

# NEW ZEALAND GAP



## Activity Report 2017



The safe and sustainable production of  
fruit and vegetables in New Zealand

# OUR PURPOSE

NZGAP is committed to the Safe and Sustainable production of fresh produce in New Zealand.

---



## OUR VISION

The world's most trusted food.

---

## OUR GOALS

Every horticulture business is able to prevent and respond to: Environmental Issues, Food Safety Crisis & Worker Welfare Incidents.

The NZGAP certificate is trusted and recognised by growers, customers & regulators here and overseas



## FOOD SAFETY

We help prevent food safety issues including food illness, harmful contamination and agrichemical residues.



## ENVIRONMENT

We actively promote sustainable farming practices including the protection of soil, water and natural resources.



## SOCIAL PRACTICE

We are committed to protecting the welfare and safety of all workers in the farming and growing industries.

---

# BUSINESS REPORT

## **Matthew Dolan** **Business Manager**

The past year has been one of progress and growth for NZGAP with the implementation of a number of new programmes and an increase in the number of NZGAP certificate holders.

We are improving the relevance of NZGAP for growers, retailers and regulators. The implementation for the NZGAP 'add-on' framework is a significant step forward. This flexible approach to certification will enable growers to select from a range of NZGAP standards covering food safety, human rights and sustainability.

NZGAP continues to build its credibility and recognition within the fresh produce industry.

In April 2016, NZGAP began working with Countdown to develop a certification scheme for direct suppliers, meaning that WQA certification would no longer be required for many growers. At the same time, a number of produce wholesalers strengthened their policies to procure only certified produce. We are continuing to develop and strengthen our standard.

We are in the final stages of the development of our sustainability programme, which has already been reviewed for acceptance by Regional Councils across the country. This programme will enable growers to continue to access resources for production on the basis of earned trust with regulators and the community.

A significant achievement during the year was the release of the GLOBALG.A.P. GRASP human rights programme. The GRASP guideline was developed by the NZ National Technical Working Group and a version of this programme has been launched by NZGAP to enable growers and their labour contractors to meet the new market requirement for social practice audits.

We are extending our benchmarking to international schemes. In addition to our longstanding relationship and benchmark recognition with GLOBALG.A.P., NZGAP is re-establishing its benchmark recognition to the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI). While benchmarking is a complex and expensive process, it provides integrity to our scheme and ensures that growers can gain access to more international markets.

In the coming year we are looking forward to the release of a new version (6) of the checklist, including a new food hygiene standard. We will continue to develop systems and tools that are valuable to growers, including using spatial and data technology to reduce audit times.

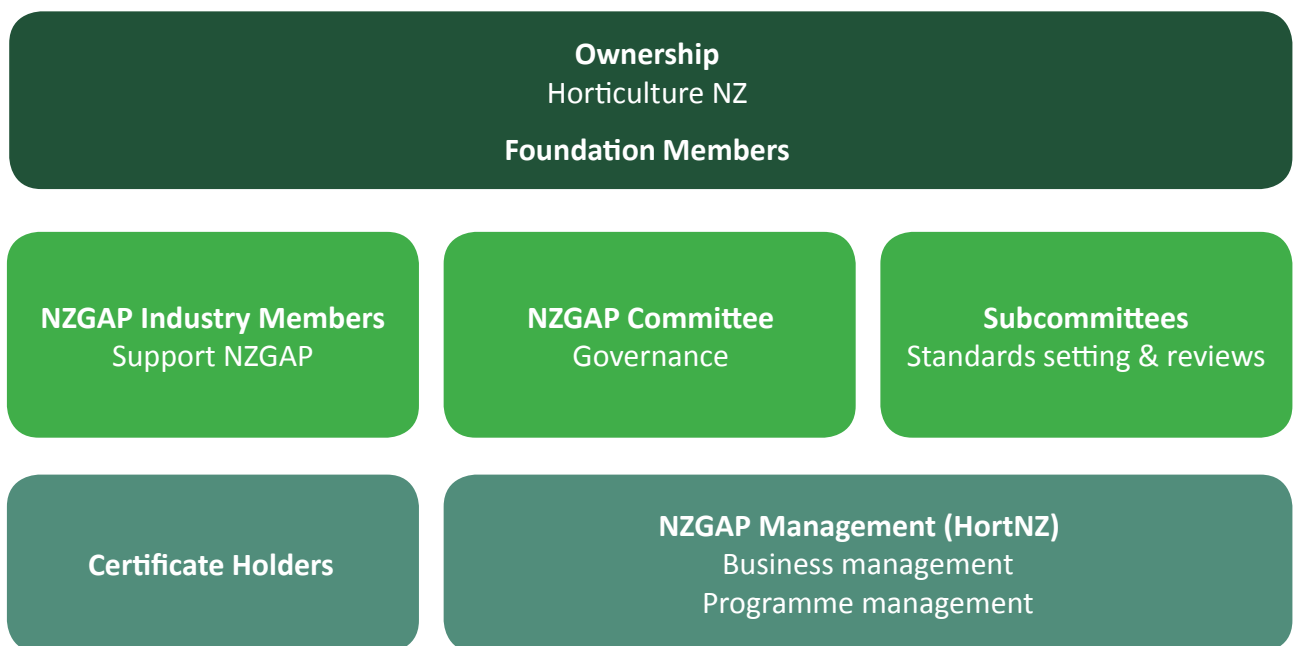
# NZGAP is owned by Horticulture New Zealand, on behalf of all New Zealand growers.

