



Press Release 28/1/10

Phylloxera detection near Mansfield Victoria

The CEO of the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia (PGIBSA) Mr Alan Nankivell announced today that the Board has been advised by Department of Primary Industries – Victoria (DPI-Vic) of a confirmed detection of phylloxera in a vineyard near Mansfield Victoria, in what was a PRZ region.

The vineyard is located approximately 15km SW of the NE Victoria PIZ (Phylloxera Infested Zone) and is 6.5kms from the closest other vineyard. At this stage it is not known how long the infestation has been present.

Mr Nankivell said “It is distressing to hear of another detection outside the known infested zones, and our sympathies go to the grower whose business will be significantly affected. On the other hand, I am extremely pleased that the national protocols have been demonstrated to work so effectively in identifying an infestation as part of a routine market access survey, where I have been advised that there were no canopy symptoms present. The survey team must also be congratulated for finding such a low level infestation.”

Mr. Nankivell reports that DPI-Vic are currently conducting an exhaustive traceforward and traceback exercise to try and identify the source of the infestation and follow up potential risks. They will advise the Board as soon as further information becomes available. “However,” he notes, “South Australia does not permit the entry of any fresh winegrapes or planting material from PRZ regions and machinery, grape products and tablegrapes are subject to strict disinfection protocols. Therefore we can rest assured that South Australian growers have not been put at risk by this detection.”

DPI- Vic has advised that a control zone (PIZ) with a minimum 5km radius will be formally established around the affected property and surveys conducted on the surrounding vineyards and in other vineyards shown to have links to the affected vineyard.

Extensive surveying is also continuing in Victoria as part of the PEZ re-zoning program, particularly in the central and south western parts of the state.

Mr. Nankivell said that as soon as a map of the new zone is confirmed by DPI –Vic then it will be posted on the Board’s website at www.phylloxera.com.au.

For information on the National Phylloxera Management Protocols visit www.gwrdc.com.au

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