



KEEPING WORKERS SAFE THROUGH GOOD PLANNING

MINDSET

As restrictions ease across the country we need to remain vigilant in our actions related to keeping farm workers safe from COVID-19. What does this look like?

- Reinforce with teams why biosecurity is so important on an ongoing basis.
- Take a high bio-security approach to on farm work as well as when workers return home.
- Community spread is the main reason for the spread of the virus. “Be safe at home so we can be safe at work” is a really important message to emphasize.
- Put greater emphasis on hygiene and make it easy to achieve.
- Create Self audit tools around vigilance to help workers follow easy to understand protocols.
- Encourage use of the COVID 19 Alert App, or another contact tracing tool if the worst-case scenario arises.

PROTOCOLS

Protocols are standardized procedures that can be listed out to help people move through the areas of your operation and not forget things they do habitually or on a daily or hourly basis.

Depending on the nature of your operation, you may need to adapt these ideas to suit the flow or grouping of people.

Based on public health guidelines, create a manual COVID-19 symptom screening questionnaire that is posted on the first entry point into the building or property. For some it makes more sense to provide a pre-visit assessment tool and/or questionnaire before they begin to gather with other people on a crew, or enter a building. Cohorts creates bubbles of employees that group together to minimize potential spread both at work, and in housing situations. Analyze your work team requirements to cover off the workload required and keep people mixing as minimally as possibly.



Create a daily or shift based protocol covering all aspects of bio-security from day to day including surface cleaning, facilities, washrooms, surface areas, uniform cleaning, equipment. Ensure the guidelines and regulations related to the area in question are followed.

TOOLS

Its difficult to do a good job without the right tools at one's disposal. Having adequate supply and accessibility of the essential biosecurity items makes it easy for workers to do a great job keeping things sanitized and safe.

- Having the correct kind of soap, sanitizing, cleaning wipes, touch free cloth, mask, gloves, hair net, boot covers, related to the nature of work your company does is essential. With backlogs in orders, ensure you order an adequate supply and keep extra on hand.
- Any shared space needs to be sanitized often. Having separate washrooms for farm workers such as catching or vaccinating crews helps you cohort visiting farm workers away from others.
- Shower in and out facilities helps workers stay clean, bio-secure and safe from carrying disease with them on clothing etc.
- Consider things like plexiglass between workers think about building and how workers can be kept separate from each other as well as proper
- Examine where tools are shared. Does it make sense to limit tool sharing among workers?

SHARED SPACES

Wherever possible shared spaces should be limited. Lunch rooms should be adequately large that people can rest and eat 2-3 metres apart in a well-ventilated setting. Housing situations should be enhanced so temporary workers can be safely housed in the small group they work with. Overall keeping people from having to work in close proximity from others is the best approach to keeping workers safe from the spread of COVID-19.

The pandemic continues beyond the day we are all vaccinated. It is up to us to stop the spread by adjusting and evolving the way we do work.

Stay vigilant! Stay Safe!