

Brief ToBRFV hygiene protocol

VISITORS

November 2019

Tomato brown rugose fruit virus (ToBRFV) is a mechanically transmissible virus that is spread readily via greenhouse operations, plant sap and human contact. Like other plant viruses, this virus poses no threat to public health.



Familiarise yourself with the relevant hygiene measures and different symptoms of diseases affecting tomato plants. See the fact sheet for more information about ToBRFV.



Plan your visit to a tomato farm or site carefully. Do not visit more than one tomato farm or site in any one day.



Do not bring plant material or fruit onto the farm, including tomatoes from elsewhere in a packed lunch.



Follow the farm's washing and disinfection protocol. Wash your hands thoroughly before and after visiting the site and spend plenty of time on the disinfection mat (simply walking over it is not enough).



Visit the greenhouse only if absolutely necessary.



Wear clean clothes when visiting the greenhouse. Put on new disposable overalls, gloves and overboots and wear a hairnet.



Follow the hygiene rules precisely; make sure everything you take into the greenhouse is disinfected.



No jewellery or watches may be worn in the greenhouse. Glasses should be cleaned with a disinfectant wipe before you enter the greenhouse.



Only use disposable paper tissues and dispose of them immediately after use. Do not put tissues in your pocket.



Do not take a mobile phone, laptop or pen and paper with you into the greenhouse.



Only visit one section of the greenhouse at a time and never cross over from one section to another. Repeat the protocol when leaving and re-entering the greenhouse, for example after visiting the canteen.



If you do not need to go into the rows, stay on the main path.



Do not touch the crop.



If you notice anything unusual about a plant, report it to the farm immediately.



Do not remove plant material from the greenhouse.



When taking samples, make sure all sampled material is double-packed. Disinfect the outside of the packaging after leaving the greenhouse.



After leaving the greenhouse, remove the gloves starting from the wrist so that they are turned inside out.



After leaving the greenhouse, place the overalls, gloves, overboots and hairnet into a bag and seal it. Dispose of the bag in the bin provided. Wash your hands again, disinfect your shoes and do not touch anything else while on the farm premises.