



30 April 2026

Weekly news update from the KPMG Agribusiness Network

Welcome to this week's issue of Field Notes, a summary of Agribusiness news from across the sector, prepared by the KPMG Agribusiness network.

Week in review

[Christchurch's Hornby Quadrant industrial precinct will expand with over NZ \\$500m invested over five years, to grow South Island food, manufacturing, and distribution capacity](#) [28 April, FMCG Business]. The 30-hectare development will support large-scale operators to expand the region's supply chain.

[The Horticulture and Agriculture Teachers Association has launched New Zealand's first Agriculture Educators Leadership Programme aimed at strengthening secondary-level agriculture and horticulture teaching](#) [28 April, Farmers Weekly]. The programme will be delivered by the New Zealand Rural Leadership Trust.

[Transporting New Zealand is calling on the government to ease heavy vehicle regulation, stating that targeted regulatory adjustments could reduce truck movements and fuel use, relieving pressure on supply chains](#) [28 April, RNZ]. The organisation says earlier implementation would improve freight efficiency and reduce disruption if fuel supply conditions tighten.

[New Zealand Winegrowers has launched a global campaign calling for the creation of a white wine emoji, arguing digital culture has not kept pace with shifts in wine consumption](#) [28 April, RNZ]. White wine accounts for 95% of the nation's NZ \$2.1 billion wine exports, and the industry plans to submit a Unicef petition to coincide with World Sauvignon Blanc Day on 1 May.

In International news...

[British retailer Aldi will invest £1.1 billion \(NZ \\$2.53 billion\) over five years into its domestic egg supply chain](#) [23 April, Retail Gazette]. The commitment is structured through long-term supply agreements running until 2030 and aims to secure domestic sourcing whilst providing pricing and volume certainty for farmers.

[Chinese hotel group eLong Hotel Technology, which operates over 3,000 hotels, has committed to making 50% of its menu items plant-based by 2029](#) [27 April, Green Queen]. The move will begin with breakfast menus and aligns with government policy on protein diversification and sustainability.

[Sixty governments will meet in Colombia to discuss solutions for reducing reliance on fossil fuels, as the Middle East conflict involving Iran drives global oil and gas prices up](#) [28 April, Reuters]. The meeting focuses on finance, regulation, and subsidy reform, bringing together a coalition of willing countries to discuss how to practically phase-out, rather than negotiate new targets.

[In Australia, the grapevine berry inner necrosis virus has been confirmed for the first time](#) [23 April, ABC News]. Vinehealth Australia says the virus, found in table grapes across Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia's Riverland, cannot be eradicated. The industry will shift its focus to testing, management, and on-farm biosecurity, as the virus may have been present undetected for several years and poses risks to vine growth and yields.

Spotlight stories

Technology Spotlight: [Solinftec's self-refilling spray 'bots close the loop on 24:7 autonomy](#) [21 April, AgFunder News]

Brazil based agritech firm Solinftec has begun commercial deployment of solar powered spray robots that operate and use AI, sensors and high resolution cameras to detect and spot spray weeds. The robots independently return to docking stations to refill, with more than 300 units already operating globally and around 60 expected to use autonomous refilling this year as part of the rollout.

Regulation Spotlight: [Shanghai Launches Pilot Program for New Health and Warning Labels in December 2025](#) [22 April, News Directory 3]

The Shanghai Municipal Health Commission has launched a citywide pilot mandating health warning labels on alcoholic beverages, across both physical retail premises and online sales platforms. Online retailers must display warnings within product listings whilst physical stores must include prominent, eye level signage placed at multiple touchpoints such as tills, shelves, fridges, vending machines, and promotional areas to ensure repeated consumer exposure.

This week's headlines

[NZ Signs Historic India Free Trade Agreement](#) [28 April, Rural News]

New Zealand and India have signed a free trade agreement that will progressively reduce or eliminate tariffs on around 95% of New Zealand exports to India. Nearly 57% of exports will be duty-free on entry into force, rising to 82% once fully implemented, covering products such as lamb, wool, forestry, infant formula and seafood. Other exports including kiwifruit, apples, mānuka honey, wine and some dairy products face staged tariff reductions.

[French fashion house Chanel and NZ high country station team up](#) [23 April, RNZ]

French fashion house Chanel has entered a joint venture with Lammermoor Station in Central Otago to secure certified organic fine wool. Lammermoor is the only certified organic fine wool producer, and the largest organic farm in New Zealand. Chanel will support Lammermoor's move to Regenerative Organic Certification (ROC), making it the world's first ROC certified fine wool farm.

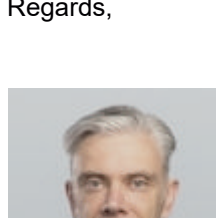
[Amazon launches GLP-1 weight loss program](#) [21 April, CNBC]

American e-commerce giant, Amazon has launched a GLP 1 weight loss management programme through its One Medical primary care arm, integrating obesity treatment into routine care. The programme combines virtual and in person consultations, prescription management, and home delivery, positioning weight loss drugs as long term chronic treatments. Insured patients can access GLP 1 drugs for as little as US \$25 (NZ \$43) per month, leveraging Amazon's logistics scale and pricing transparency. The move intensifies competition across the rapidly expanding obesity drug market.

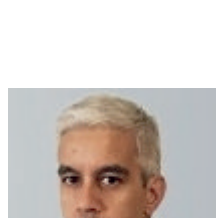
At KPMG, we believe that the future success of New Zealand depends on our ability and willingness to add value to our primary produce and take it to the world. Keeping informed on the latest news and discussions is just one of the ways to make this happen for New Zealand's most significant contributor to prosperity.

If others in your organisation would find this publication useful, please forward this email on to them. They can then [subscribe](#) to our weekly newsletter.

Regards,



Ian Proudfoot
Global Head of Agribusiness



Andrew Watene
Head of KPMG Propagate™



[Legal](#) | [Privacy](#) | [kpmg.com/nz](#)

KPMG New Zealand:
18 Viaduct Harbour Avenue
PO Box 1584
Auckland 1140
T: +64 9 367 5800

The information contained herein is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavour to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act upon such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.

© 2026 KPMG, a New Zealand Partnership and a member firm of the KPMG global organisation of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Limited, a private English company limited by guarantee. All rights reserved.