

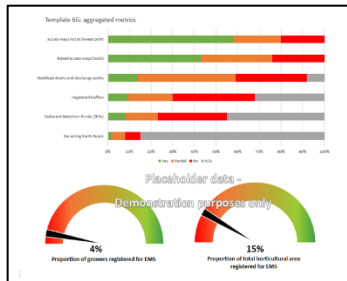
Joining the Dots on: Erosion & Sediment Control in Horticulture

7. Aggregated industry metrics used to report industry progress and identify specific issues

Data collected from completed FEPs and audits can be used in regional and national metrics to give an overview of industry environmental progress and identify problem areas. There is the potential for individualised benchmarking reports.

Metrics can be used to stimulate problem recognition and quantify issues – creating a cycle of continuous improvement.

E.g. Proportion of growers in Pukekohe with SRPs in 2018 vs in 2022



6. Audits of EMS Checklist and FEP Action Plan

The completed FEP – and specifically the Action Plan – are audited. Passing the audit certifies the grower as complying with industry guidelines and council rules.

5. Construction of Sediment Retention Ponds (SRPs) on a property



4. NZGAP Environmental Management System (EMS)

NZGAP's EMS is an independently audited Farm Environment Plan (FEP). It assists in the compliance with regional council and national level plans. The Templates and Action Plan provides a structure and measurable timebound improvements that the grower can follow. It is an essential bridge between dissemination and implementation.

ESG Pillar	Management Practice	Compliance	Performance	Improvement	Notes
1	Water Use Efficiency	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Water saving devices installed
	Water Quality	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Water testing schedule established
2	Soil Health	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Soil testing schedule established
	Soil Conservation	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Erosion control measures in place
3	Plant Health	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Pest and disease management plan
	Plant Protection	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Plant protection products used responsibly
4	Plant Health	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Plant health monitoring system
	Plant Protection	Compliant	Good	Minor improvements needed	Plant protection products used responsibly



Problem Recognition



Research



Guidelines/COP



Assurance/Certification



Implementation



Farm Environment Plans

Joining the Dots

1. May 1996 Pukekohe Storm

Silt, stormwater, and onions, flooded parts of Pukekohe as a result of this large storm. This became the catalyst for the formation of the Franklin Sustainability Project (FSP). Research, guidelines, an integrated stormwater system, and a large extension programme followed.



2. Franklin Sustainability Project (FSP) and Don't Muddy the Water (DMTW)

FSP was established to research methods of improving the sustainability of vegetable growing in the Franklin District, with an emphasis on erosion management. Later the DMTW project was set up to do more quantitative research on specific management practices – in particular the effectiveness of Sediment Retention Ponds (SRPs).



3. Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for Vegetable Production

Research from the FSP was used in the creation of a unified guideline for the horticulture industry. Results from the DMTW project also supported the contents of the guidelines – which are used as reference material for the NZGAP Environment Management System (EMS).

