ: Everybody, click this [link](#) now. Five minutes only - I promise. 🙏

# Strawberry Growers New Zealand (Inc) Board Members 2024/25

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