

## Tomato Potato Psyllid (TPP) / *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* (CLso) Seminar

### Overview

Potatoes New Zealand (PNZ), Tomatoes New Zealand (TNZ), and Te Ahikawariki (VICE) co-hosted a TPP / CLso Seminar on 26 June 2025 in Pukekohe. The primary goal of the seminar was to update growers and industry professionals on the latest research findings related to TPP and the impacts of CLso on solanaceous crops. These include zebra chip disease in potatoes, yellowing of tomato plants and deformed fruit, yellowing in capsicum plants, tree death in tamarillos and fruit deformities. The seminar also aimed to equip attendees with practical tools for improved management of these issues.

### Guest Speakers

The event featured expert presentations from:

- Dr. Jessica Dohmen-Vereijssen, Plant & Food Research
- Frances MacDonald, Plant & Food Research
- Roger Blyth, Seed & Field Canterbury
- Lex Dillon, involved in TPP and beneficial insect trials in tomato greenhouses

### Topics Covered

The seminar presentations covered a range of key topics, including:

- Identification and lifecycle of TPP
- History of TPP and CLso in New Zealand
- Scouting methods and symptom recognition
- The biology and spread of CLso
- Current Plant & Food Research findings on TPP in potatoes
- Knowledge gaps and emerging questions
- Insights from the TNZ / A Lighter Touch research programme

### Attendance and Engagement

The seminar was well-attended, with approximately 30 participants in person and 31 joining online. The sessions ran from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, followed by a catered lunch for in-person attendees. Feedback from participants was very positive, with many highlighting the presentations as highly informative and engaging.

## Access to Materials

A recording of the seminar has been made available on the PNZ website and the TNZ YouTube channel for those who were unable to attend.

[Webinars - Potatoes New Zealand](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyWjTzcyS3kuINisByuVtytX9z5WsK0ID>

