

# Vehicle biosecurity kit - plant industries

Louise Rossiter, Grains Biosecurity Officer, Orange

A vehicle biosecurity kit is an effective tool to help minimise the risk of spreading unwanted weeds, pests and diseases between farms or regions. A kit should be carried and used by persons operating at the farm level in agriculture and horticulture in NSW. This includes farmers, consultants, agronomists and trial operators, and farm/orchard staff, including itinerant workers and contractors.

The kit is designed to reduce the biosecurity risk associated with people movement on and off farms by assisting with personal cleanliness. Kit contents should include items for cleaning clothing, shoes, equipment and vehicle interiors.

## Key contents

The contents of a biosecurity kit will vary according to the agricultural/horticultural business. The basic contents of all kits should contain

- Brush and pan
- Stiff brush for removing soil and plant matter from shoes, clothes, equipment and vehicle tyres
- Disposable gloves
- Handwash or hand sanitiser
- Spray bottle containing cleaning agent such as a detergent, dilute bleach solution or 70 % methylated spirits
- Paper towel
- Plastic bags for holding dirty clothes, shoes or equipment

Vials/containers and paper bags can be included for collecting samples of unusual pests and plant symptoms for further examination and identification. Factsheets on high priority exotic threats for specific relevant industries can be included as a ready reference. Contact details for state agriculture departments for reporting suspect exotic pests and diseases can also be carried as a ready reference.

Additional suggested items include:

- Spare pair of shoes, for example for wearing while driving to keep vehicle interiors clean
- Overalls, particularly where activity may result in clothes becoming dirty or contaminated with pathogens (eg fungal spores)
- Disposable boot covers
- Magnifying glass to assist with identifying unusual pests or plant symptoms

A container of water (eg 5 L) can also be carried to assist with cleaning.

Vehicle exteriors are difficult to effectively clean using a biosecurity kit. On-farm vehicle movement should be minimised between properties, and farm vehicles used where available. Vehicle biosecurity kits should contain a stiff brush or scraper to remove weed seeds before leaving a site. Farm washdown facilities should be located to assist with ensuring vehicles are clean prior to leaving and entering farms (see Primefact 1119 Come Clean Go Clean: a step by step guide to vehicle washdown).

For more information on farm biosecurity visit [www.farmbiosecurity.com.au](http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au)



*Example of key contents of a vehicle biosecurity kit*

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ISSN 1832-6668

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Published by the Department of Primary Industries, a part of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services.

PUB12/11