

Setting up a Field Biosecurity Zone

Note: Safe handling of the disinfectant was covered during WHMIS training but here are a few key points to remember.

- Wear safety goggles and gloves when handling the concentrated disinfectant.
- Use the correct dilution of the disinfectant (60ml to 10 litres of water).
- Keep the MSDS in the field vehicle for reference.

Setting up a Field Biosecurity Zone:

1. Before leaving your home base, check your biosecurity kit to ensure it is fully stocked.
2. At the field, choose a location to set up that allows you to entry and exit your vehicle with the least contact with soil.
3. Setting up your clean zone:
 - 1) Place a plastic garbage bag to delineate a clean zone.
 - 2) Place the boot scrub bucket and sprayer contained the dilute disinfectant on the plastic at the field edge of your clean zone.
 - 3) Partially fill the bucket with water.
4. Change into the footwear you will be wearing in the field on or before the clean zone you have set up. You can wear your clean “street” footwear into the field but keep in mind they have to be cleaned and disinfected on exit. They may be difficult to clean and the process could damage them.
5. Remember once you step off the clean zone and enter agricultural land, your footwear must to be cleaned and disinfected before they cross back into the clean zone.
6. On preparing to exit the field;
 - 1) Remove as much soil as possible from your boots in the field in preparation for cleaning.
 - 2) Step out of your boots on the field side of the clean zone, leaving them in the field at the edge of the plastic. You can now put back on your “street” footwear.
 - 3) Scrub your boots in the bucket and use a screwdriver to remove soil stuck in the boot treads. When the boots are clean of soil, spray with diluted disinfectant.
 - 4) Do the steps above over the field side of the clean zone and not over the plastic while remaining on the plastic yourself.
7. Dump the dirty water in the bucket back into the field. Place any tools used in the bucket and spray the tools and the bucket, inside and out, with disinfectant.
8. Pack up the Biosecurity Kit.
9. The last step. Turn the plastic garbage bag inside out. Place any disposable items used in the field or as part of the cleanup inside the bag. Tie the bag to seal it. Dispose of as waste.
10. An option if you have to leave the field suddenly, is bag and seal your boots in a plastic garbage bag, and to take them with you. However, they still have to be cleaned and disinfected at some point, and how this will be done while maintaining biosecurity must be carefully considered.