

Is your visit a biosecurity risk to the Australian grains industry?



GRAINS FARM
BIOSECURITY
PROGRAM

Good travel hygiene is essential for all visitors coming from overseas or when travelling between grain growing regions within Australia.

You may be attending a conference or an agricultural event such as a field day, be part of a delegation of industry members or a visiting researcher. If your itinerary includes visiting rural properties or grain industry related sites there is a risk that a new disease, pest or weed could enter Australia and be moved between growing regions as a result of your travels. Whatever the reason for your visit, you have a duty of care to minimise biosecurity risks.

Plant pests and weed seeds can potentially enter Australia on footwear and clothing. Travellers are known to have inadvertently carried fungal spores into the country on their clothes, and weed seeds can easily be carried in soil on boots and clothes. Some pests can also hitch hike on vehicles, equipment or in personal baggage.

BIOSECURITY TIPS

BEFORE YOU COME TO AUSTRALIA

- Ask the organisers of your trip if there are any specific biosecurity requirements for the area you are visiting.
- Wash and scrub your footwear with soap and water, and then a treat with a disinfectant.
- Wash all the clothes you plan to wear before you come to Australia, including hats and caps.

AS YOU ENTER AUSTRALIA

- Declare if you have been on a farm.
- Declare any items listed on the incoming passenger card.



**If you see anything unusual,
call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline**

**EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881**

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BIOSECURITY TIPS WHILE TRAVELLING IN AUSTRALIA

Footwear

Ensure all footwear is clean and free of soil and plant material, especially on and around the sole of the shoe.

Any boots you plan to wear in an agricultural area need to be washed and scrubbed clean of all plant material and soil. If possible use a disinfecting agent after cleaning with soap and water.

Within Australia, there are some pests, weeds and diseases that are confined to particular growing regions. These include herbicide resistant weeds, fungicide resistant pathogens and insecticide resistant pests that may not be obviously different, so make sure all clothing, equipment and baggage is clean of plant and soil material throughout your visit.

If visiting growing areas in different states of Australia, please inspect and clean your footwear before each stage of your travels. Preferably clean your boots each evening.

Clothing

Wash all clothes that you plan to wear while travelling to and within Australia prior to packing your suitcase.

As soon as you can after arriving, change your travel clothes and store them in plastic bags in your luggage. After that, only wear the clean clothes from your suitcase.

Check with your travel organiser about any clothing requirements of the places that you plan to visit, including requests for enclosed shoes or long trousers for safety and biosecurity reasons.

It is recommended that you wear clean clothes when moving between growing regions or from one state to another. This is particularly important when visiting rural properties and if you come in direct contact with crops or livestock, but is less important if you will be visiting offices or attending meetings in urban areas.



Animal biosecurity

It should be noted that there are strict biosecurity requirements for livestock facilities in Australia.

Certain quarantine requirements may be necessary prior to your entry into Australia. Discuss potential requirements with your trip organiser prior to embarking.

More information about animal biosecurity is available from daf.qld.gov.au/animal-industries and from farmbiosecurity.com.au/livestock

REPORTING PESTS

In Australia, any unusual plant pest should be reported immediately to the relevant state or territory agriculture agency through the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

The Grains Farm Biosecurity Program is managed by PHA and funded by growers through Grain Producers Australia together with the governments of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia. Grains Biosecurity Officers in these five states develop and deliver materials to raise awareness and deliver training to growers, consultants and other industry stakeholders. Go to planthealthaustralia.com.au/gfbp for more information.