- 1) The New Zealand Gap Committee is a subcommittee of the Horticulture New Zealand Board
- 2) The Committee provides strategic oversight to the programme
- 3) The Management team delivers the programme for growers and stakeholders.

---

## New Zealand GAP Structure

Grower led decision making structure



# THE NEW ZEALAND GAP NETWORK

## NEW ZEALAND GAP COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2017-18		
Chairman	Tony Howie	Horticulture New Zealand Board
Appointment	John Murphy	Vegetables NZ Representative
Elected (non grower)	Mathew Bannister	NZ Citrus Growers Inc
Elected (grower)	Gary Bennetts	Summerfruit NZ
Elected (grower)	Allen Lim	Canterbury Vegetable Growers Association
Retail member	Sue Wheeler	Progressive Enterprises

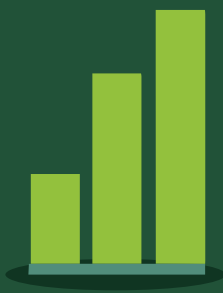
MANAGEMENT TEAM	
Business Manager	Matthew Dolan
Quality Systems Manager	Dr Damien Farrelly
Quality Systems Coordinator	Katrina O'Connor
Membership Advisor	Carrie Mathew

FOUNDATION MEMBERS
Foundation Members are the horticulture industry organisations that have supported the development and growth of the New Zealand GAP Programme for more than 20 years.
Nashi NZ
NZ Asparagus Council
NZ Avocado
NZ Citrus Growers Inc
NZ Feijoa Growers Assn
NZ Kiwifruit Growers Inc
NZ Passionfruit Growers Assn
NZ Tamarillo Growers Assn
Onions NZ
Pipfruit NZ
Tomatoes NZ
Potatoes NZ
Vegetables NZ

CERTIFICATION BODIES
SGS Ltd
AsureQuality Ltd

GROUP SCHEME OWNERS
Freshmax Ltd
First Fresh (NZ) Ltd
Just Avocados Ltd
Pole to Pole Fresh
Bayfarms Ltd
J&P Turner

