



Gatton Campus Biosecurity Management Plan

1. Introduction

To function as an efficient and safe campus, biosecurity is a shared responsibility among staff, students, and visitors. Adverse biosecurity outcomes can take many forms, most of which are avoidable. For example, plant and animal diseases may enter if people have not cleaned their footwear. Novel weeds can be moved onto campus if field vehicles are inadequately cleaned. Movement of soil to and from campus can transfer pests and pathogens. This Biosecurity Management Plan provides information for staff, students and visitors on their biosecurity obligations.

This is a Biosecurity Management Plan in accordance with Section 94G (4) of the Queensland Biosecurity Regulation 2016. The purpose of the plan is to state measures to prevent, control or contain the spread of biosecurity matter into, at, or from the biosecurity management area (The University of Queensland Gatton campus; Registered Biosecurity Entity Ref# 101864).

UQ Gatton is a teaching and research campus that hosts staff and students from around the world. UQ staff and visiting researchers conduct plant, animal and environmental projects across a broad range of commodities, including livestock, grains and other crops. UQ Gatton is a complex enterprise containing multiple operational units (see map in Appendix 1 for details). Each of these units has a biosecurity plan and local procedures.

This Biosecurity Management Plan provides an overview of the major biosecurity risks the campus faces with general prevention and control principles that should be adopted, followed by the specific biosecurity plans of each operational unit. The plan also includes the training that is available to staff, students and visitors, and the procedures to follow when reporting biosecurity incidents and emergencies.

Please take a moment to watch this video from Biosecurity Queensland.

[General biosecurity obligation: What is it and how does it apply to you?](#)

Remember if you think that there is a Biosecurity Risk or would like to raise a biosecurity concern, please contact your supervisor, local WHSC, Gatton Campus Directors Office or Biosafety.

Information about official documents relating to biosecurity can be found in Appendix 2 of this Plan, including links to the Queensland Biosecurity Act 2014, the Queensland Biosecurity Regulation 2016, the General Biosecurity Obligation, Notifiable incidents, Notifiable pests and disease for animals and plants, Queensland Biosecurity Manual and Biosecurity Certificates, Prohibited and Restricted Matter in Queensland, and Biosecurity Acts and Regulations of the Federal government and other Australian states.



2. Major Biosecurity Risks

The introduction and movement within Gatton campus of new plant or animal disease agents, arthropods, weeds or pests may occur through the following:

- On people (shoes, clothing)
- On a passenger or commercial vehicle
- On farm machinery and equipment
- Plant materials (including seeds, cuttings, clones, transplants) brought onto campus for research or teaching purposes.
- Animals or animal materials brought onto campus for veterinary treatment, research or teaching purposes
- Organic waste (compost, biosolids, manures) or soil brought onto campus for research, teaching, or landscaping purposes.
- Natural environmental conditions – wind, rain, flood waters
- Vector agents (invertebrate and vertebrate)
- Unintentional/intentional release from labs, experiments, field trials

3. General Prevention & control principles

The risk of entry of disease agents, weeds or pests can be reduced through the implementation of basic biosecurity controls.

- (i) Clean clothing and footwear
 - Before entering UQ fields or animal facilities, ensure shoes and clothes are clean, with no soil or plant material attached
- (ii) Farming equipment and vehicles
 - Vehicles should stay on marked roads and pathways where possible.
 - Keep the interior and exterior of vehicles clean, and free of contaminants such as dirt, mud, or plant material.
- (iii) Farming practices
 - Use animal feed, soil or organic materials from reliable and traceable sources
 - Report suspicious plants, pests, or diseases of plants or animals to the Office of the Director, Gatton Campus and log a biosecurity event on UQSafe (Bio Risk).
 - Quarantine animals (cattle, horses, sheep, goats, donkeys) in designated yards upon arrival (as per local unit procedures) for 7 days.
- (iv) Waste management
 - Waste from research, teaching and farming activities must be disposed of appropriately (via clinical waste, autoclave, deep burying, cultivation, solarization, crop destruction), relative to the biosecurity risk.



- (v) Pest management
 - Monitor and manage pests including rodents, rabbits, wild dogs, foxes, birds and wildlife populations.
 - Overall pest control management on campus is conducted by the UQ Properties and Facilities Division.
- (vi) International visitors
 - Staff, students and visitors who enter Australia from other countries and intend to visit UQ Gatton and/or a UQ Gatton livestock facility (for any purpose) must not have any direct contact (patting, feeding, husbandry, research) with livestock for 7 days following their arrival into the country.
 - Requests for an exemption or reduction in duration of quarantine period should be made to the Chair of the Gatton Campus Biosecurity Advisory Committee, via the Office of the Director, Gatton Campus.

4. Biosecurity Plans – individual units on the Gatton Campus may have a site-specific biosecurity plan. These can be accessed via the relevant units; email contact details are listed:

- a. Dairy: gatton.dairyunit@uq.edu.au
- b. Beef cattle: grazingunit@uq.edu.au
- c. Equine Gatton: equineunit@uq.edu.au
- d. Small Ruminants: grazingunit@uq.edu.au
- e. Crop Field Research Unit: cropunit@uq.edu.au
- f. Poultry Unit: qaafi@uq.edu.au
- g. Plant Growth (Nurseries/glasshouses): plantgrowth@uq.edu.au
- h. Queensland Animal Science Precinct: gasp@uq.edu.au
- i. Veterinary Clinic/Facilities: vetenquiries@uq.edu.au
- j. Native Wildlife Facility: agriculture@enquire.uq.edu.au

5. Procedures for introduction of animals or plants to campus

Local Standard Operating Procedures (LSOP) apply to the introduction of animals or plant material onto the Gatton campus.

- [LSOP Transport of Animals](#)
- [Introduction of Pigs onto the Campus](#)
- [LSOP Plant Biosecurity – Crop & Field Research Unit](#)

Biological materials introduced from overseas are required to follow the '[UQ Working with biosecurity Goods procedure](#).'



6. Training in Biosecurity and communication to staff/students/visitors

- a. UQ Training
 - i. Site inductions and biosecurity procedures.
 - ii. Campus Connector, Campus email communication
- b. External Biosecurity Training
 - i. Plant Health Australia
 - ii. [Fire ant training](#)
 - iii. [National Biosecurity Hub](#)

7. Reporting Biosecurity incidents and emergencies

- a. [Current Gatton Reporting Flowchart](#)
- b. UQ Safe BioRisk Reports

8. Appendix

Appendix 1: [Map of Campus](#) including [Darbalara Farm](#) - Includes areas covered in the biosecurity management plan.

Appendix 2: [Biosecurity at UQ Gatton](#)

Appendix 3: UQ Gatton Campus Biosecurity Decision tree