



# Form: Call for expression of interest to prescribe certain organisms as 'not new' organisms

for the purposes of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act

## Introduction

Fill this form if you or your organisation seeks to make a proposal to prescribe certain new organisms as 'not new' organisms.

Species are classed as new organisms under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act if they were not present in New Zealand before 29 July 1998. As such, you require HSNO Act approval for propagation or distribution of the organism.

To change its 'new' organism status (which means that an organism will no longer be regulated as 'new' under the HSNO Act), an organism must be deregulated under section 140(1)(c) of the HSNO Act, by an Order in Council given by the Governor General prescribing organisms that are not new organisms for the purposes of this Act.

The Environmental Protection Authority will use the information in this form in the decision-making process (which is likely to include a public consultation component). Clearly label and include any confidential information as a separate appendix.

Proposing a candidate new organism does not guarantee the status of the organism will be changed. Organisms will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. We may advise you to apply using another pathway if there's an appropriate one available.

## Submission details

Once you have completed this form, you may:

- send by post to: Environmental Protection Authority, Private Bag 63002, Wellington 6140
- or email to: [submissions@epa.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@epa.govt.nz)

**Submissions open on the 22 March and close on 4 June at 5.00 pm.**

## Privacy Act

We are collecting your personal information in your submission relating to prescribing an organism as 'not new', and will use the information you provide in this form to contact you in relation to your submission. We may also use your contact details for the purpose of requesting your participation in customer surveys. We will store your personal information securely. Your information may be made public unless you select the box below to request that we keep it confidential. You have the right to access the personal information we hold about you and to ask for it to be corrected if it is wrong. If you would like to access your personal information, or have it corrected, please contact us.

**Please keep my personal information confidential.**



# Part 1

**Name of person or organisation making the proposal:** Bioforce Limited

**Postal address:** 24 Milano Boulevard Karaka, Auckland 2113 New Zealand

**Date:** 28/05/2021

# Part 2

## Details of the new organism(s) proposed to be prescribed as 'not new' organism(s)

Please complete this section for each organism proposed to be prescribed as a not new organism.

### 1. Name of the organism

*Dicyphus n. sp.*

### 2. Why do you want to prescribe this organism as 'not new'?

Including:

- a. Is there any information on the economic or environmental impacts of the organism?
- b. What is the benefit of making this organism 'not new'?
- c. Can these benefits be quantified?
- d. Can these benefits be achieved by alternative means?

New Zealand suffers of fortuitous arrivals of new pests and diseases. Related consequences on native biotas and agricultural activities are important in terms of environmental cost and economic loss. These living organisms have to be known before being managed and controlled.

*Dicyphus sp.* is now established in New Zealand and can be seen in various locations (Stephen Thorpe/Landcare Research, pers. comm.) but, we still ignore which species and at best, we know which species this is not (Alan Flynn/MPI, pers. comm).

Thus, we would like to prescribe this organism as "not new" in order to get the opportunity to study its biology.

From this point, we may be able to identify available options to manage it.

### 3. Describe the biology of the organism

Including:

- a. What are the biological characteristics of the organism?

- b. Where is it found overseas?
- c. Does it cause a disease?
- d. Does it have potentially beneficial characteristics?
- e. What adverse effects could making this organism 'not new' have on people or the environment, if any? Can these be quantified?

As long as we don't know which *Dicyphus* species is present here, in New Zealand, we don't have any information about its life history (development time, prey range,...).

Searching any available information about this *Dicyphus* species, we have received the following reply from MPI (Alan Flynn):

*"...With assistance from an overseas expert we have established it is a new species Dicyphus n. sp. We are informed the NZ specimens examined are consistent with an undescribed South African Dicyphus species. It is not one of the species on the UOR."*

As a complement and according to several field observations ([www.naturewatch.org.nz](http://www.naturewatch.org.nz)), we can draw up a short list of host plants but we don't have any available data obtained through local research studies.

#### **4. Has the organism formed a self-sustaining population in New Zealand?**

Including:

- a. Where and when has the population(s) of the organism been found in New Zealand?
- b. How does this organism spread?

*Dicyphus* sp. is mentioned in September 2012 in an EPA form about Dr Margaret Stanley (MPI) comments, in response to the application for import *Macrolophus caliginosus*, a whitefly biocontrol agent.

On September 2013, first sightings are mentioned around Auckland on [www.naturewatch.org.nz](http://www.naturewatch.org.nz).

Without any formal studies, we have no idea about this species development within New Zealand.

#### **5. Is any person attempting to manage, control or eradicate the organism under any Act or is the organism the subject of an enforcement action or action under a civil penalty regime?**

Including:

- a. If the organism has been part of an official incursion response or other MPI response or management activity, describe what happened here including why the response was stood down.

No

**6. Is there reason to believe that this organism was deliberately imported in contravention of an Act of Parliament? If so, please explain.**

No

**7. Is there any other information you wish to include?**

No

## Part 3

**8. Provide references to the information you provided (if applicable)**

[Click here to enter text.](#)