



Biosecurity checklist

The following checklist can be used to identify the strengths and weaknesses of your farm biosecurity activities.

To ensure your farm has the best protection against the introduction and spread of new pests, use the following self-assessment questions to identify the strengths and weaknesses of your farm activities.

Date of biosecurity check: _____

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ASSESSMENT	ACTION REQUIRED
Farm Inputs		
Monitor all materials that enter the property as well as sources of water.		
Source sugarcane planting material and seeds for alternative crops from reputable suppliers.		
Abide by Queensland Sugar Cane Zone rules.		
Only plant sugarcane varieties recommended by SRA.		
Planting material checked and found to be free from pests.		
Approved seed or tissue culture plants purchased regularly (at least every 1 to 2 years).		
Productivity Service asked to inspect all seed sources.		
Use certified fertiliser.		
Plant cane only ratooned twice.		
Maintain a register of propagation material.		
People, Vehicles and Equipment		
Limit access to production areas.		
Put up biosecurity signs at entrances.		
Provide a designated parking area.		
Assess risks posed by visitors.		
Stick to paths and designated roadways.		
Clean muddy boots or replace with rubber boots.		
Ensure visitors' clothing, footwear and tools are free of soil or plant matter on entering or leaving the farm.		
Ensure anyone recently returned from overseas has clean footwear and clothes before entering the farm.		
Make hygiene supplies available where appropriate (e.g. hand washing facilities, hand sanitiser, gloves, disinfectant foot baths, overalls, equipment steriliser like Sterimax).		
Use boot covers and protective clothing in contaminated areas.		

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ASSESSMENT	ACTION REQUIRED
People, Vehicles and Equipment <i>continued</i>		
Train workers on biosecurity requirements.		
Take care on and after field days.		
Keep a record of visitors.		
Use dedicated farm vehicles where possible, or wash vehicles down.		
Inspect and maintain wash-down facility and surrounds on a quarterly basis.		
Ensure that machinery coming onto your property is clean.		
Make available steriliser and high pressure water and air to remove plant material and soil from equipment and machinery.		
Disinfect equipment including harvesters, can knives, can cutters planters and haul-out bins.		
Production Practices		
Monitor crops and fallow areas for pests, diseases and weeds.		
Conduct pest surveillance regularly and record results even when nothing is found.		
Learn about exotic pest threats and teach your staff and contractors.		
Report any unusual pests and diseases and make sure your staff know how to as well.		
Install fencing to keep out movements of people, vehicles and animals that can spread pests, diseases and weeds.		
Vaccinate all personnel against disease risks.		
Undertake training in use of agvet chemicals and always follow label instructions.		
Keep records of chemical treatments used.		
Report resistant varieties that become heavily infected.		
Follow the Smartcane BMP weed, pest and disease management module.		
Farm Outputs		
Maintain good farm hygiene.		
Consider post-harvest risks including during transport to mill.		
Contractors and visitors made aware if property has a declared or notifiable pest.		
Record where all outputs are sent to.		

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ASSESSMENT	ACTION REQUIRED
Feral Animals and Weeds		
Develop integrated wild and feral animal control program.		
Protect water sources.		
Dispose of any animal carcasses promptly.		
Control volunteer plants that can harbour pests and diseases.		
Manage weeds with a combination of practices.		
Inspect your property after landscaping, fires, floods and storms for new incursions.		
Train, Plan and Record		
Develop an on-farm biosecurity plan.		
Make biosecurity part of everyday practices.		
Share plan with staff and work through improvements.		
Train staff and visitors on biosecurity requirements.		
Use the Smartcane BMP app to keep records.		

