

ADAS' Biosecurity Policy for its Research Centres



The objective of this Policy is to ensure that standards of biosecurity on ADAS Research Centres are compliant with any Statutory Regulations during disease outbreaks and, at other times, are sufficient, within practicable constraints, to minimise the risk of diseases entering and leaving our Research Centres. The policy applies to our normal farming operations only and project-specific additional biosecurity measures are specified and implemented where we are doing research on certain diseases such as TB and BSE. The policy applies to all ADAS Research Centres. There are also ADAS Policy Statements and ADAS Codes of Practice for Farm Events or other On-farm Group Activities; Visits to Arable/Horticultural Premises; and Visits to Premises with Farmed Livestock, including Poultry which should be referred to appropriately. The Statutory Regulations that apply are:

Animal Health Act 1981 (as amended) or an Order made under that Act:

Section 16 of the Animal Health Act 2002, as regards foot-and-mouth disease:

The Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease (England and Wales) Order 2003, as regards avian influenza and Newcastle disease:

Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease (Biosecurity Guidance and Disease Control (Slaughter) Protocol) (England and Wales) Order 2003, as regards avian influenza and Newcastle disease:

The Plant Health (Great Britain) Order 1993 (as amended).

ADAS will comply fully with any restrictions and biosecurity procedures imposed by the Chief Veterinary Officer or Senior Plant Health and Seeds Inspector in the event of, respectively, an exotic notifiable animal disease outbreak or a plant pest and disease quarantine order.

Responsibilities:

The Managing Director is ultimately responsible for compliance with the relevant legal requirements but devolves duties to the appropriate Executive Director, other Senior Managers and to Site Managers for the implementation of site specific biosecurity procedures.

All staff and visitors have a responsibility to comply with local biosecurity procedures, and staff to report promptly to Management any circumstances detrimental to maintaining good standards of biosecurity (particularly during periods of disease outbreak).

Standards of Biosecurity:

ADAS Policy is to maintain, at all times, standards of biosecurity on its Research Centres appropriate to prevailing disease risk, thereby helping to keep our animals and crops healthy and free from disease and lessening the risk of spreading diseases to our neighbours and the countryside. It is accepted that disease risk is volatile and our Biosecurity Policy, and hence procedures, reflect this fact.

We aim, on each site, to have in place at any time biosecurity procedures appropriate to the prevailing disease risk and consistent with differing levels of risk:

- In the absence of exotic notifiable animal disease or plant pest and disease quarantine organisms
- During outbreaks of exotic notifiable animal disease or plant pest and disease quarantine organisms
- ADAS sites under specific disease restrictions

Biosecurity procedures are established specific to each site to take account of local circumstances, differing husbandry systems, physical constraints and prevalence of disease. Procedures cover:

- Entering and leaving sites in the absence of outbreaks of exotic notifiable animal disease or plant pest and disease quarantine organisms.
- Entering and leaving sites during outbreaks of exotic notifiable animal disease or plant pest and disease quarantine organisms.
- Entering and leaving sites under specific disease restrictions.

Adoption of Biosecurity Procedures:

Our biosecurity procedures apply equally to:

- ADAS staff and their families.
- Visitors.
- Contractors.
- Those providing support services such as veterinary surgeons, artificial inseminators, consultants, sales representatives.
- Government officials.
- Those who access agricultural land, whether for business or pleasure.

The ADAS Research Centres' Biosecurity Policy is reviewed at least biennially to ensure that it remains fully compliant with any changes to Statutory Guidance.



Ian Strudwick
Managing Director
RSK ADAS Limited

PS12: Edition 09
January 2018