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Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Systems Approaches

Group Exercise 1: managing a post-harvest rot on apples

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Growing and Protecting New Zealand



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Group Exercise

Post-harvest rot

- Country xxx reported to NZ the presence of rot in 3 consignments of imported apples.
- Country xxx were able to provide NZ with traceability information showing that the problem was isolated to a few production sites.
- Country xxx requested that affected production sites were suspended from export.
- NZ responded by voluntarily banning exports of all apples to Country xxx until the issue was resolved.

Post-harvest rot on apple



Post-harvest rot. Cream coloured spore-bearing masses may be present on mature lesions

The hazard and the objective for measures

Risk Assessment

- Not known to be present in Country xxx
- A post-harvest rot occurring in apples and pears
- Occurs on late maturing varieties of apples
- Infection can occur at any time during the growing season but symptoms develop after 3-5 months in storage
- Causes brown necrotic lesions around lenticels or wounds
- Prevalence in orchards is dependent on environmental conditions

The hazard and the objective for measures

- In the orchard it is mostly found on dead wood and only rarely parasitizes healthy wood
- Occurs as a saprophyte and overwinters on:
 - dead bark
 - pruning snags
 - fruiting spurs
 - dead buds
 - mummified fruitlets
 - within the outer scales of flower buds
 - fallen leaves
- Cold delays the expression of symptoms
- Dispersed by water and wind

The hazard and the objective for measures

The hazard = The post-harvest rot because could potentially establish in parts of Country xxx and cause post-harvest economic losses in sales of fresh fruit for consumption.

The objective of the SA measures = ?