

## Graham Young

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**From:** John Liddle @ NGINZ <[john@nginz.co.nz](mailto:john@nginz.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 November 2013 11:52 a.m.  
**To:** [submissions@epa.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@epa.govt.nz)  
**Cc:** John Liddle @ NGINZ  
**Subject:** APP201774 - Epichloe/Neotyphodium spp. fungal endophytes

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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**A note in support of application APP201774 from:  
Dr John Liddle; Chief Executive  
Nursery and Garden Industry New Zealand**

NGINZ appreciates the opportunity to comment on this matter.

We do not need to be heard as part of the submission process.

We are happy that our concerns will be addressed by the processes the EPA follows and do not wish to be contacted further about this proposal.

Having read and considered the Application Summary and the Discussion document prepared by the EPA I do not anticipate any direct benefits accruing to or impacts on nursery production in New Zealand as a result of the proposed introduction of the endophytes described in the application.

NGINZ recognises the benefits that symbiotic endophytes (and mycorrhiza) can provide for plant production.

We support this proposal noting that New Zealand has a strong history of utilising endophyte science for the benefit of pasture production leading to perennial rye grass selections resistant to rye grass weevil (Refer the work of Gerard, Goldson, Kain, Pottinger and others). Dr Margaret Dimenna is noted for undertaking studies to guide the selection of *N. lolii* strains that will not induce rye grass staggers in sheep and yet provide rye grass lines that resist insect predation (Refer the work of Dimenna).

NGINZ supports the introduction of endophytes (and mycorrhizae) for the benefit of plant production where sound science is able to prove the benefits, demonstrate that the proposed action is sustainable, has low impact and creates significant benefits for primary producers.

regards  
John

**John Liddle** BBS, MSc, PhD | **Chief Executive** | **Nursery and Garden Industry New Zealand**

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