

Biosecurity Guidelines

TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION AND SPREAD OF PLANT PESTS 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 of the crops grown on the farm
- Visit farms with unique pest problems last
- If you observe pests in a farm, avoid same-day visits 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 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/liter), 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 that 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 problems, phone ahead to your next client and discuss the situation

Submit your plant samples for pest diagnosis to:

Plant Diagnostic Laboratory,
B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Abbotsford Agriculture Centre,
1767 Angus Campbell Road,
Abbotsford B.C., V3G 2M3
Tel: 604-556-3001 (directly) or 1-800-661-9903 (main office)
Fax: 604-556-3154
www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot.htm

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

Useful References:

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands	www.al.gov.bc.ca
Food Safety and Plant Health Branch	www.al.gov.bc.ca/fsq/
Infobasket	www.infobasket.gov.bc.ca
Weeds	www.weedsbc.ca
Invasive Species	www.invasivespecies.gov
Invasive Alien Species in Canada	www.hww.ca
Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)	www.inspection.ca
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)	www.agr.gc.ca
Pest Management Regulatory Agency	www.pmra-arla.gc.ca
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Food (OMAF)	www.gov.on.ca
United States Department of Agriculture	www.aphis.usda.gov
American Phytopathological Society (APS)	www.apsnet.org



Food Safety & Plant Health Branch

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