

What is biosecurity?

Biosecurity is a set of measures that are put in place at the national, regional or farm level to protect against the introduction and spread of new pests (insects, diseases and weeds). Biosecurity measures aim to deal with pests should they arise, and minimise the impact of pests already established.

Farm biosecurity measures reduce the risk of new pests entering a property and are essential for protecting livelihoods. Farm Biosecurity is the responsibility of every person working on or visiting the farm.

Regional biosecurity protects Bundaberg's fruit and vegetable growers from the impacts of new pests. With your help we are minimising the risks to their livelihoods, your jobs and the region's economy.

Early detection and immediate reporting increases the chance of an effective eradication or rapid management of a new pest.

Have you spotted anything unusual?

Early detection and a rapid response to new pests can minimise the long-term impact to farms, the region and to the industry.

If you see any unusual pests or plant symptoms, call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline

**EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881**

Further information

Bundaberg Fruit and Vegetable Growers Cooperative – www.bfvg.com.au

Farm Biosecurity – www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

Plant Health Australia – www.phau.com.au

Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation – www.deedi.qld.gov.au

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Are you a risk?

Could you be at risk of bringing new plant pests and diseases to the Bundaberg region?



What are the risks?

New and potentially damaging pests can be spread through a number of ways. This brochure outlines simple measures to reduce these risks.

Your cooperation and assistance in minimising the spread of pests is appreciated and will help protect the productivity of the Bundaberg region.

Fresh produce import

All fruit and vegetables have the potential to carry undetected pests. Buying locally and not transporting produce between farms and regions is the best protection.

Plant material

Whether attached to your vehicle or in a bunch of flowers, plant material can carry pests. Make sure your vehicle and clothing are clean. Dispose of any plant material before entering or moving within the region.

Cars, shoes, camping and farm equipment

Anything from cars, trucks and farm machinery through to camping equipment and clothing can carry pests. Ensure your clothes and belongings are clean and you have washed your vehicle at a wash-down facility to stop the spread of pests.

Check with the regional council and National Resource Management body for the location of a regional wash-down facility.



Backpackers, contractors and transport companies

Backpackers, workers, contractors and transport companies provide a valuable service to the Bundaberg fruit and vegetable industry. However, workers also need to be aware of potential biosecurity threats. Ensuring that clothes, shoes, equipment and vehicles are clean will reduce these risks.

Pets and fish tanks

Wash your pets before moving them between regions to stop the spread of pests on their coat. Take care when cleaning fish tanks, as any fish, turtles or exotic plants can easily establish if they reach local waterways.

Ballast water and bilge tanks

Water carried in the bilge as ballast on boats and yachts can transport marine pests and weeds. These can impact on production and the quality of the local water supply. Check the local requirements for emptying bilge water in regional waterways.

