

18 August 2010

PLEASE FORWARD TO YOUR MEMBERS, CONTACTS AND ASSOCIATES

Interim response plan approved

The National Management Group has approved an intensified response plan put forward by NSW. This is great news and means that the States and Commonwealth will now share the cost of the response in NSW. This response plan will see much heightened surveillance and eradication activities within the quarantine area.

Surveillance news

No fresh infections have been found on the known infected properties in the past week. Surveillance and treatment on all infected properties is continuing. One new infected property was discovered in the last week taking the total number of infected properties to six. The plants affected on this new property are new hosts, *Metrosideros collina* and *Astromyrtus inophloia*, taking the total number of known hosts to eight. Quarantine arrangements are in place on the property and infected plants have been destroyed. Please refer to the [website](#) to see the full set of hosts and new images of the disease.

Addressing rumours

Tracing investigations are ongoing. At present it is unknown as to how Myrtle Rust arrived on the Central Coast. It could have arrived recently, and it may have been present for many years. Any rumour as to the source of the Myrtle Rust outbreak on the Central Coast is unsubstantiated.

Website and photos

Please refer to the [website](#) to see the full set of known hosts and images of the disease on these plants. Take the time to familiarise yourself with rust symptoms. Also see images of the similar disease Eucalyptus/Guava Rust on the [PADIL website](#) and familiarise yourself with the symptoms.

Legislation changes - new notification

A new [notification](#) has been gazetted on account of Myrtle Rust. Changes include allowing risk assessed movement of Council green waste for composting under Certification Assurance Arrangement 03. This notification replaces the original notification that was previously gazetted on 23 July 2010.

PLEASE REPORT ANY SUSPECT DETECTIONS OF MYRTLE RUST TO THE EXOTIC

PLANT PEST HOTLINE **1800 084 881**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SEE <http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/info/myrtlerust>

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (18 August 2010). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of New South Wales Department of Industry and Investment (Industry & Investment NSW) or the user's independent adviser.