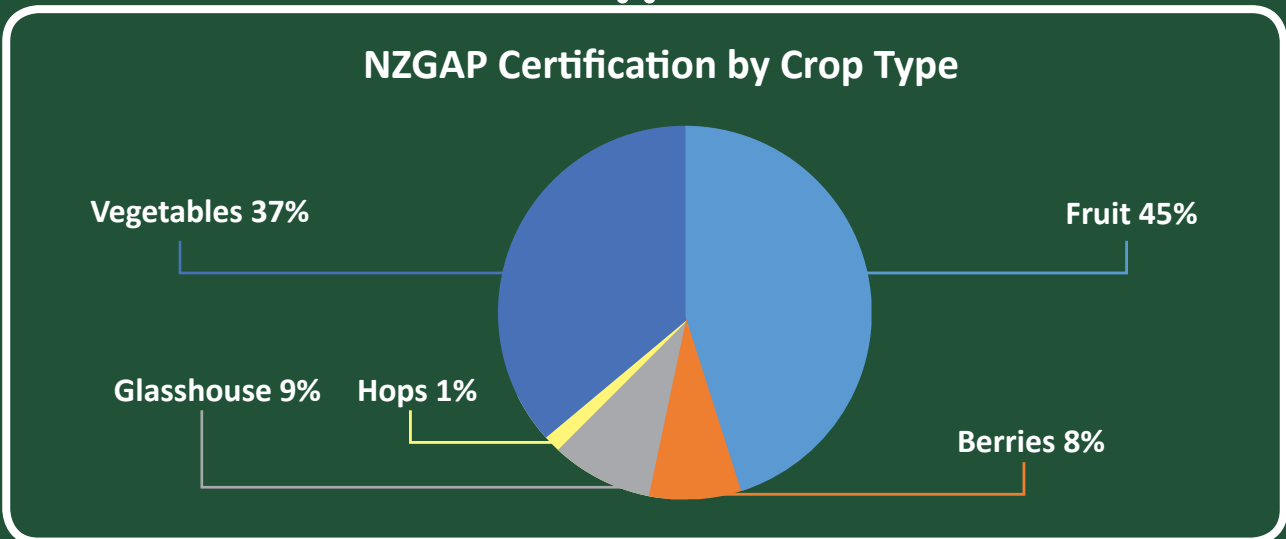
# OUR NUMBERS




- 1360** Certified Growers
- 170** Crops
- 6** Group Schemes
- 40** Auditors
- 630** Audits completed

Certificates across the supply chain:

<b>Growers</b>	<b>1350</b>
<b>Packhouses</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Transport</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Wholesalers / Agents</b>	<b>6</b>



### Our Targets



- > 90% of NZ Fruit & Vegetable growers are GAP certified
- Sustainability program is fully implemented
- NZGAP is benchmarked to GFSI & GLOBALG.A.P.
- NZGAP version 6 released
- NZGAP reports performance metrics






## AREA 1: Food Safety & Traceability

Food safety has been the most important driver for NZGAP over the past 15 years and will likely continue to be the most important driver for NZGAP in the future. The majority of produce buyers seek NZGAP certification on the basis of food safety.

Produce buyers, regulators and the public have a high level of confidence in the safety of NZ grown fruit and vegetables and the ability of the industry to respond in a crisis. However, there has been a number of significant food safety issues in recent years and we need to continue to improve our performance in this area.

---

### **NZGAP addresses food safety issues in the following ways:**

-  provides a HACCP based risk assessment process
-  systemises the management of safety to ensure that produce is grown, packed and handled in a way than minimises the risk of contamination
-  provides a testing process for agrichemical residues
-  enables growers to respond to a crisis traceability and crisis response
-  certification enables produce buyers to see which businesses participate in the scheme.

---

### **Current activities**

- Membership in PMA Australia NZ Food Safety Research Centre, United Fresh Food Safety & Traceability Committee.
- Leadership on food safety and traceability (representing growers on numerous committees and presenting at industry meetings and conferences).
- Lead industry organisation for food safety crisis response (e.g. Yersinia, hep A recalls).
- Investing in food safety research project (water quality).

---

### **Planned activities**

- Provide new standards for food safety as part of NZGAP version 6.
- Align NZGAP with the Food Act
- Benchmark NZGAP to the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)
- Improve our food safety response capability (using spatial mapping and database technology)
- Appoint a Quality Systems Coordinator, to increase our capacity in the area food safety.
- Establish an e-learning training programme covering food safety for growers.

## AREA 2: Human Rights




The NZGAP standard has had some basic requirements for health and safety, but we need to respond to new regulations and increasing concern from the public in this area.

Human rights has become an important topic for consumers as an increasing number of human rights issues are reported in the media.

The public has a low tolerance for human rights issues in horticulture and farming and have responded to recent media reports in relation the employment of illegal workers, excessive work hours and underpayment of wages to workers.

---

### **NZGAP addresses social practice issues in the following ways:**

-  Provides a human rights system for growers to engage in that is accessible and relevant to NZ horticulture.
  -  NZGAP is engaged with regulators (labour Inspectorate and worksafe) on human rights topics.
  -  NZGAP has recently adopted and implemented the GRASP human rights standard from GLOBALG.A.P.
- 

### **Current activities**

- Implementation (year 2) of the GRASP human rights programme (as an NZGAP add on).
  - Working with the NZ National Technical working group to clarify employment law in NZ. Establishing a human rights standard, (with Countdown) based on GRASP, for NZ / Aus / Oceania market.
  - Provided template information (e.g. employment contracts and summaries of worker rights) to growers.
  - Continue to develop information and material for growers and contractors to explain worker rights and responsibilities.
  - Launch the Keep Safe, Keep Growing toolkit (in association with Worksafe) and develop online tools for growers to implement the requirements.
- 

### **Planned activities**

- Align NZGAP (version 6) with parts of the Health & Safety at Work Act.
- Collect and collate data from GRASP audits as an indicator of the issues
- Plan to engage labour contractors in education programmes and human rights audits
- Promote and encourage worker representation and engagement on health & safety & worker rights (differentiate from union representation).
- Establish the HortNZ health & safety subcommittee to develop guidance materials on horticulture topics.



## AREA 3: Environment and sustainability





Sustainability is an increasingly important area and this will accelerate in the coming years. This will challenge some growers while others will embrace it.

