Vegetables 2023

NEW ZEALAND Inc.



YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 **ANNUAL REPORT &** Veaetables

OUR 2023 BOARD



JOHN MURPHY Chair, Grower representative, Murphy's NZ Ltd Blenheim



ALLEN LIM Vice Chair, Grower representative, Observer TomatoesNZ Board, **NZGAP** representative Jade Garden Produce Ltd Christchurch



BRENDAN BALLE Grower representative, Balle Bros Growers Ltd Pukekohe



JAY CLARKE Grower representative, Woodhaven Gardens Ltd Levin



KIRAN HARI Vegetables.co.nz representative Pukekohe

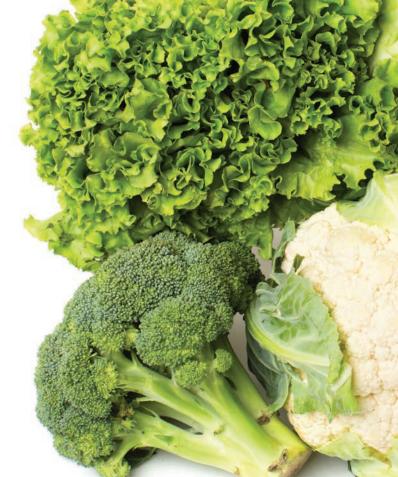




NICK POLLOCK Grower representative, **Board representative for** Vegetable Research & Innovation Board (VR&I) LeaderBrand Produce Ltd Gisborne



WARWICK SIMPSON Grower representative, Simpson Gardens Ltd Ruawai





ANTONY HEYWOOD General Manager



LYNDA BANKS **Business Coordinator**

Vegetables NZ Inc staff are Antony Heywood (General Manager) and Lynda Banks (Business Coordinator) based in the Horticulture New Zealand office, in Wellington.



DASHBOARD

ENERGY

ENGAGEMENT



448

Estimated number of covered crop growers



19

Grower visits



45

Grower engagement

PROJECTS



7

Energy transition plans and audits conducted



15

Technologies investigated



4

Technologies implemented

Biomass boiler, heat pumps, thermal screens, dehumidifiers

TRACKING



212,000 Tonnes/year

Emissions estimated

Large growers (105,861) small/medium (106,139)



113,993 Tonnes/year

Emissions confirmed





RESEARCH



4 Extension events



VNZI weather portal registered users



Grower engagement



VEGETABLE RESEARCH + INNOVATION (VR&I)

This summary covers the 2022 financial year.

The Vegetable Research & Innovation Board is responsible for the governance of Horticulture New Zealand's vegetable research and innovation activities. The core purpose of the VR&I Board is to underpin sustainable growth of the vegetable sector. The VR&I Board aims to achieve this by developing, resourcing, and managing a cross-sector research and innovation portfolio and communicating the results of this research to industry stakeholders.



The VR&I strategy aims to balance short-term research activities with strategic research and innovation that will drive vegetable sector growth.

PROJECTS, VALUE AND SUPPORT



Projects completed



Projects supported



Supported publications/ reports/outputs produced



Annual investment in projects



R&d value that VR&I investment is leveraging



Total value range of projects supported



Research activity underway in 2022



Contribution from VR&I

THREE RESEARCH PILLARS

The following underpin the VR&I strategy and provide the foundation for directing research



Environmental stewardship

Research to address sustainability issues, climate change and management of land, water and air



Crop protection

Improving the availability and use of crop protection approaches



Common reporting framework

Benchmarking performance and best practice across the vegetable sector through

the development of



VEGETABLES.CO.NZ

EDUCATION







visits





teachers grower visit



exhibition stand & afternoon tea sponsorship



masterclasses



grower forums attended



grower videos created



articles in NZGrower magazine

GENERAL COMMUNCIATIONS









views Most popular section: Recipes



subscribers **1**30%



20,400 -Facebook followers **1**2%



followers

137%



subscribers

56k YouTube views

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS



Food Skills for Life programme



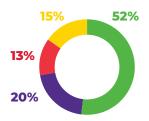
Winter campaign



Supported World Iron Awareness Week

RESOURCE CENTRE

Who are our users? Percentages relate to volume of resources ordered



- Health; e.g. DHBs, Cancer Society, Diabetes NZ and Public Health Units
- **Education;** e.g. Early Childhood Schools & Tertiary
- Community; e.g. Sports Trusts, Budget services, etc.
- Other



Our most popular resources:

- 1. Wall planner
- 2. Eat your colours set of five posters
- 3. Vege seasonality poster

New and updated resources:

- 1. Tongan and Samoan posters
- 2. VegUp Pacific flavours leaflet
- 3. Growth chart

ACTIVE RELATIONSHIPS



- Masterclass at conference
- vegetables.co.nz stand



- Full workshop session focus on Pacific nutrition in partnership with Heart Foundation
- Grower visit to Forestburg Eggplant



- Supporter of culinary competition
- Focus beetroot
- Supported culinary journey day with presentation

NZGAP New Zealand Good Agricultural Practice

2023 Vege statistics



NZGAP





NZGAP GLOBALG.A.P. EQUIVALENT





35 certified

GRASP





29

SOCIAL PRACTICE





129



188 registered



8,6k workers

ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM





20 certified



79 registered



29 K ha registered area

THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

by John Murphy

It is an absolute credit to our growers that despite terrible conditions over much of the past year, big and small vegetable operations continued with their concerted effort to bring supply to market.

