The General Biosecurity Duty for serpentine leafminer in NSW

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The General Biosecurity Duty

Part 3 of the Biosecurity Act (2015) describes when you have a General Biosecurity Duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk of Serpentine Leaf Miner in NSW. If you are dealing with Serpentine Leaf Miner (SLM) host plants which have visible signs of leafminer damage, you must act to ensure you discharge your General Biosecurity Duty.

Prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk of SLM in NSW

Put simply, you must always act to prevent further spread of SLM in NSW, control infestations of the pest and minimise the impacts of SLM in plant production systems. This duty may be discharged by any number of means that are considered Best Management Practice for SLM including:

- not selling or purchasing SLM host plants with visible signs of leafminer damage
- monitoring for the presence of the pest
- using integrated pest management to minimise the impact of SLM in the production system
- adhering to industry standards such as the Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme
- Treating infested produce with approved insecticides, fumigation or irradiation

Carriers

The highest risk carrier is plants infested with SLM. The SLM host plants list is available on the Serpentine Leaf Miner page on the NSW DPI website, which also includes photos of the pest and host plants with visible signs of leafminer damage.

Other carriers may include untreated used potting media which has grown host plants infested with SLM, and machinery which has not been cleaned of soil and plant material.
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- recycling green waste through composting or pasteurisation
- cleaning used equipment so it is free of soil and plant material before it leaves your property

Further details on SLM management can be found on the Serpentine Leaf Miner page on the NSW DPI website.

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