Rockit 2025 Harvest

Commentary to 9th March 2025

## Introduction

Picking (harvest) commenced on 11 February 2025 (compared to the 15 February 2024) as of the 09 March 2025, 35,710 bins had been harvested (compared to 19,883 for the same date in 2024). Bins are stored at Te Ipu, Sunfruit and other third party coolstores as detailed in [Table 1](#tbl-binsharvested).

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| Table 1: Bins harvested up to 9 March 2025, by storage location compared to the same date in 2024   | **Season** | **Berl Property Ltd** | **Kirkwood Road** | **Sunfruit Limited** | **Te Ipu Packhouse (RO)** | **Kiwi crunch (FV)** | **Total** | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 2024 | 750 | 49 | 1,525 | 17,559 | 0 | 19,883 | | 2025 | 2,090 | 833 | 8,902 | 23,745 | 140 | 35,710 | | \*Kirkwood is just a gatehouse facility and these bins are only transitional. | | | | | | | |

The daily harvest rate is shown in [Figure 1](#fig-harvestRate) where 2025 is compared to the the previous three year performance. The harvest commenced five days earlier in 2025 compared to 2024. The daily intake of bins has also been greater in the first 26 days of the 2025 season compared to 2024 with an average bins per day of 1,374 and 864 for 2025 and 2024 respectively. This is prinicipally due to the quality of the harvest, specifically colour, size and maturity allowing the picking teams to have a first pick of greater proportion than in previous years.

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| Figure 1: Rate of harvest to 9 March 2025 compared to the same dates for the previous three seasons |

## Packing Performance

Packing commenced on the 14 February 2025 (compared to 19 February 2024).

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| Table 2: Bins tipped by packing site up to Sunday 9th March 2025 and compared to the same date in 2024   | **Packing site** | **2024** | **2025** | | --- | --- | --- | | Te Ipu Packhouse (RO) | 2,532 | 4,094 | | Sunfruit Limited | 0 | 3,332 | | **Total** | **2,532** | **7,426** | |

To date 7,426 bins have been tipped across the Te Ipu and Sunfruit sites. The numbers are detailed in [Table 2](#tbl-binstipped). More than double the bins have been packed in 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. This is largely due to the early packing of the Sunfruit facility, but also the improved productivity of the Te Ipu facility.

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| Table 3: Aggregated packouts for packing to 9 March 2025 compared to the same date in 2024   | **Season** | **Packout** | | --- | --- | | 2024 | 81.0% | | 2025 | 86.2% | |

Packout for the first three weeks of packing in 2025 can be calculated at 86.2% (Te Ipu batches only). This compares to 81.0% for the first 21 days of packing in 2024. The packouts for each season are listed in [Table 3](#tbl-packout). The relatively high packouts are expected at the beginning of the season when the fruit is packed immediately without much storage time. As storage time increases the packout will also decrease.

## Defect profile

The top 15 defects for fruit packed at 09 March 2025. The histogram presented in [Figure 2](#fig-DefectProfile) also includes the the same defects for the same pack dates in 2024. Note that the data only incudes batches run through Te Ipu.

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| Figure 2: Defect profile (top 15 defects) from closed batches from packing to 9 March 2025. The 2024 profile for the same defcets and pack dates is plotted for comparison. |

When contrasting the 2024 and 2025 defect profile, of particular note is the difference between the old bruising from year-to-year. While old bruising tends to be one of the most prevalent defects (over the season) the percentage will be monitored in subsequent analyses. On a positive note, the stem tears and punctures are lower than the equivalent period in 2024. Anecdotally the stems are longer and more flexible than in 2024. Undersize, cuts and sunburn are also substantially lower than 2024 which reflectes the growing season and imporved fruit handling.

## Phytosanitary Performance

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| Table 4: Phytosanitary performance for packing to 9 March 2025 compared to the same date in 2024   |  | **MPI lots** | | | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Season** | **With interceptions** | **Total** | **% bugged out** | | 2024 | 28 | 127 | 22.0% | | 2025 | 34 | 259 | 13.1% | |

[Table 4](#tbl-phytoSummary) show the relative phytosanitary performance of MPI lots (these are sub-batches which are individually evaluated for phytosanitary pests and diseases) for the first 23 days of packing in 2025 compared to 2024. As can be observed 34 MPI lots out of 259 lots (13.1%) suffered a phytosanitary pest interception (mainly ALCM). This compares to 22.0% observed for the same dates in 2024.

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| Figure 3: Total pest interceptions by pest type to 9 March 2025 compared to the same date in 2024 |

The total pest interceptions by pest is give in [Figure 3](#fig-PestInterceptions). Given the number of MPI lots packed to 9 March 2025 compared to 2024. The number of inteceptions is running well below 2024. Of particular note is the complete absence of Blackspot in 2025 compared to 2024. Blackspot became the most prevalent intercepted pest across the 2024 season.

## Fruit size distribution

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| Figure 4: apple size distribution (measured by equatorial diameter) for fruit packed up to 9 March 2025 compared with the same date for the previous three seasons |

Size distribution is generally measured using the equatorial diameter of the apple. The respective distributions for 2022 through 2025 seasons (note these included batches packed up to 9 March for each season) are shown in [Figure 4](#fig-sizeDistribution). Note the close correspondence of the 2022, 2023 and 2025 season (around 57mm) compared to the 2024 season (55mm). Note that the early fruit size will develop and likely increase as the season progresses.