Tiakitanga Pūtaiao Aotearoa

OIA23-0734

8 December 2023

Peter Russell fyi-request-24827-e6914073@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Peter

Thank you for your email of 22 November 2023 requesting information relating to the National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA). Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

What was the original purpose of the National Pest Plant Accord? Is the current purpose of the National Pest Plant Accord different to the original purpose and, if so, why?

The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is a cooperative agreement between Biosecurity New Zealand, the Department of Conservation, New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated, and regional councils.

The NPPA is designed to prevent the sale, distribution, and propagation of a set list of pest plants (known as the Accord list) within New Zealand, where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. All plants on the NPPA are unwanted organisms under the Biosecurity Act 1993. These plants cannot be sold, propagated, or distributed in New Zealand. If allowed to spread further, these pest plants could seriously damage the New Zealand economy and environment. The current purpose of the NPPA (as stated above) has not changed since the programme's initiation.

You can see more on the Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI's) website here: <u>https://www.mpi.govt.nz/biosecurity/how-to-find-report-and-prevent-pests-and-diseases/partnerships-programmes-and-accords/national-pest-plant-accord-for-preventing-the-sale-of-invasive-weeds-in-nz/</u>

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at <u>Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz</u>. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at <u>info@ombudsman.parliament.nz</u>.

Yours sincerely

John Walsh Director Readiness & Response Services