The past year has seen consistently challenging weather punctuated by horrific storms in Cyclones Gabrielle and Hale that devastated prominent vegetable growing areas of New Zealand.

The sombre reality remains that some of our growers in Hawke's Bay will not return to their family homes, or grow on much of their land for years to come. Others in Northland will shoulder the burden of crippling debt to see them through a season of zero income. Others face hurdles with damage to key roading and other infrastructure significantly limiting them for the foreseeable future.

Sadly, we already faced terrible production conditions before the cyclones.

While these recent sensational weather events have brought a focus to New Zealand's food security issues, underlying issues have significantly compromised New Zealand vegetable growers' viability for a very long time.

Central and local government restrictions continue to preoccupy growers and limit the vegetable sector's viability. Staff shortages and burgeoning input costs have further jeopardised food production.

As the General Election approaches on 14 October 2023, VNZI will continue to emphasise that food security is not a luxury – it is a must have. The viability of fresh, healthy New Zealand-grown vegetable production must improve if we want to see all New Zealanders fulfil their future potential.

VNZI is determined to do more to foster an environment where growers can successfully grow their products and bring them to market. In the past year, we have grown our capability, employing Ellery Peters as an energy engineer and Daniel Sutton as our research, development and extension manager. The ongoing effort of our staff demonstrates their passion for the wellbeing of our growers.

Our goal for 2023–2024 is to make more of a difference for our growers' operations through what we do in each of our portfolios. We intend to invest more in better communication with our people, and in influencing policies and processes that have a real impact on growers.

Thank you to our Board Directors and representatives who have given up their time across the research, advocacy and promotional activity in which we are involved.

VNZI will continue to strengthen its foundation and focus on what growers need, so that we can deliver targeted and practical solutions.

Finally – thank you to all our members who continue to grow beautiful, healthy food that nourishes our country and enhances the reputation of our industry.



John Murphy Chair, Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated M: 027 458 4670

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THE GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

by Antony Heywood



JOHN MURPHY ON STAGE INTRODUCING THE ROADSHOW IN PUKEKOHE

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Roadshows to replace the Horticulture Conference in 2022
- 2. A new strategy and commitment to working together with other vegetable groups
- 3. Biosecurity commitments
- 4. Our landscape:
 - Vegetables New Zealand manifesto
 - b. With the growers
 - Cyclone Gabrielle Vegetables New Zealand supports the regions

HIGHLIGHT 1

Vegetable Roadshows in Pukekohe and Canterbury

Vegetables New Zealand and Process Vegetables New Zealand take it on the road in 2022.

With the postponement of the Horticulture Conference, Vegetables New Zealand decided to hold two Roadshows in place of Conference. The Vegetables New Zealand Board wanted to ensure our growers had a chance to get together to network and share knowledge in 2022. The event also allowed Vegetables New Zealand to hold its AGM with the requisite grower quorum.

The theme of day was Integrated Pest Management (IPM) activities and better grower practices. Take outs for me were the IPM discussion with Dave Bellamy from Plant & Food Research, and Henry Stenning showing us how to do a Quick N test.

With over 100 guests registering for both events – Pukekohe and Christchurch – the Roadshows were a significant and successful event for grower engagement in 2022.



HIGHLIGHT 2

A new Vegetables **New Zealand strategy**



DANA CARVER FROM SCARLATTI FACILITATED THE VEGETABLES NEW ZEALAND STRATEGY RESET IN SEPTEMBER 2022.

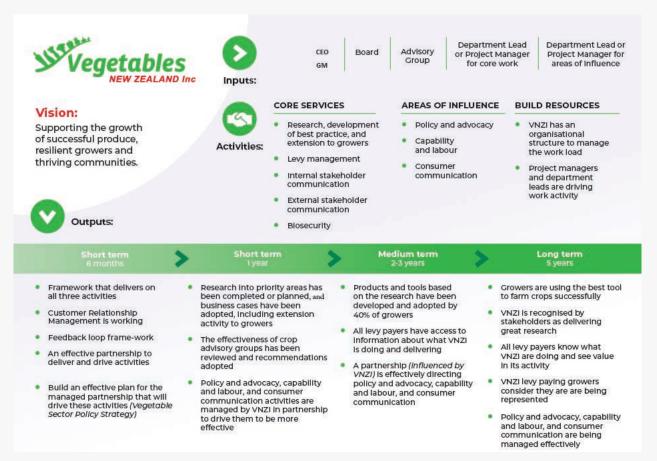
The Vegetables New Zealand Board replaced its September Board meeting with a strategy day and Institute of Directors training day.

Vegetables New Zealand decided to go wider than just the Board and invite key vegetable industry leaders to the strategy reset. The same cohort were also invited to the Institute of Directors training on the following day.

The strategy day was facilitated by Dana Carver from Scarlatti. The outcome of the four hour session was a logic model highlighting the areas of focus for Vegetables New Zealand. The resulting document was then turned into a one page strategy which has been adopted by Vegetables New Zealand Board.