There is a need for significant, measurable improvements in environmental outcomes and proof of credentials at a farm level across the industry.

NZGAP has taken a lead in this area with the industry and councils and is currently building systems and standards in this area.

---

### **NZGAP addresses environmental topics in the following way:**

-  Explains the issues in simple terms (relevant for horticulture) for growers regulators, buyers & the public
-  Provides a information platforms for growers to engage in sustainability.
-  Engagement with councils and businesses.
-  Systems approach generates evidence and data for regulators.

---

### **Current activities**

- Development of an Environmental Management System (EMS) add on for land and water.
- Council acceptance of NZGAP EMS add on.
- NZ Sustainability dashboard strategy.
- Guidelines and resources for growers (e-learning and published material).

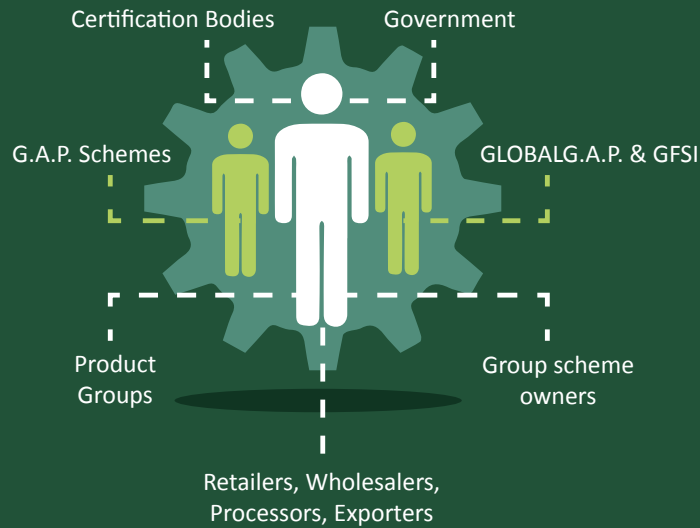
---

### **Planned activities**

- Establish metrics for sustainability.
- Continue to work with the NZ Sustainability Dashboard.
- Mapping and data systems.

# HOW NZGAP DOES IT

## OUR PEOPLE & PARTNERS



## SYSTEMS APPROACH



### Smart systems

the structure of the NZGAP quality system enables it to interact with other systems & standards

### Measure our impacts

we use metrics to measure our progress on critical issues and report these in an open and honest way

### Innovation

we are using technology to improve data capture from the farm, and elsewhere

## OUR VALUES



**Integrity:** we back up our claims

**Engagement:** we are part of a community of farm QA schemes in NZ and overseas

**Relevance:** our standards describe NZ horticulture systems

**Accessibility:** NZGAP is an open scheme for all NZ growers

**Efficiency:** a single auditor up the driveway

## Our GAP Year:

<b>April</b>	NZGAP published the document 'Guidelines for the Off Label Use of Agrichemicals'. NZGAP elected to the GLOBALG.A.P. Systems & Rules Technical Committee. NZ GLOBALG.A.P. National Technical Working Group established.
<b>May</b>	Countdown announces recognition of NZGAP for direct suppliers, in the place of WQA. NZGAP partners with NZ Sustainability Dashboard Project
<b>June</b>	Recognition of NZGAP as equivalent to McCainGAP and suitable for the suppliers. ECan confirms recognition of NZGAP Environment Add on.
<b>July</b>	New website launched
<b>August</b>	NZGAP initiates integrity programme to improve consistency between auditors. Havelock North water investigation
<b>September</b>	NZGAP attends Technical Committee meeting and GLOBALG.A.P. Summit in Amsterdam. Real time audit data reported for Countdown growers through NZGAP dashboard system.
<b>October</b>	MPI Food Policy Group attend NZGAP audits. MPI confirms equivalence of NZGAP standard against Food Regulations
<b>November</b>	NZGAP launches GLOBALG.A.P. GRASP social practice programme
<b>December</b>	T&G Covered Crops gains first multi-site certificate
<b>January</b>	NZGAP Committee review completed. NZGAP Benchmarking documents submitted to GLOBALG.A.P.
<b>February</b>	MPI signals recognition of GAP audits as Food Act Audits (awaiting confirmation).

## Contact New Zealand GAP for more information about our programmes and services:

### Address:

New Zealand GAP  
PO Box 10232,  
The Terrace, Wellington 6143,  
New Zealand

**Email:** [info@hortnz.co.nz](mailto:info@hortnz.co.nz)

**Phone:** +64 4 472 3795

**Free phone:** 0508 467 869

**Twitter:** @NewZealandGAP

**Website:** [www.nzgap.org](http://www.nzgap.org)