

## NZGSTA Biosecurity Officer/Manager: Position description

Position	Biosecurity Officer
Reports	NZGSTA General Manager
Direct reports	Nil
Location	Templeton, Canterbury
Time input	0.5 FTE (or 1.0 FTE if combined with other vacancy)
Start date	TBC
Term	TBC

### Organisation outline

The New Zealand Grain and Seed Trade Association (NZGSTA) represents the business, legislative and regulatory interests of over 85 member organisations who research and develop, produce (multiply), process and distribute seeds such as grasses, forages, vegetables and cereals.

Integral to the functioning of the seed industry is the smooth importation of seed for sowing and export seed to and from NZ, which is subject to a strict phytosanitary border regulations to guard against biosecurity risks.

Another area of focus is our work with government and other sector groups to provide readiness for and responses to biosecurity incursions.

### Position outline

The position is offered as a 0.5 FTE position but dependant on candidates' skills, expertise and working preferences but may be combined to a 1.0 FTE if combined with another current vacancy. Salary will be determined based on how the position/s are filled and will be in the range of \$40,000 for 0.5 FTE or \$80,000 for 1.0 FTE.

### Position objectives

- Facilitate biosecurity and phytosanitary related responses for the import of seed for sowing, including for nursery and research and grain into New Zealand including attending relevant meetings, addressing communication, developing submissions.
- Facilitate biosecurity and phytosanitary related responses for the export of seed for sowing and grain from NZ including attending relevant meetings, addressing communication, developing submissions.
- Management of responses and timely communication with NZGSTA and MPI for phytosanitary and biosecurity emergency measures and incursions.
- Proactive communication with MPI to ensure the NZGSTA organisation is well informed of their work program, risk assessments etc.
- Proactive communication with NZGSTA members to ensure the organisation is well informed in regards to phytosanitary and biosecurity areas that are impacting trade and development of opportunities for the industry.
- Working with MPI to improve border clearance processes and market access requests.
- Training of border officers on seed specific matters. Coordinate relevant training and visitation for MPI officials within the seed industry.
- Working with NZ labs to harmonise testing protocols with industry/global standards.
- Progressing a testing strategy for small seed lots.
- Facilitating introduction of a systems approach for seed imports.
- Engagement with NZ officials engaged in international phytosanitary bodies (QUADS, APPPC and IPPC).
- Development of offshore pre-clearance of seed lots for review and discussion with MPI.

- Cooperation and representation with other industry bodies i.e. SIRC, SGRR, PMAC, PGIC, ISF, APSA etc.
- Presentation at annual conference on relevant phytosanitary and biosecurity updates.
- Coordinate/assist with/lead seed and grain industry readiness activities for new and emerging biosecurity risks to the seed and grain industry and the implementation of programmes to manage these risks.
- Coordinate/assist with/lead the technical delivery of seed and grain industry commitments under existing and new Government and Industry Agreements (GIA) for significant biosecurity risks to the seed and grain Industry.

## Competencies

- Biosecurity/phytosanitary regulatory and/or technical expertise and experience, preferably with a relevant tertiary qualification or equivalent experience.
- Clear, analytical thinking that allows for the organisation of information and data into trends, patterns and workable solutions.
- Can write clear, succinct, and well-structured reports that meet the needs and understanding of the intended audience.
- High level of interpersonal and influencing skills, which enables good relationships with a broad network of stakeholders both inside and external to the organisation.

## Relationships

### External

- MPI & Biosecurity New Zealand
- Farmers and growers (and their industry representative groups)
- Local and regional councils
- Government departments
- Research providers
- Other interest groups and NGOs
- Importers and exporters
- Seed Grain & Readiness & Response

### Internal

- NZ Grain & Seed Trade Association