KEY ACTIVITIES IN THE STRATEGY ARE:

- 1. Extension activity to develop grower best practices
- 2. Levy is captured on all NZ produced fresh vegetables at first point of sale
- 3. A Client Relationship Management (CRM) system is working for Vegetables New Zealand
- 4. Stakeholder engagement drives the actions of Vegetables New Zealand positions on policy and research
- 5. Biosecurity is a feasible quantum for fresh vegetables



VEGETABLES NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED STRATEGY

HIGHLIGHT 3

Biosecurity Commitments for 2022–2023



Priority Pest Review Annual report of priority pest likely to affect the economic viability of Vegetables New Zealand members Active responses in the period Black-grass Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid Fall Armyworm Governance: QFF OA Deed Governance review BMSB OA Biosecurity Act review Irrigation water research project Produce crate hygiene protocols for virus mitigation FAW - long term management plan scope Readiness OA pending Solanaceae Working Group Solanaceae OA for readiness Code of Practice for Covered Crop enterprises			
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Group readiness Code of Practice for Covered Crop	management plan		
	_	readiness Code of Practice for Covered Crop	

HIGHLIGHT 4

Our Landscape

a. Vegetables New Zealand Manifesto

The Vegetables New Zealand Manifesto is a document to inform the incoming government from the election in 2023. The five areas highlight what vegetables growers require to be resilient and sustainable in growing vegetables in New Zealand.





NELSON GROWERS ARE LEARNING ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF USING THE TOOLS NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND ENVIRONMENT EMISSIONS.

b. With the growers

– Sustainable Vegetable Systems linking into NZGAP – EMS module, FAW workshops, IPM reset – crop scouting with Graham Walker

Vegetables New Zealand invested a great deal of time and resource connecting to growers in the regions in 2022-2023. With key activities linked to environmental emissions, and the requisite tools and guidance to meet them, Vegetables New Zealand is investing in our growers to enable them to make better decisions by delivering better tools and resources.

The Sustainable Vegetable Systems is about to prototype a grower facing tool 'N Sight' for better decision making around nitrogen use. The tool will allow growers to meet its obligations under freshwater farm plans. It is an important extension to the NZGAP – environment management system module.

Fall Armyworm is now established in New Zealand. Graham Walker from Plant & Food Research is an expert in Fall Armyworm, both in NZ and South-East Asia. At the invitation of VNZI, Graham took time out in January to give a workshop to Pukekohe growers on crop scouting for IPM / Fall Armyworm. This workshop fits nicely into the two year IPM Reset project with Plant & Food Research for VNZI brassica, corn and lettuce. The crop scouting activity also fits nicely with A Lighter Touch – demo farm project and biodiversity project.



SVS TOOL 'N SIGHT' LOOKS AT A NITROGEN BALANCE OF CROPS IN ROTATION

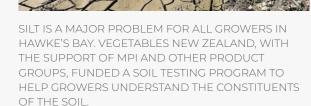


44 GROWERS ATTENDED A CROP SCOUTING WORKSHOP WITH GRAHAM WALKER AT THE PUKEKOHE DEMONSTRATION FARM – 51 CRONIN RD.





THREE METERS OF WATER WENT THROUGH GARETH HOLDER'S PROPERTY. MACHINERY WAS SCATTERED ACROSS THE PROPERTY.



c. Flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle

Vegetables New Zealand supported the Cyclone Gabrielle grower relief in Northland, Auckland, Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay. Much of the support was centred on regional coordinators in Northland and Hawke's Bay. It soon became apparent that if growers were going to get any support from government, we needed good data. The regional coordinators were at the front line securing this data from the affected growers. The aggregated data was then presented to government for validated support plans. Good data is vital to any conversation with government.

The Northern Wairoa Vegetable Growers
Association were recipients of a government
grant for a seed contingency plan. The grant paid
for kumara seed to growers who had lost all their
seed kumara to flooding. The seed contingency
plan purchased seed from growers who had
seed and then allocated that purchased seed to
growers that needed the seed.



Antony Heywood

General Manager,

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

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RSE WORKERS AT DUNSMORE HOLDINGS PIVOT FROM KUMARA HARVEST TO FLOOD CLEAN UP. THEY ALSO HAD TO CONTEND WITH WATER IN THEIR ACCOMMODATION.

OUR LANDSCAPE

Research by Daniel Sutton

a. Highlight HortPlus IPM - ALT

Since joining the Vegetables New Zealand team in March this year, I have had my eyes opened to the amount of research happening across the wider vegetable sector. What I have found impressive is the knowledge and experience involved in delivering high-quality research with grower-focused outcomes.

For those I haven't had the chance to meet yet, my name is Daniel Sutton. I am originally from Ohakune, a small town under Mt Ruapehu in the middle of the North Island, famous for skiing and carrots. Before starting with Vegetables NZ, I was a member of the Fruitfed Supplies (part of PGG Wrightson) Technical team as their Technical Specialist – Vegetables. In this role, I was actively involved with applied integrated pest management (IPM) trials and the development of new crop protection products for vegetables, and the transfer of scientific or technical information to growers.



