

BIOSECURITY GUIDELINES

FOR PREVENTING THE INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF PLANT PESTS AND DISEASES FROM FARM TO FARM

Before the visit:

- Pre-plan your visit
- Contact the farm in advance, know their concerns
- Know the nature of the facility
- Be aware of the important pests and diseases of the crops grown on the farm
- Visit farms with unique pest problems last
- If you observe pest or disease pressure in a farm, avoid same-day visit to similar farms
- Wear dark blue, green or brown coloured clothing which are less attractive to insects

During the visit:

- Always carry a “Biosecurity Supply Kit”
 - Disposal overalls/sani-suits
 - Booties
 - Gloves
 - Disinfectants (see below)
 - Spray-bottles
 - Paper towels
 - Disposal bags
 - Spare clothing and foot ware
- Follow appropriate biosecurity procedures during farm visit
- Avoid carrying mud or plant debris on your vehicle when entering a farm
- Park at designated parking areas, if not on paved or gravel surfaces
- Avoid contact with plant materials that may harbour plant pathogens and pests
- Follow good sanitation practices
 - Sanitize hands
 - Use foot-bath
 - Wear protective clothing (if necessary)
- Use effective and appropriate disinfectants (concentration and exposure time varies)
 - For hands – antimicrobial hand soap (e.g. Onestep, Wet Ones)
 - For shoes, etc. – Virkon (1-2%), Chemprocide (15ml/litre), household bleach (10%)
 - For tires – Virkon (1-2%), Chemprocide (15ml/litre), household bleach (10%)

End of the visit:

- Properly secure plant samples in sealed bags
- If necessary, wash/disinfect tires, mud flaps, etc. of your vehicle when leaving
- Place all waste materials (disposal suits, plant waste, etc.) in disposal bags and dispose of them properly
- Make sure you have followed proper sanitation practices
- Check to see you and your vehicle are free of soil and plant debris
- Keep a record of your visit
- Most importantly, if you've encountered a farm with pest or disease problems, phone ahead to your next client and discuss the situation

Submit your samples for pest and disease diagnosis to:

Plant Diagnostic Laboratory
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Abbotsford Agriculture Centre
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford B.C. V3G 2M3

Tel: 604-556-3126 (direct) or 1-800-661-9903 (main office)

Fax: 604-556-3154

www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/lab.htm

Please contact us or visit our website for details on submitting samples and diagnostic fees.

Useful References:

BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands	<u>www.al.gov.bc.ca</u>
Food Safety and Quality Branch	<u>www.al.gov.bc.ca/fsq/</u>
Infobasket	<u>www.infobasket.gov.bc.ca</u>
Weeds	<u>www.weedsbc.ca</u>
Invasive Species	<u>www.invasivespecies.gov</u>
Invasive Alien Species in Canada	<u>www.hww.ca</u>
Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)	<u>www.inspection.gc.ca</u>
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)	<u>www.agr.gc.ca</u>
Pest Management Regulatory Agency	<u>www.pmra-arla.gc.ca</u>
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food	<u>www.omafra.gov.on.ca</u>
United States Department of Agriculture	<u>www.aphis.usda.gov</u>
American Phytopathological Society	<u>www.apsnet.org</u>
Disinfectants (Columbia University)	<u>www.cumc.columbia.edu/dept/ehs/decon.html</u>



Food Safety and Quality Branch
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
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