

Purpose

It is important that biosecurity incidents are reported and responded to as soon as practicable.

This ensures that any biosecurity risk associated with the incident can be managed to an acceptable level and to limit the risk associated with any pest or disease entering, establishing or spreading into Australian territory.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* requires persons in charge of goods that are subject to biosecurity control to notify the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources of reportable biosecurity incidents.

The NTA Biosecurity Induction has been produced to provide biosecurity awareness and information on our responsibilities and it is a mandatory requirement for all people, including third party contractors, working at Darwin International Airport to complete the Biosecurity Awareness Induction.

Biosecurity Incidents

Biosecurity incident is an event which increases the likelihood of biosecurity risks being realised and can include:

- Events relating to goods that are prohibited goods, conditionally non-prohibited goods or suspended goods (refer to Reportable Biosecurity Incident Procedure for full description).
- Events relating to conditionally non-prohibited goods
- Events relating to goods generally - includes insect or pest infestation.
Refer to Reportable Biosecurity Incident Procedure for full description of incidents related to prohibited and non-prohibited goods - Attachment 1 – Reportable Biosecurity Incident form (Section F).
- Human biosecurity incident – such as threat of pandemic influenza – this event and response is covered under the Aerodrome Emergency Plan.
- Waste Spillage.

This procedure primarily deals with the response to a level one incident, that is, a low-level biosecurity incident, being managed by local resources with little or no external support, such incidents could relate to:

1- Goods – Containment of risk of insect or pest infestation

2- Waste Spillage – Containment, clean-up and disposal of bio waste material

3- Other Biosecurity related could include:

- **Pooling water**
- **General insect infestation e.g. ants, mosquitos, bees**

A level two or level three response would generally involve a response on a larger scale and could include activation of the Aerodrome Emergency Plan for controlling and coordinating the response.

Biosecurity Incident Response

1-Goods – Insect or Pest Infestation

Pests and diseases can arrive in Australia unintentionally by 'hitching' a ride in an aircraft hold or on cargo. Common pests, can include ants, lizards, snakes, toads, snails, birds (e.g. Eurasian Sparrow) and even feral animals.

International aircraft are disinfected to help protect Australia (and New Zealand) from potential disease vectors and harmful pests. It is the Airline operator's responsibility to have disinsection procedures in place.



All aircraft, except those that are residually treated, are required to have their holds disinfected prior to departure at the last overseas port before entering Australia.

Any aircraft that has not been disinfected in accordance with the above requirement, must be disinfected on its arrival and this will incur a fee charged to the airline operator.



Snakes have been found in air cargo cans and holds



Black spined toads have been found hiding in shoes in passenger baggage



Geckos are regular travellers in aircraft and cargo from Asia



Spiders and their eggs have been found under air cargo cans



Birds' nests have been found in aircraft wheel cavities and holds

In the event that there is suspected insect or pest infestation; it is essential that steps are taken to contain the risk and the following table lists some of the steps that you might be required to take in the event that you are required to respond and report a potential insect or pest infestation.

Incident Type	Procedure	Reporting Incident – Initial	Reportable Biosecurity Incident Procedure
Animal detection in cargo hold	Actions could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Closing aircraft hold doors or create a barrier ▪ Use tarpaulin (or similar) to cover the area or restrict animal movements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immediate report to DAWR Airport Duty Officer – T: 8998 4980 24/7 ▪ Report to DIA ADM – M: 0401 005 977 	Complete and Submit Reportable Biosecurity Incident if applicable Refer Attachment 1 and Reportable Biosecurity Incident Procedure
Insects or pests detected in aircraft hold	Actions could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Closing aircraft hold doors or create a barrier ▪ Use permethrin based ‘knockdown’ spray * on insects such as mosquitoes – do not use on wasps, bees or ants. ▪ For a significant infestation where the use of a ‘knockdown’ spray is ineffective external contractor may be required to respond (see Attachment 2 – Contacts List. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immediate report to DAWR Airport Duty Officer – T: 8998 4980 - 24/7 ▪ Report to DIA ADM – M: 0401 005 977 	Complete and Submit Reportable Biosecurity Incident if applicable Refer Attachment 1 and Reportable Biosecurity Incident Procedure NT Parks and Wildlife may also require notification with the presence of feral animals or birds (e.g. recent observation of Eurasian Sparrow).

* A supply of permethrin based knockdown spray is kept in the Biosecurity Waste Spill Kit bins located under the stairwell adjacent Baggage Carousel # 4 or can be obtained by contacting the DIA ADM.

All unexpected pests, seeds, residue or suspected contamination are required to be reported immediately to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR).

Instructions of DAWR Duty Officer must be followed at all times.

2-Waste Spillage


Procedures are in place for initial response and clean-up in the event of a biosecurity related spill on the airport. In our airport environment, spills will most likely be the result of an inadvertent aircraft toilet waste spill or potentially spillage of other bio waste product or goods that are subject biosecurity control.

Dedicated **Biosecurity Waste Spill Clean-up Kit** (purple/green lid) and **Biosecurity Waste Disposal Kit** (green/purple lid) are provided to respond to a biosecurity spill and a bin to dispose of biosecurity waste – bins are located adjacent Baggage Carousel # 4.



- * Note the bins are only to be used in the event of a biosecurity waste spill, airlines and ground handlers are required to have procedures in place for the management of waste goods subject to biosecurity control from international aircraft arriving at Darwin International Airport.

