

# Risk Assessment & Infection Prevention and Control Protocol (COVID-19)

<b>Company:</b>	<b>Prepared by:</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>HAZARD: <u>COVID-19 Exposure</u></b>
<b>Type of farm/ agricultural operation:</b> Vegetable Farm	

**Instructions to complete:**

- **Task & Location:** Identify tasks being performed in which COVID-19 may present itself as a hazard to your workers (e.g. transporting workers, planting, packing line etc.). Document where each task is performed.
- **Exposure source:** Determine who or what may be a potential source of COVID-19 (e.g. other workers, common use tools etc.)
- **Persons at risk:** Determine who is at risk of COVID-19 exposure
- **Level of risk:** Determine what level of risk will be present for your workers for each task – High / Medium / Low
- **Infection Prevention and Control Protocol:** Identify what procedures you have implemented to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 exposure for each Task & Location identified. (e.g. limit number of workers in vehicle, install barriers between workers on packing line, stagger break times, increased cleaning frequency etc.) The procedures / protocols must be specific to your farm and the hazards you identify.

**\*Employers may add or adjust rows to meet the needs of your farm. All columns must be complete.**

TASK & LOCATION	EXPOSURE SOURCE	PERSONS AT RISK	LEVEL OF RISK	INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROTOCOL
<b>Hand Planting</b>	Workers, wash station, portable washroom	Workers	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical distancing of at least 2 meters (m) should be maintained at all times</li> <li>• Employees will be assigned to individual areas of the field that provides 2 meters of separation from other individuals.</li> <li>• In situations where employees are required to work together in close proximity to complete tasks, the employer will designate employees to small working groups of no more than 5 workers</li> <li>• No tools are required, therefore, there will be no issue of cleaning tools or sharing tools</li> <li>• Hands should be washed thoroughly before and after breaks, lunch, using the washroom and at the end of shift prior to entering a company vehicle and again when the worker arrives back at their housing complex.</li> <li>• Field wash stations and portable toilets will be sanitized periodically throughout the day</li> </ul>

<b>Automated Planting</b>	Workers	Workers	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hands should be washed thoroughly before and after breaks, lunch, using the washroom and at the end of shift prior to entering a company vehicle and again when the worker arrives back at their housing complex.</li> <li>• Physical distancing of at least 2 meters (m) should be maintained at all times</li> <li>• In situations where employees are required to work together in close proximity to complete tasks, the employer will designate employees to small working groups of no more than 5 workers</li> <li>• Where possible, each employee will be supplied with their own tools to be used throughout the duration of their employment</li> <li>• Where it is not possible to provide personal tools, the shared tools and equipment will be wiped down and cleaned with a disinfecting agent such as disposable wipes or a diluted bleach solution between uses by different employees. Rubber gloves will be worn while handling bleach solutions and the area will be well ventilated.</li> <li>• Hands should be washed thoroughly before and after using mobile equipment and common surfaces should be wiped down before and at the end of each trip.</li> <li>• If permissible, assign mobile equipment to operators to decrease the number of workers using a single piece of mobile equipment</li> </ul>
<b>Operating mobile equipment</b>	Workers, service technicians, interior mobile equipment	Workers, service technicians	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hands should be washed thoroughly before and after using mobile equipment and common surfaces should be wiped down before and at the end of each trip.</li> <li>• If permissible, assign mobile equipment to operators to decrease the number of workers using a single piece of mobile equipment</li> <li>• If mobile equipment needs to be serviced, ensure the interior high touch surfaces have been wiped down prior to service technician arriving. Prior to technician arriving, review health questionnaire with service provider, review health questionnaire again with the technician when they arrive on site. Observe for any Covid-19 symptoms. When technician is complete, wipe down all high touch areas and additionally any areas where work was completed.</li> </ul>

<b>Worker Housing</b>	Workers, communal space high touch areas (e.g. kitchen, bathroom, living room)	Workers	<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical distancing of at least 2 meters (m) should be maintained at all times</li> <li>• Stagger mealtimes, open additional dining areas, and cancel group activities.</li> <li>• Reduce in-person meetings and other gatherings and hold site meetings in open spaces or outside.</li> <li>• Keep beds at least 2m apart and head-to-toe. Use temporary barriers between beds, such as curtains, to prevent droplet spread while sleeping.</li> <li>• Any employees that are ill or require isolation must be immediately moved into separate facilities, otherwise all employees in the residence would have to be placed in isolation.</li> <li>• Employees will each have their own set of eating utensils (cup, plate, bowl, fork and knife). labelled for their own use and not to be shared between workers.</li> <li>• Employees may be designated to small living groups of 5 or less, that may share accommodations and facilities through the duration of their employment. Essentially simulating a small household environment. These living groups can be carried through to form small work task groups.</li> <li>• Employees are required to disinfect shared areas (kitchen &amp; bathroom counters, handles and control switches) after each use.</li> <li>• Cleaning products will be readily available, monitored daily and restocked daily as required.</li> <li>• High touch surfaces such as counters, handles, control switches will be cleaned a minimum of twice per day with regular household cleaning products, disposable wipes or a diluted bleach solution. Follow the directions on the product label.</li> <li>• Employees must complete the self assessment tool <a href="https://bc.thrive.health/">https://bc.thrive.health/</a> at the start and end of each shift.</li> <li>• Employees will be made aware of how to seek help and steps to take in the event that they are ill or unwell so as to support report of symptoms and timely access to any required assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Recommendations:</b> Develop work pods of 5 persons or less, do not cross over the unit personnel keep them as a family unit. Keep the same people working in the same groups, consider skill sets when first creating the pods. Instruct all workers to follow all provincial guidelines when away from the workplace to minimize risk at the workplace.</p> <p><a href="https://agsafebc.ca/tools/emergency-planning-resources/covid-19-resources/">https://agsafebc.ca/tools/emergency-planning-resources/covid-19-resources/</a>  <a href="https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/covid-19-industry-information/agriculture">https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/covid-19-industry-information/agriculture</a></p>				
<p><b>NOTES:</b> Employees must complete the self-assessment tool <a href="https://bc.thrive.health/">https://bc.thrive.health/</a> at the start and end of each shift, prior to entering a vehicle. Employees who upon completion of the self-assessment tool determine they may have signs or symptoms of COVID-19 will refrain from entering any vehicle and immediately report to the employer, while ensuring physical distancing of 2m (e.g., reporting by phone).</p>				
<p><b>Other Notes:</b> If additional information is required <a href="https://agsafebc.ca">agsafebc.ca</a> web site has all pertinent material and documents. For additional help or information contact your AgSafe consultant or advisor. Obtain and post suitable and appropriate signage to remind workers of ongoing reality of the virus and your workplace directives related to protecting all workers and family members.</p>				

**Disclaimer:** This resource is intended for guidance and employers are advised to customize this document or design their own to meet their business needs and legal obligations. Once customized from its original content this disclaimer may be removed to function as part of your Safety Program. This resource does not relieve persons using it from their responsibilities under applicable legislation. If you need assistance contact us at [www.AgSafeBC.ca](http://www.AgSafeBC.ca)