

*Tuesday, 24 March*

**Important update – Register for safe practice**

Dear primary sector partner,

Thank you again for your time and dedication this week as we deal with the challenges of moving to COVID-19 Alert Level Four.

As discussed yesterday, now that the primary industries have been included on the list of essential services, MPI needs assurances from industries and businesses that your processes protect your workers and the public by reducing the potential spread of COVID-19. Without these assurances, you will not be able to operate.

MPI staff have been urgently working on setting up a registration system to enable this to take place, and I'm pleased to say that this has now been established in a short time frame.

The relevant information can be accessed at <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/covid-19-essential-primary-sector-service-registration/>

Please share this with your stakeholders. I've also attached a media statement which was released this afternoon.

We are asking that you register by 5pm on Friday 27 March 2020. In the meantime, you can continue to operate but we expect that you will already have robust health procedures in place.

This is a fast-moving situation and I am confident that together we can deal with any issues that arise.

Ray Smith  
MPI Director-General