PUKEKOHE YOUNG GROWER OF THE YEAR CONTESTANTS AND ORGANISING COMMITTEE. (PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT SILCOCK, YARN CREATIVE)





DANIEL AND SON REGAN AT THE OHAKUNE CARROT ADVENTURE PARK



NZ WEATHER AND DISEASE PORTAL

Vegetables NZ has some great research projects currently underway with work looking to update integrated pest management programs for several different crops, Sustainable Vegetable Systems (SVS) looking to provide a tool for growers around the use of nitrogen, and the multiple projects underway as part of A Lighter Touch (ALT).

We are also working closely with HortPlus to give growers access to timely, accurate weather information and are looking into the development of pest and disease modelling tools to provide value across crop production, integrated pest management and biosecurity.



PUKEKOHE GROWER BBQ HOSTED BY PVGA & RURAL SUPPORT

Through ALT we are looking at demonstrating best practice crop production and real-world IPM on a small commercial scale and the demonstration farm in Pukekohe. This then offers an opportunity to show growers and the wider industry these practices at work. It also offers the opportunity around training, with workshops being held on IPM in lettuce. More workshops are planned for the upcoming season. As information on these workshops becomes available, I highly recommend growers from around the country, not just Pukekohe, take the opportunity to attend these events.

My role also looks to work closely with other product groups. It is a privilege to work alongside Process Vegetables NZ, OnionsNZ, and Potatoes New Zealand as it provides an opportunity for collaboration across the whole vegetable sector. In addition to this work, it has also been a privilege working with the Pukekohe Vegetable Growers Association and others to help plan and run the Pukekohe Young Grower of the Year competition.

My first few months in this role have been exciting and very educational. I look forward to working with growers, researchers, and the wider industry to deliver high-quality research with strong grower outcomes.



Daniel Sutton

Research, Development & Extension Manager,

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

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OUR LANDSCAPE

Energy

by Ellery Peters

b. Highlight tools & successes

Due to New Zealand's pledge to phase out coal by 2037 and to become carbon zero by 2050, the emissions trading scheme is rising fast and projected to double to around \$160/ tonne carbon emitted in 10 years' time.

To ensure the future of New Zealand's covered cropping industry, Vegetables New Zealand has collaborated with the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA), to hire myself as an Energy Engineer focused on reducing energy and carbon emissions in covered crops used for growing vegetables.

The first step towards reducing carbon emissions in the industry is to increase engagement with growers and improve the flow of information about new reduction methods and technologies which are being used worldwide and nationally around New Zealand. Since starting at Vegetables New Zealand, I have visited growers all over New Zealand including Christchurch, Invercargill, Mosgiel, Gore, Alexandra, Auckland, Hamilton Nelson and Marlborough. Over the first four months I have personally visited 19 different covered cropping sites and engaged with 45 others through emails, workshops and social media.

The second step being worked through is accurately quantifying and tracking the $\mathrm{CO_2}$ emissions being emitted by the covered cropping industry. Currently it is estimated that the covered cropping industry releases 212,000 tonnes of $\mathrm{CO_2}$ every year, with 50% coming from large growers (area larger than five hectares) and 50% from small to medium growers (less than five hectares). So far out of the 212,000 tonnes of emissions estimated, 113,993 tonnes of $\mathrm{CO_2}$ emissions have been confirmed. This is around 105,000 tonnes of $\mathrm{CO_2}$ emitted by the large growers and 9000 tonnes emitted by the small to medium growers. We have been able to confirm the emissions from all the large growers but still have a long way to go for the small to medium.

The final steps in the emissions reduction strategy involve implementing energy demand reduction strategies and technologies, and then fuel switching towards more sustainable fuel sources. To work towards this, EECA and Vegetables New Zealand have conducted a pilot study with six covered cropping growers. In this pilot study, six Energy Transition Plans were conducted on the sites which covers the sites energy demand, a range of energy reduction methods, fuel switching methods, and finally a recommendation on a pathway towards decarbonisation. The goal of these six pilot programmes is to obtain enough information to begin conducting energy audits on grower sites independently. We want to provide many growers with energy transition plans while also providing support, resources, and technical expertise throughout the project. The demand reduction methods ranged in price from \$4,000 for additional air distribution fans and insulation, to up to \$350,000 for thermal screens and dehumidifiers. These technologies could show a reduction in energy costs by up to 40% depending on the site analysed.

The next steps for this project are to continue engaging with growers around New Zealand and collecting emissions profiles. For the next year we want to focus on providing small to medium growers' energy audits so that they can understand options and take action to start making savings now and avoid suffering because of the ever-increasing ETS price.



Ellery Peters

Energy Engineer Project Manager,

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

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AGM AGENDA 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 2 August 2023, 10:15am – 11:00am Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre

10:15AM COMMENCE VNZI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WELCOME

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FUTURE DIRECTOR INTERNSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

GENERAL BUSINESS



DRAFT MINUTES

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 27 July 2022, 2:45pm Pukekohe Events Centre, 55 Ward Street, Pukekohe

Chair, John Murphy, presided over 40 attendees, noting the quorum of 15 attendees was met.

WELCOME

The Chair welcomed members and opened the meeting.

- Housekeeping and Health & Safety matters were covered;
- A Register of Attendees was circulated;

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- · Frank Hickmott, Motueka
- Jay Clarke, Woodhaven Gardens Ltd, Levin
- Owen Symmans, Business Manager, NZ Buttercup Squash Council
- Nadine Tunley, CEO HortNZ
- Rebecca Fisher, Special Projects Manager, HortNZ

OBITUARIES

- · Ann Nilsson, Dargaville
- · Gary Warmington, Dargaville

There were no other bereavements. The Chair asked the meeting for a moment's silence as a mark of respect.

MEETING PROCEDURES

Meeting procedures were outlined;

- · Growers have speaking rights;
- Guests speak with permission of the Chair (note: guest speakers are non-members of VNZI);
- Three minutes and two minutes for movers and seconders, and two minutes for others;
- Voting on Remits will be by show of hands;

PROXY FORM

One proxy form received and directed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

There were no other items of General Business.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 2021 AGM

The draft minutes of the 2021 AGM had been circulated on pages 16 to 19 of the meeting papers.

Remit 1

The draft minutes of the Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated AGM, held on Thursday 5 August 2021 be taken as a true and correct record of that meeting.

VNZI Board / Brent Wilcox

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

- A formal Chair's report was included on pages
 5 and 6 of the meeting papers and was taken as read.
- The Chair added there are very clear issues currently facing industry, viability being one of them. Productivity costs are impacting production and this needs to be recognised and addressed to secure viable vegetable production in New Zealand. Better understanding of productivity costs in the Regulator and Consumer space is a focus in coming months.

Remit 2

That the Chair's report for the year ended 31 March 2022, as published in the Vegetables NZ Inc. AGM papers, be taken as read and adopted.

VNZI Board / Allan Noble



VEGETABLES NZ INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2021-2022

 The VNZI 2021-22 Financial Statements are presented on pages 25 to 33 of the meeting papers.

 Income:
 \$1,513,329

 Biosecurity Income:
 \$192,844

 Interest:
 \$1,968

 Expenses:
 \$1,200,661

 Surplus:
 \$119,824

(after deducting the Biosecurity levy which is a separate levy and Governance.)

- Not a complicated financial position, made a little easier due to Covid-19 and its limitations to travel, events and project delivery.
- Key points of interest:
 - Three active biosecurity events in the period;
 - New website resource;
 - Conference 2021;
 - Farm Environment Plan (FEP) rollout in Gisborne, Northland and Pukekohe;
 - The A Lighter Touch and Sustainable Vegetable Systems projects embedded in VNZI workplans;

VNZI COMMODITY LEVY RATE FOR 2022-23

- Remit 4 represents no change to the current Commodity Levy rate.
- The levy on New Zealand fresh vegetable sales is set under the Commodity Levies Act 1990 – Commodity Levy (Fresh Vegetables) Order 2019. That Order came into effect on 1 April 2019 and remains in place until 2025.

Remit 4

That the Commodity levy rate for fresh vegetables for the coming levy year remain at 0.30% for domestic sales, and 0.20% for export sales (FOB).

VNZI Board / Brent Wilcox

VNZI BIOSECURITY LEVY 2022-2023

- The intent of the biosecurity levy was to run this for a couple of years to build up a reserve fund.
- This undertaking has now been completed.
- The VNZI Board has approved reducing this biosecurity levy to zero;.



Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

VNZI BUDGET 2022-2023

- The budget has been developed to allow VNZI to meet grower challenges head on.
 Growers can attest to the avalanche of policy that is out for consultation. To meet this mountain of requested information requires resource or research. This budget will deliver the necessary resources to VNZI to address the work needed in policy, research and communications;
- To date the Board has agreed to co-fund a pilot programme with EECA for growers to start on their energy transition pathway;
- VNZI is also active in the Commerce Commission grocery study and developing a Code of Conduct;
- VNZI has instigated research to better understand the economics of vegetable production and set up events to further rollout FEP's in Nelson;
- VNZI is an active member of A Lighter Touch and the Sustainable Vegetable Systems project;
- Lastly VNZI are realising that vegetable growers are having trouble sourcing labour.
 Over the last 12 months VNZI has been active in the education, labour and immigration space. This activity will take time, connections and partnering with like-minded industries.

Remit 6

That the Vegetables NZ Incorporated Budget for the year ended 31 March 2023 be endorsed.

VNZI Board / Doug Nilsson

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Remit 7

That BDO Wellington be appointed auditors for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

VNZI Board / Kirit Makan

RESOLUTIONS A-D

 The Chair advised the Board has decided to withdraw Resolutions A–D due to insufficient timing; the proposed Resolutions will be reviewed in the coming year.

RESOLUTION A

The Board currently comprises between six and eight individuals, elected by Members, and the VNZ Inc Chair, elected from within the Board. The Board would like to increase the number of Directors to cover two independent Boardappointed Directors. The proposed changes will take effect from the date of registration of the changes in Rules following the 2022 AGM.

RESOLUTION B

Currently at each AGM Directors must rotate and retire once they have held office for a term of three years. Directors who would like to stand for another term may do so. Due to recent issues with maintaining Director numbers, the Board would like to place a limit on the number of directors required to rotate in a particular year, capping this at three, even if that means a director holds office for more than three years. The proposed change will take effect from the 2023 AGM.



RESOLUTION C

Clause 6.4 sets out who is eligible to be elected as a director. Clause 6.5 states that a Chair must be a Grower Member. The Board wishes to provide for the election of up to two independent Directors (who would not be Members) and to remove the requirement for the Chair to be a Grower Member as from the 2023 AGM. The new wording permits these changes.

