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Biosecurity Protocol for Survey Activities

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1.0 Why Biosecurity is Important

Biosecurity refers to the practical measures taken to prevent and limit the spread of infectious diseases between farms, animals, and locations.

In the context of survey work:

- Infectious diseases are not always visible in animals or environments.
- Surveyors, equipment, and vehicles may unintentionally transfer disease.
- Inadequate biosecurity can have serious consequences for animal health, farm businesses, and the wider agricultural industry.

Biosecurity must therefore:

- Be risk-based and site-specific to reduce the risk of transmission.
- Reflect landowner/occupier considerations, where provided, unless proceeding via statutory access and prior engagement was unsuccessful. Please see prior notification requirements within the Green Gen Cymru Survey Access Protocol.
- Be applied at all times, even in the absence of visible soil or organic matter

2.0 How Disease Spreads (Key Transmission Pathways)

Understanding how diseases spread informs the control measures required.

Transmission Pathway	Example	Control Measures
Direct contact	Contact with livestock or clothing with viable pathogen presence	Clean clothing (no visible soil or organic matter), disinfected footwear, vehicle hygiene
Contaminated surfaces / equipment	Survey tools, boots, machinery	Clean and disinfect between sites and within sites
Contamination of water or feed	Contact with troughs, silage, feed areas	Avoid high-risk livestock areas

Example of notifiable and endemic livestock diseases in the UK include, but not limited to:

- Bovine TB
- Avian Influenza
- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Bluetongue
- Swine Fever
- Sheep Scab

3.0 Requirements for Suppliers (Surveyors & Contractors)

3.1 Pre-Visit Requirements (Planning & Due Diligence)

All suppliers must undertake case-by-case risk assessment before attending site.
Within the risk assessment, please identify:

- Livestock type (if known)
- Regional and on-farm disease status
- Type of survey activity
- Location of survey (fields vs high-risk areas like sheds)

You must take the following actions:

- Engage with landowners/occupiers, where possible. Please refer to Green Gen Cymru Survey Access Protocol for more details on prior engagement.
- Confirm:
  - TB status (check ibTB mapping)
  - Any farm-specific biosecurity rules
  - Farm assurance scheme requirements (if known)
  - Biosecurity zones, disinfection points, or restrictions (if possible)
- Plan routes to avoid high-risk areas
- Agree parking locations (preferably outside farm boundaries)
- Use designated entrances

3.2 Mandatory Equipment (All Visits)

All personnel must carry:

- Clean, weather-appropriate clothing
- Non-permeable footwear)
- Waterproof trousers or disposable coveralls
- Disinfectant and spray bottle (correct dilution) **
- Disinfectant wipes (for sensitive equipment)
- Hand brush (for removing debris)
- COSHH sheets for all substances

**Ensure to carry sufficient volume of pre-diluted disinfectant for the day of surveys or carry concentrated disinfectant, water and a measuring jug,

4.0 On-site Biosecurity Requirements

4.1 Clothing, Equipment & Vehicles

Requirements (Actions):

- Wear clean clothing and free from debris
- Use disinfected, non-permeable footwear
- Clean and disinfect all tools:
  - Between sites
  - Between areas on the same site (if required)
- Ensure vehicles:
  - Have disinfected tyres before and after visits
  - Are parked away from livestock areas unless agreed with the landowner / occupier

4.2 Disinfection Procedures

Identification (What to consider):

- Farm disease status (e.g. TB restrictions identified either via landowner communications or ibTB mapping)
- Species-specific requirements
- Landowner requests
- If livestock are in the field where the survey is to be conducted

Actions:

- Use DEFRA-approved disinfectants
- Apply correct dilution:

Disinfectant	General Use	TB Orders
FAM 30	49	14
Virkon LSP	30	10
Agrichlor	317* (Swine Vesicular Disease rate)	12*
* = Number of millilitres of water to one gram disinfectant All other approval rates are displayed as a number of millilitres of water to be added to one part disinfectant, where one part disinfectant = 1 millilitre		

- Remove visible organic matter before disinfecting
- Apply disinfectant and allow correct contact time (in line with user instructions)
- Use PPE when handling chemicals
- Dispose of disinfectant safely (not into drains)
- Refer to Defra-approved disinfectants | Disinfectants approved for statutory notifiable animal disease control in GB to stay up to date with changes in approved disinfectants
- If livestock are in the same field where the survey is being conducted, wear disposable coveralls or waterproof trousers

Important:
Where TB risk is known or unclear use higher TB dilution rates

4.3 During Surveys

Identification (Risks to look for):

- Sick or dead animals
- High-risk areas (e.g. sheds, handling systems)
- Biosecurity signage or instructions
- Livestock activity (e.g. lambing, milking, TB testing)

Actions:

- Follow all farm rules and signage

- Stick to paths where possible. Deviation from paths should be limited to where survey scope requires.
- Maintain distance from livestock and avoid direct contact wherever possible. If direct contact does occur, either disinfect waterproof trousers or dispose of the coveralls before leaving the site and between different areas (if required). If contact with livestock occurs above the waist, any affected clothing should be removed between visits and must not be worn again until it has been properly cleaned.
- Avoid:
    - Animal housing (unless justified for the purposes of the survey and notified to landowner / occupier))
    - Feed stores and slurry areas
    - Diseased livestock areas
- Do not eat or drink near livestock

If an issue is identified:

- Stop work immediately
- Report concerns to landowner/occupier and project team
- Disinfect and leave site

4.4 Post-Visit Actions

Before leaving site:

- Disinfect:
    - Footwear
    - Equipment
    - Vehicle tyres
    - Waterproof trousers or remove coveralls / clothing (if direct contact with livestock has occurred)
- Record:
    - Areas visited
    - Any risks or incidents
- Report:
    - Biosecurity concerns
    - Animal health observations

5.0 Compliance & Reporting

- All suppliers must follow this protocol at all times
- Training and spot checks will be carried out
- Concerns should be reported to: **complaints@greengencymru.com**

Include:

- Property details
- Description of concern
- Observed non-compliance