



22 February 2023

Dear Growers and Industry Partners,

Yesterday, Bruce Cameron, Colin Bond, Mark Mayston, Glen Arrowsmith and I met with some of our growers in Gisborne and Hawke's Bay where we saw some of the devastation caused by Cyclone Gabrielle.

Our thoughts remain with those who have been affected, and we're incredibly thankful that all of our growers are safe.

Those I spoke with are showing incredible strength and resilience but it's clear that there is a lot of hard work ahead to recover.

Zespri is continuing to work closely with NZKGI to provide support, with NZKGI leading our industry's discussions with the government around financial support for affected growers.

The offers we've seen of machinery, financial and people support for those affected growers from within our industry have been incredible – please continue to feed these through to both Zespri and NZKGI so that we can co-ordinate and ensure this support gets to those most in need.

It remains too early to understand the full impact of the cyclone, but our latest estimate indicates that around 70% of producing area in the Hawke's Bay and 25% in Gisborne have suffered moderate-to-significant damage. These regions are responsible for around 1.5% and 4% of our total industry production.

There has also been some localised damage in other regions such as the Bay of Plenty, Northland and Coromandel.

What is clear is that our focus on food safety must remain absolute and fruit that has had direct contact with flood water will not be harvested.

We are also working to understand options to maintain food safety in respect of fruit from affected orchards which has not been directly in contact with flood waters.

Our Grower Liaison Managers are making in-person visits as roading infrastructure is restored so please continue to speak with them or the team at NZKGI.

Cyclone Gabrielle is yet another challenge for our industry in 2023 and it's even more important now that we continue to support each other.

With the 2023 harvest now underway, we hope that some of the positive weather much of the country is now experiencing can continue, as we focus on ensuring we have a great quality harvest this season.

Our next update will be our Chairman's Update on Friday 24 February which will include updated OGR estimates as part of our February forecast.

Stay safe and well.

Dan Mathieson
Chief Executive