RESOLUTION D

As set out in Clause 21.4 - Duplicate copies of every alteration, addition, and rescission or amendment to these rules shall forthwith be delivered to the Registrar in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

2022 VNZI DIRECTOR ELECTION

- The Chair advised there are four vacancies available for election.
- Four Directors retire by rotation, of those four, two are available for re-election, Kiran Hari, and Allen Lim; and two are retiring, Mike Parker and Leanne Roberts.
- VNZI are also pleased to advise two nominations have been received for VNZI Director positions – those nominations are from Brendan Balle and Jay Clarke.
- As there are no opposing candidates the Chair declared Kiran Hari, Allen Lim, Brendan Balle and Jay Clarke Directors of Vegetables NZ Inc.

VEGETABLE INDUSTRY SERVICE AWARD

- The Chair presented Andre de Bruin and Keith Vallabh with a Life Membership Award and Industry Service Award;
- An Award of Merit will also be presented to Graham Martin (Canterbury) at the Vegetables Roadshow in Christchurch on 4 August 2022;

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Remit 5 Biosecurity levy rate for fresh vegetables domestic and export sales for the coming biosecurity levy year will be reduced from 0.05% to 0.0% and will take effect from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024;
- Vegetable production costs, regulations and labour restrictions raised and discussed;
- Business plan overview the VNZI Board is focussing on several key areas: Energy transition plan working with covered crops, this will progress further into energy options for all growers. Farm Environment Plans have been promoted over the last two years, started in Horowhenua/ Levin, then Gisborne, Northland and currently Nelson. Understanding freshwater position and working with Sustainable Vegetable Systems to understand nitrogen and nutrient flows in vegetable crop systems; The A Lighter Touch project looking at areas, in particular agrichemical replacements for certain pests and diseases. Cost of production project and economics of production, VNZI funded research in 2015 called Gross Margin Calculator which is being updated to obtain better metrics. Commerce review of the Grocery Study, Code of Conduct currently out for



AGM REMITS

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The following Remits will be considered at the Vegetables NZ Incorporated AGM, being held on 2 August 2023 at 10:15am, at the Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre.

REMIT 1

That the draft minutes of the Vegetables NZ Inc. combined AGM held on 27 July 2022 be taken as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

The draft minutes are included with the 2023 Vegetables NZ Inc. AGM papers, posted to all members and available at www.freshvegetables.co.nz.

REMIT 2

That the Chair's report for the year ended 31 March 2023, as published in the Vegetables NZ Inc. AGM papers, be taken as read and adopted.

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

The Chair's report is included with the 2023 Vegetables NZ Inc. AGM papers, posted to all members and available at <u>www.freshvegetables.co.nz</u>.

REMIT 3

That the audited Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 be adopted.

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

The audited Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated Financial Statements are included with the 2023 Vegetables NZ Inc. AGM papers, posted to all members and available at www.freshvegetables.co.nz.

REMIT 4

That the Commodity levy rate for Fresh Vegetables for the coming levy year remain at 0.30% for Domestic sales, and 0.20% for Export sales (FOB).

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

This represents no change to the current levy rate. The levy on NZ fresh vegetable sales is set under the Commodity Levies Act 1990 - Commodity Levy (Fresh Vegetables) Order 2019. That Order came into force on 1 April 2019 and remains in place until 2025.



REMIT 5

That the biosecurity levy rate for fresh vegetable Domestic and Export sales for the coming biosecurity levy year, 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, be reinstated at 0.05%.

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

The VNZI Board have voted that the biosecurity levy for the biosecurity year (1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025) be set at 0.05%. The retained funds in the biosecurity pool have diminished sufficiently that the Board considers it prudent to reinstate the 0.05% biosecurity levy for the 2024–2025 financial year. In light of six biosecurity responses in the past 24 months that have involved VNZI crops, it is vital to have retained funds to react to any incursion without having to go to growers to seek funds on a case-by-case basis.

REMIT 6

That the Vegetables NZ Inc. Budget for the year ended 31 March 2024 be endorsed.

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

A copy of the Vegetables NZ Inc. Budget for the year ended 31 March 2024, prepared for and approved by the VNZI Board, is included in the 2023 Vegetables NZ Inc. AGM papers, posted to all members and available at www.freshvegetables.co.nz.

REMIT 7

That BDO Wellington be appointed auditors for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

Proposed by the Vegetables NZ Inc. Board

Explanatory Note

BDO Wellington were awarded the contract to complete the audit for the 2023–2024 year.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



To the Members of Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated ("the Society"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2023, and the statement of financial performance, and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2023 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies specified on page 30 of the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) ("ISAs (NZ)"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities* for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Society.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

We draw attention to page 30 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared solely for the Society's members, as a body. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Society and the Society's members, as a body, and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Society or the Society's members. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Board's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Board is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the accounting policies specified on page 30 of the financial statements and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.



