Your Contact Name

Your Organisation/Business Name

Address

Address

Address

Date

Environmental Protection Agency,

Private Bag 63002

Wellington 6140

**Via email:** submissions@epa.govt.nz

**Re: Submission on Application Number: APP201955**

**Application to release the psyllid parasitoid Tamarixia triozae (the wasp) to kill the tomato potato psyllid or TPP (Bactericera cockerelli).**

I do / do not wish to keep my contact details confidential.

I/We support the application by the industries represented by Horticulture NZ Inc, that is Potatoes New Zealand Inc, Tomatoes NZ, Vegetables NZ Inc, Heinz-Wattie’s NZ Ltd, and NZ Tamarillo Growers Association Inc to release from containment the parasitoid Tamarixia triozae to assist with the biological control of the tomato potato psyllid (Bactericera cockerelli).

The release of Tamarixia as a BCA will benefit our business and the wider community in both economic and environmental terms for a variety of reasons as follows:

* The release of Tamarixia, either into the glasshouse itself or into surrounding crops nearby will reduce our crop losses by improved control of TPP and reduction in the transmission of the bacterium Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum (CLSo).
* We estimate that since TPP became established our business has suffered crop losses per year of up to ????%. Our yields have been down range??%each year, which has resulted in approximately $??? in lost earnings.
* Achieving improved crop quality and production (yields), along with the production of higher quality crops and the resulting increased $/kg for crops will benefit the whole community through staff wages, investment in capital machinery and on-going support of our local service providers.
* Our business currently employs ??? direct staff, utilises the services of ?? local consultants/professionals along with spending approximately $??? per year within the region on equipment and other services.
* Tamarixia will also result in a reduction in production costs particularly around the application of pesticides which is currently $??/ha per year more than before TPP became established.
* Tamarixia will allow a return to Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices which are beneficial to our staff and the environment, and our preferred option. The money saved can be used for additional staff and increased investment back into the local economy.
* Improved environmental outcomes will also come through a reduction in reliance on broad spectrum insecticides and the use of selective chemistry that is compatible with IPM which will benefit the whole community.

I wish to be heard in support of my submission (this means that you can speak at the hearing)

Or

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission (this means that you cannot speak at the hearing)

**In summary:**

I wish for the EPA to allow the industries represented by Horticulture NZ Inc, that is Potatoes New Zealand Inc, Tomatoes NZ, Vegetables NZ Inc, Heinz-Wattie’s NZ Ltd, and NZ Tamarillo Growers Association Inc. to release from containment the parasitoid Tamarixia triozae to assist with the biological control of the tomato potato psyllid (Bactericera cockerelli).

Yours sincerely,

Name

Title

**Organisation**

Phone:

Email: