



### A Simple Biosecurity Kit

Biosecurity needn't be expensive, for around \$200 you can set up to protect your orchard or your customers if your role involves orchard visits.

The disinfection mat in a box is a 30mm foam core mat in encased in a sturdy polyethylene box with a lid and strap to secure.

The mat can be pre-filled with disinfectant/sanitiser solution, but will not spill when travelling, as the foam takes up all the liquid.

The mat is available from rural suppliers for around \$120

The rest of the kit can be sourced from your rural supplier or hardware store for around \$80 and consists of;

- Trigger squeeze bottle for sterilizing equipment (if required)
- Measuring jug
- Water container
- Eye and hand protection for decanting chemicals
- Hand sanitiser
- Anti-bacterial wipes
- Brush to remove dirt from footwear or tools
- Kitty litter for spill clean up
- Chlorine test strips appropriate for the product being used
- Optional large plastic tub to store all of the above and make easier to transport

Quaternary Ammonium disinfectant/sanitiser are recommended, they contain either Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Chloride (DDAC) or Benzalkonium Chloride as the active ingredient.

The disinfection mat should be filled with quaternary ammonium diluted to the recommended rate. **Use only registered products and follow the label recommendations.**

Soil and organic matter will decrease the activity of the sanitiser. Brush soil from footwear before entering the footbath, test the solution regularly and maintain the recommended chlorine concentration.

The same quaternary ammonium solution can also be used to sterilize tools and equipment, clean thoroughly, rinse, then sterilize using the squirt bottle. For vehicles and larger equipment, a hand pressure sprayer can be used.

Do not use quaternary ammonium solution on personal items that come in contact with skin such as inside boots or gloves.

Use hand sanitizers or anti-bacterial wipes on exposed skin, anti-bacterial wipes can be used on equipment such as cameras and mobile phones.

Methylated spirits can also be used in the trigger squeeze bottle to sterilize tools used but is highly inflammable so presents a greater risk when travelling.

Water and an absorbent such as kitty litter should be on hand in case of spills or skin contact.

**Read the product label before using and follow all handling and storage requirements**, use gloves and eye protection when decanting.

Information from Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries on the use of disinfectants containing Quaternary Ammonium and other products can be found at

<https://publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/panama-disease-tropical-race-4-research-and-development/resource/c46e7287-9aa7-4a33-afdc-2254c8d8a442>

For further information contact Jeff Milne [biosecurity@citrusaustralia.com.au](mailto:biosecurity@citrusaustralia.com.au) 0427 352 742