We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the board and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Who we Report to

This report is made solely to the Society's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Society's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

BDO Wellington Audit Cimited

BDO WELLINGTON AUDIT LIMITED

Wellington, New Zealand 28 June 2023

Entity information

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

Legal Name of Entity

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

Type of Entity and Legal Basis

Incorporated Society

Registration Number

2616693

Date of Incorporation

24 December 2014

Contact Details

Physical Address

Level 4 Kiwi Wealth House 20 Ballance Street Wellington 6011

Postal Address

PO Box 10232 Wellington 6140

Phone/Fax

Ph +64 4 472 3795

Email/Website

www.vegetablesnz.co.nz



Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023	2022
REVENUE		\$	\$
Levy Income	1	1,432,245	1,318,037
Biosecurity Levy	1	209,704	192,844
Interest	2	24,946	1,968
Other income		177,906	480
Total Revenue		1,844,800	1,513,329
EXPENSES			
Research & Development		764,472	315,237
Biosecurity		27,047	4,341
Meetings & Travel		256,243	160,623
Office and Communications		422,047	384,308
Audit Fees		7,210	6,722
Promotion		342,712	329,431
Total Expenses		1,819,730	1,200,661
		25,071	312,668
Tax Expense	6	6,705	-
Net Surplus for the Year		18,366	312,668



Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023	2022
ASSETS		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Bank accounts	3	873,153	2,184,733
Debtors and prepayments	7	446,447	200,307
Investments	4	1,200,000	-
GST Receivable		-	
Total Current Assets		2,519,601	2,385,041
Non-Current Assets			
Information technology assets	5	6,819	-
Total Non-Current Assets		6,819	-
Total Assets		2,526,419	2,385,041
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities		070 (07	0//057
Creditors and accrued expenses		238,401	244,253
Revenue in advance		120,000	05.070
GST Payable		34,703	25,838
Total Current Liabilities		393,104	270,091
Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)		2,133,315	2,114,950
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated Funds		1,808,617	1,972,910
Biosecurity Reserve	9	324,698	142,040
Total Accumulated Funds		2,133,315	2,114,950

JOHN MURPHY

VNZ Inc. Chair & Director 28 June 2023

ALLEN LIM

VNZ Inc. Vice Chair & Director

28 June 2023

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Levy Income	1,515,809	1,569,026
Other Income	177,906	480
Interest	24,946	1,968
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to suppliers	1,823,023	1,100,287
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(104,364)	471,187
Cash was applied to:		
Investment	1,200,000	-
Fixed Asset purchase	7,216	
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities	(1,207,216)	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	(1,311,580)	471,187
Opening Cash	2,184,733	1,713,546
Closing Cash	873,153	2,184,733
This is represented by:		
Bank Accounts and Cash	873,153	2,184,733



Statement of Accounting Policies

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Basis of Preparation

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated is an Incorporated Society and as such has no statutory requirement to prepare GAAP compliant financial statements. The Society has elected to prepare Special Purpose Financial Statements applying PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting -Accrual (Not-For-Profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of equal to or less than \$2,000,000 with the exception of preparation of a Statement of Service Performance. All transactions in the Financial Reports are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Financial Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future. The Financial Reports have been prepared to meet the needs of the members.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Vegetables New Zealand Inc is registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

Income tax is accounted for using the taxes payable method. The income tax expense in profit or loss represents the estimated current obligation payable to Inland Revenue. Taxation expense is accrued in the period to which the obligation arose. Tax is calculated in accordance with IRD rates.

Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

Contract Revenue

Vegetables New Zealand Inc has a memorandum of understanding with Horticulture New Zealand Inc to provide services of benefit to vegetable growers in New Zealand. Funding is provided to Vegetables New Zealand Inc under the memorandum on the basis of being income in advance until the funds have been spent in accordance with the Vegetables New Zealand budget.

Levy Revenue

Levies are non-exchange revenue and accounted for on an accrual basis. Revenue is recognised for produce sold in the year to 31 March for which a growers levy declaration has been received by the society prior to 31 May.

Interest Revenue

Interest income is recognised as it is earned and accrued using the effective interest method.

Research and Development Grant Revenue

Research and development grants are recognised in accordance with the funding agreement. Where funding is provided with conditions then income is only recognised when the conditions attached have been fulfilled with the unspent portion being recognised as income in advance. Funding is recognised as income when received if there are no refundable conditions attached.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at estimated realisable value. Bad debts are written off during the period in which they are identified.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year.

Notes to the Performance Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Note 1: Levy Income	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
Levy Income collected thoughout the year	1,432,245	1,318,037
Biosecurity Levy Income collected thoughout the year	209,704	192,844
	1,641,949	1,510,881

From 1 April 2019 Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated received funding through the Commodity Levies Fresh Vegetables Order 2019.

From 10 August 2020 Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated received funding through the Biosecurity (Readiness and Response - Fresh Vegetables Levy) Order 2020.

Note 2: Interest	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
BNZ	24,946	1,968
Note 3: Bank Accounts and Cash	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
BNZ Current Account	854,146	2,165,850
BNZ Autocall	19,007	18,883
	873,153	2,184,733

Interest is earned at 0.05% in the current account. As at balance date there were no overdraft facilities or any other banking arrangements in place with BNZ.

