

Biosecurity for Visits to Arable/Horticultural Premises



Introduction:

This policy document specifies biosecurity measures to be adopted by ADAS staff for visits to arable/horticultural premises defined as premises which:

- Have been free of domesticated animals susceptible to notifiable disease i.e. cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, camelids, farmed deer, poultry etc. for the previous four weeks.
- Do not have such animals kept as pets on premises.
- The parts of the premises to be visited have not been treated with manure or other products from susceptible animals during the previous 4 weeks.
- "Premises" are taken to mean areas within the curtilage of the business/unit.

ADAS Policy:

We aim to follow, in a practical manner, current guidance and/or best practice where it is published and widely available as relating to visits to arable/horticultural premises by ADAS staff. In specific disease situations, we will follow Defra or Plant Health and Seeds Inspectorate guidance or requirements.

Our aim is to take care not to add to the natural spread of plant pests and diseases, whether they are of quarantine status or not.

We believe that our visits are a low risk in terms of spread of disease, but as a minimum precaution, suitable footwear must be used which is cleaned before and after the visit and vehicles are to be kept visibly clean where possible. The detailed measures to be taken are produced in the associated Code of Practice published on the Intranet.

Health and Safety Implications:

1. Disinfectants must be stored, transported, handled, used and disposed of safely. Data sheets should be consulted for specific precautions to be taken; most are held on the websites of the manufacturers/suppliers for reference. It is advisable to use the on-unit facilities if they exist (depending on the type of visit (see above)).
2. The preferred disinfectant is ANTEC but there are many alternatives available. The lists are available on the Defra website www.defra.gov.uk (there are different lists for England, Scotland and Wales). Many disinfectants are corrosive in certain circumstances and the repeated/long term use on equipment can be detrimental.
3. Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be worn.
4. A valid CoSHH assessment will be required for the use of disinfectants.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "I. Strudwick", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ian Strudwick
Managing Director
RSK ADAS Limited

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