

Brief ToBRFV hygiene protocol

STAFF

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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.



Do not visit any other tomato farms or sites on days when you are at your employer's farm or site.



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).



Wear new or clean clothes (including workwear) to work every day and follow the farm's clothing instructions. In the event of an infection, extra rules may apply.



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. If you need to take a phone with you into the greenhouse, make sure it is in a sealed and disinfected plastic cover.



Only work in one greenhouse section on any one day. If you do need to cross over into another section, repeat the procedure that applies when entering the greenhouse. The same applies when leaving and re-entering the greenhouse, for example after visiting the canteen.



Use new gloves and 'new' disinfected tools for each row.



Inspect the plants regularly, and if you notice anything unusual about a plant, report it 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.



Also follow the company's instructions on the wearing of workwear when leaving the greenhouse. Wash your hands and disinfect your shoes.