



OsHV mortality

“An industry perspective”

presented to SAGB T&T Committee 17th Feb 2012

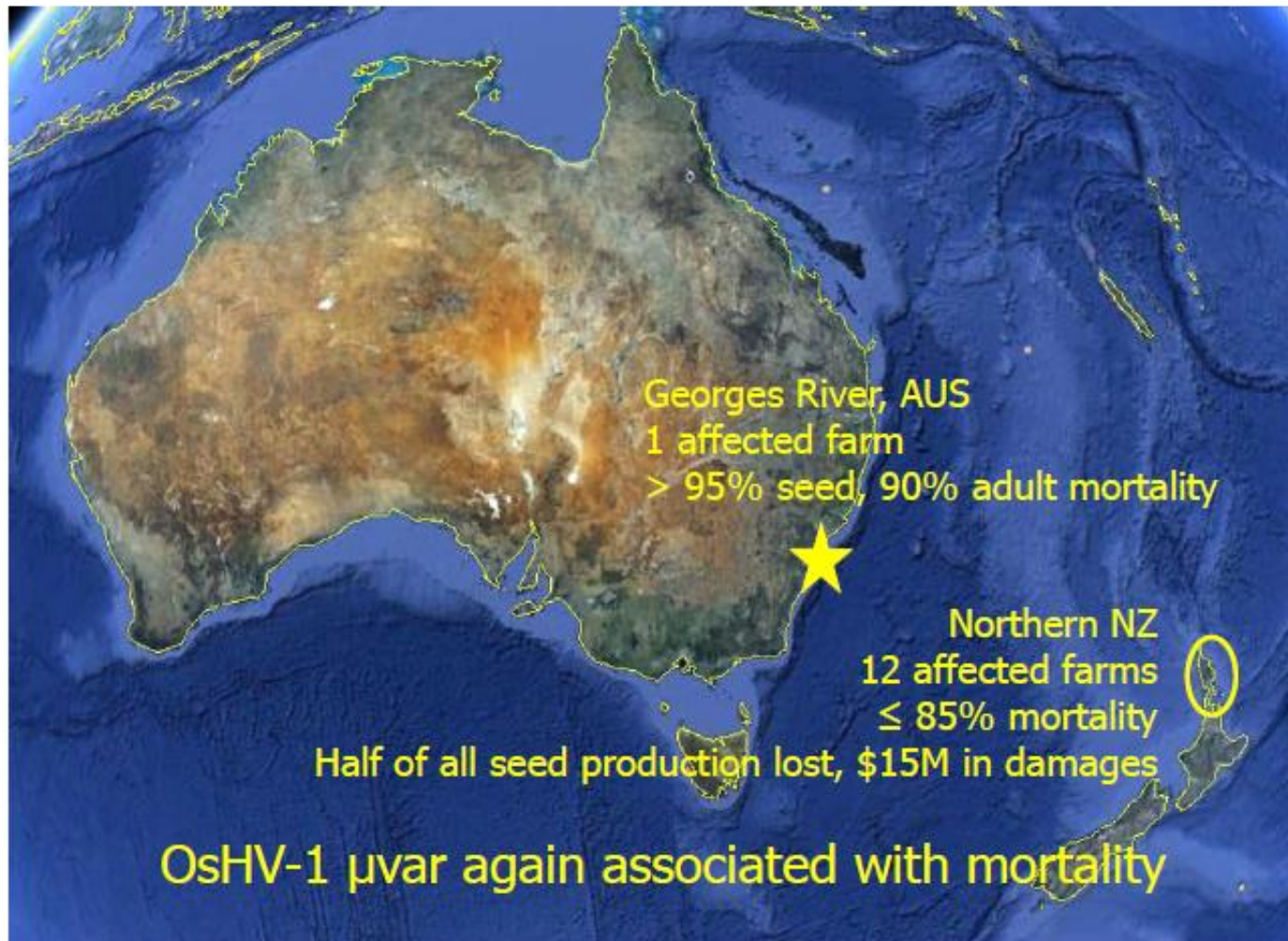
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Mortality – a reality check..

- “Virus not a problem in UK...”
- “Scotland is remote / has cold temperatures....”
- We have strict controls on movements/rigorous testing

THINK AGAIN!!

New Zealand and Australia, November 2010



Credit: Ryan Carnegie – VIMS

<http://mi.nefsc.noaa.gov/mas31pdf/Carnegie.pdf>

What you may not know

- Not a new problem. Mortality and herpes since 1995
- At least 3 strains OsHV₁, OsHV₁-var, OsHV₁-muvar
muvar is dominant strain since 2009 80% loss of all seed
- Complicated by other environmental factors
- Not all French stock has virus. Not all UK stock is free.
Most main production areas in Ireland have virus.
- Testing not reliable enough, expensive, false security
- Regulatory response inadequate
 - not a listed disease in Europe therefore free movement
 - UK/Ireland “national measures” right idea but resources wasted – should be targeted at high risk areas.

Latest knowledge

- Clear demonstration of muvar as pathogen
- Similar demonstration of certain Vibrio bacteria
- Pathogen remains dormant on sites with prior mortality and will infect new 'clean' stocks
- Reduced mortality on some sites and some 'workarounds'
- Industry remains remarkably buoyant thanks to high market prices

Practical advice

- Danger: rising temperature, calm conditions, fast growth
- No mortality offshore or in ponds
- Better survival on long-lines and in cylinders
- Smaller seed carries less risk
- French genetic selection vs. UK 'naïve' stock
- Inactivated by u/v or temperature $>28^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Don't transfer equipment

Current concerns

- UK industry and Ireland surveillance areas reliant on small number of hatcheries with interdependence.
- Industry would be closed down by detection of virus in hatchery although may have no relevance to mortality.
- National measures based on simplistic 'binary' view.
- Wasted resources on regulations & no research in UK.