

## 20 steps to tick off for better biosecurity management



### Be aware and plan

- 1 Make a management commitment to biosecurity best practice and build a workplace culture where this is instilled throughout the nursery and among its staff.
- 2 Create a biosecurity management plan listing hazards and risks in or to your nursery and measures to combat them.
- 3 Work with staff and display information on biosecurity awareness and protocols, what to look for and what to do if they find anything suspicious.

### Site management

- 4 Make visitors aware of biosecurity issues with gate and nursery signage and information, sign them in and know where they go on the nursery.
- 5 Limit access to production and growing areas to only staff, visitors and vehicles that need to be there.

### Nursery hygiene

- 6 Clean and sanitise all cutting tools at the start and end of the day, and in between crops and batches.
- 7 Clean and sanitise all propagation surfaces at the start and end of the day, and in between crops and batches.
- 8 Ensure staff regularly wash hands (at the start and end of the day, at breaks and in between crops and batches), maintain good hygiene practices, and make sure clothing and footwear is checked and cleaned on a regular basis.
- 9 Clean and sanitise production and growing areas between batches.
- 10 Keep media preparation areas, and all materials storage areas free of pests and water runoff.
- 11 Keep production areas, equipment, machinery and vehicles clean and free of plant and other organic debris.
- 12 Make sure production and growing areas, pathways and surrounding areas drain well and away from nursery stock and are clean and free of weeds.
- 13 Disinfest any recycled materials - soilless media, containers, water ... Dispose of plant and organic debris safely via bulk waste, composting or deep burial.

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### Inspect

- 14** Inspect all plants, plant materials and production inputs sourced offsite for pests before taking them into production and growing areas. Source only from trusted suppliers and maintain records of where things come from and inspection outcomes.
- 15** Maintain a register of mother stock plants and inspect these thoroughly before taking propagation material. Maintain records of locations and inspection outcomes.
- 16** Inspect plants, packaging and shipping containers for pests before dispatch. Keep plant transport clean, sweep and clean and sweep truck decks and dispose of plant and organic debris safely via bulk waste, composting or deep burial.

### Protect and Check

- 17** Crop protection - build a crop protection plan listing key pest threats, cultural and other management measures, monitoring plans and appropriate corrective action.
- 18** Crop monitoring - check nursery stock for pests and pathogens, keeping records of what you find, any diagnostic tests undertaken, and the treatments you apply.

### Track and Trace

- 19** Know where it's come from, where it is and where it went - Make sure you have records of where nursery inputs come from, how plant batches proceed through the nursery production process and who plants are shipped to.

### Don't stop now

- 20** Contiguously improve – work with your team, this list, the PPBS Core Standard and Hazard Management Checklist at least annually to review performance, plan and implement improvements. Review, plan do, and then review again!