Note 4: Investments	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
BNZ Term Deposit - 3.6% - 182 days - maturing April 2023	500,000	-
BNZ Term Deposit - 4.0% - 365 days - maturing July 2023	400,000	-
BNZ Term Deposit - 4.2% - 365 days - maturing Oct 2023	300,000	
	1,200,000	



Note 5: Information Technology Assets	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
Laptops and peripherals at cost	7,216	-
Less accumulated depreciation	397	-
Closing book value	6,819	-
Note 6: Taxation	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
Taxable Income	23,946	-
Tax is payable at 28%	6,705	-
less RWT Paid	(5,012)	
Tax to pay	1,693	
Note 7: Debtors and Prepayments	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
Trade Debtors	446,447	200,307

Note 8: Related Party Transactions

Horticulture New Zealand Inc

Horticulture New Zealand Inc is a related party by virtue of being a provider of administrative services and a provider of contract funding with an employee of Horticulture New Zealand being the main administrator of Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated.

Transactions Undertaken:	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
Accounts Receivable Outstanding at Year End	4,842	-
Funding Provided to Vegetable Research & Innovation Board	178,955	153,117
Funding Provided to Vegetables.co.nz	300,000	300,000
Conference and Administrative Services Provided	447,554	406,779
Accounts Payable Outstanding at Year End	71,018	158,919

John Murphy and Allen Lim are on the NZ Gap committee which operate under Horticulture New Zealand Inc.

John Murphy is the Chair of Vegetables.co.nz which operate under Horticulture New Zealand Inc. Nick Pollock is on the board of Vegetables Research and Innovation which operate under Horticulture New Zealand Inc.

Kiran Hari and Brendon Balle are executive committee members of Pukekohe Vegetable Growers Association.

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated

Note 9: Biosecurity Reserve	\$ This Year	\$ Last Year
Biosecurity Reserve Opening Balance	142,040	(46,463)
Biosecurity levy income collected thoughout the year	209,704	192,844
Biosecurity expenses paid thoughout the year	(27,047)	(4,341)
	324,698	142,040

Vegetables New Zealand Incorporated (VNZI) represents the commercial vegetable sector under Part SA of the Biosecurity Act 1993. Part SA concerns agreements between government and industry organisations to deal with unwanted organisms, including agreements for jointly funding the costs of readiness and response activities.

VNZI receives funding through the Biosecurity (Readiness and Response - Fresh Vegetables Levy) Order 2020. VNZI must spend the levy money to meet its commitments in contributing to the costs of readiness and response activities under the Government Industry Agreement for Biosecurity and Response deed signed by VNZI on 18 November 2016 and any other operational agreement of the kind referred to in Part SA of the Act that is made between the Director-General and Vegetables New Zealand Inc.

Note 10: Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments

Vegetables New Zealand Inc signed a subcontract agreement in April 2020 for the 'A Lighter Touch' Sustainable Food and Fibre Futures project to contribute \$3S8,896 over the next 4 years.

Vegetables New Zealand Inc is committed to \$2S4,184 to the SVS project over four years from the year ended 31 March 2022. The agreed amount is \$63,S46 per year.

Vegetables New Zealand Inc is committed to \$237,3S6 for a Vegetable 1PM re-set. To date \$64,9S0 has been spent with a remaining \$172,406 committed.

There are no other commitments as at balance date (Last Year - nil).

Contingent Liabilities and Guarantees

There are no contingent liabilities or guarantees as at balance date (Last Year - nil).

Note 11: Events after Balance Date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report. (Last Year - nil).

Note 12: Cyclone Gabrielle

Cyclone Gabrielle has had an impact on horticultural businesses in the 2023 year. As Vegetables NZ Inc is funded by levies from these businesses it is expected that 2023/24 levy income will be impacted.



Budget 2023–2024

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET 2023-2024
INCOME	INCOME \$
Levy Income (Domestic & Export)	1,300,000
Levy GIA / Biosecurity	0
Interest and other income	19,000
	\$1,319,000
INDUSTRY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT	EXPENSES \$
VR&I Board Management & Administration	15,000
VR&I Research Projects	130,000
A Lighter Touch	128,000
VNZI Research Projects & Proposals	121,000
GIA/MPI Biosecurity	32,000
GIA Biosecurity Response	66,000
All Consultancy (including, MAS, EPA & Careers/Labour)	56,000
	\$482,000
MEETINGS & TRAVEL PG EXPENDITURE	
Conference VNZI AGM - CHCH	45,000
Chair's Retainer	40,000
VNZI Board Meetings - Directors Daily Fee (Retainer)	28,000
VNZI Board Meetings - Travel & Expenses	27,000
All Other Meetings - Travel & Expenses	40,000
All Other Meetings - Daily Fees	12,000
Overseas Travel	40,000
Grower Visits	15,000
	\$247,000
OFFICE & COMMUNICATIONS	
Office Overheads & Levy Collection	76,000
NZGrower Magazine Contribution	28,000
Printing & Stationery	1,000
General Expenses	3,000
Postage including mail outs	4,000
Photocopying	1,000
VNZI Staff salaries (incl HortNZ staff allocation)	395,000
District Association Grants	30,000
Telephone & Tolls	3,000
Legal / accounting / audit advice	6,500
VNZI Website	3,500
	\$551,000
PROMOTIONS	
Vegetables.co.nz contribution*	0
Promotions/Sponsorships/Other	20,000
People capability and training	30,000
TOTAL EVENISES	\$50,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,330,000
SURPLUS / DEFICIT	-\$11,000

^{*}vege.co.nz is using reserves to fund 2023-2024

Vegetables New Zealand Inc

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