

The Kiwifruit Claim

COURT UPDATE 27 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 with closing arguments presented by both our legal team and the Crown. The closing arguments provide a summary of evidence presented and the opportunity for the judge to clarify and question statements made by both the plaintiffs and defence.

Next week our legal team will continue with their closing arguments which will be followed by a reply from the Crown. This will draw the twelve-week trial to an end.

At this stage it is not known when Justice Mallon will make her decision about the outcome of the trial, but we will continue to keep you updated.

John Cameron from The Claim Committee has attended court proceedings next week along with a number of growers. As previously advised, you are most welcome to attend the High Court if you are in Wellington and listen to the remaining closing arguments. Court will begin on Monday at 9.30am, 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. A number of journalists attended closing arguments, below are the links to the media coverage:

NBR: https://www.nbr.co.nz/article/mpi-lawyers-kiwifruit-growers-battle-over-duty-care-psa-court-case-b-209265

NZ Herald: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c id=3&objectid=11937316&ref=rss

Newstalk ZB: http://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/news/business/kiwifruit-case-nearing-end/

 $Otago\ Daily\ Times: \underline{https://www.odt.co.nz/business/farming/govt-kiwifruit-growers-battle-over-duty-care}\\$

ShareChat: Govt lawyers, kiwifruit growers battle over duty of care in Psa court case

Scoop: http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU1710/S00811/kiwifruit-claim-against-the-government-wraps-up.htm

Yahoo/Xtra News: <u>Kiwifruit case nearing end</u>
NZ City News: <u>Kiwifruit case nearing end</u>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT YOU NEED TO KEEP

With Psa symptoms starting to exhibit on orchards, (yet again) it is very important that these symptoms are reported (photos/and if possible tested and verified) and all costs associated with managing the disease are kept and recorded.

If the court finds in our favour, individual growers will need to give discovery of relevant documents in their control, as well as details of their losses. This includes all documents from 2008 to date.

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.

The Kiwifruit Claim Committee

27 October 2017