The following procedures are required to be initiated in the event of a biosecurity waste spillage on the RPT Apron:

	Action	Response
1	In the event of a spill on the RPT Apron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect Biosecurity Waste Spill Clean-up Kit and Disposal bins. Clean-up bin contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absorbent material - 'Floor Sweep' - Disinfectant - PPE – Gloves and Face Shield - Plastic Bags
2	Stop and contain the spill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover the spill area with 'Floor Sweep' – do not use pads
3	Report spill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to DIA AOO 'Safety One' – M: 0402 088 145 Report to DAWR Airport Duty Officer – T: 8998 4980 - 24/7
4	Spill Trailer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DIA Airside Operations Officer (Safety One) to collect and position Spill Trailer at spill site – contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brooms - Shovels - Buckets - Additional Floor Sweep, and is - Fitted with water tank.
5	Control access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep non-essential people clear of the area.
6	Clean-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spray spill area with mix of water and department approved disinfectant (in Spill Kit). Mix / sweep the waste and Floor Sweep together. Line bucket with plastic bag. Using shovels pick up spill product and place in bucket. Seal bag, double bag and place in Waste Bin.

7	Treat Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Add additional treatment with water and department approved disinfectant. ▪ Repeat use of Floor Sweep and removal if required.
8	Hose down spill area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If satisfied that the waste has all been removed and following applying the disinfectant, using Spill Trailer hose down and scrub the impacted area.
9	Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure all bags and gloves used during the clean-up are disposed of in the Waste Disposal Bin. ▪ Shovels and brooms cleaned. ▪ Arrange for removal of contaminated waste material.
10	Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Record and report all spill details to DIA Airside Operations Manager and DAWR, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date/Time - Location - Asset - Type of Spill - Quantity of Spill - Cause of Spill e.g. equipment failure / operator error - Clean-up response details.

- * PPE must be worn when responding to a waste spill.
- * Wash hands thoroughly immediately after clean-up, using disinfectant hand wash.

3-Other Types of Biosecurity Incidents

- **General Insect Infestation**

There are regular surveillance activities carried out in around areas of the airport that have a greater for biosecurity incidents, such as, baggage container storage areas and baggage carousels for 'hitchhiker' pests e.g. mosquitos, ants or bees – if unusual insect activity is observed DIA Airside Operations and/or Environment Manager should be contacted to arrange for an inspection by DAWR and/or Department of Health.

- **Pooling Water**

Some areas in and around the airport are potential sites for pooling water that could attract mosquitoes and other wildlife. If pooling water is observed, DIA Operations and/or Environment Manager should be contacted to arrange for inspection and remediation of the site if required.

Attachment 1 – Reportable Biosecurity Incident report form



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources

AG12/2016
MAY 2016

Reportable Biosecurity Incident

Biosecurity Act 2015

Reportable Biosecurity Incident to be completed by the person in charge of goods, or the person in charge of an aircraft or vessel carrying goods, subject to biosecurity control or an exposed goods order. When you become aware of a reportable biosecurity incident in relation to the goods. This report is submitted in accordance with reporting requirements under the Biosecurity Act 2015.

Section A: Name and contact details of person making report

person in charge of the goods person in charge of an aircraft or vessel that was or is carrying the goods

Given name Family name

Work phone (include area code) Mobile phone

Email

Address

Suburb/town/city State/territory Postcode

Section B: Goods details

Description of goods	AIMS/permit number/other
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Section C: Location of incident

Address

Suburb/town/city State/territory Postcode

Specific location

Have the goods been moved since the incident?

No

Yes

Current location of goods address

Suburb/town/city State/territory Postcode

Specific location

Section D: Details of incident

Description of incident

Steps taken to manage incident

When did you become aware of the incident?

Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Time (hh:mm)

If you were unable to report the incident immediately, please explain why

Section E: Details of person/s who may have information about the incident

Person 1

Given name

Family name

Work phone (include area code)

Mobile phone

Email

Address

Suburb/town/city

State/territory

Postcode

Person 2

Given name

Family name

Work phone (include area code)

Mobile phone

Email

Address

Suburb/town/city

State/territory

Postcode

Section F: Events that are Reportable Biosecurity Incidents

(tick the event relevant to this incident)

Events relating to goods that are prohibited goods, conditionally non-prohibited goods or suspended goods	
<input type="checkbox"/>	the goods are in a container, a conveyance or other premises and are not as described on a manifest or an import permit relating to the goods
<input type="checkbox"/>	the goods are in a container, a conveyance or other premises that is damaged and the goods are no longer secure
<input type="checkbox"/>	the goods have been lost or stolen
<input type="checkbox"/>	the goods have been destroyed in circumstances other than in compliance with a direction given by a biosecurity officer
Events relating to conditionally non-prohibited goods	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A change to the intended use of relevant goods that are conditionally non-prohibited goods is a reportable biosecurity incident in relation to the goods
Events relating to goods generally	
<input type="checkbox"/>	the goods or any container holding the goods, or the conveyance or other premises in which the goods are being held, have been, or are likely to have been, exposed to contamination, infestation or infection from prohibited goods, conditionally non-prohibited goods or suspended goods
<input type="checkbox"/>	the goods are infested with a live pest (for example, an insect, invertebrate or other animal)
<input type="checkbox"/>	biosecurity measures that have been required to be taken in relation to the goods under Chapter 3 of the Act have not been taken (including because it was not possible for the biosecurity measures to be taken in relation to the goods)

Failure to report a reportable biosecurity incident as soon as practicable after becoming aware of it in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* is an offence and may make you liable to a civil penalty under section 155 or 156.

Giving false or misleading information is an offence, and may make you liable to a civil penalty.

Section G: Privacy notice

'Personal information' means any information or opinion about an identified, or reasonably identifiable, individual.

The collection of personal information by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in relation to this document is authorised under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. If you do not provide the relevant personal information requested in this document, the department will be unable to complete a full biosecurity risk assessment and/or contact you if future biosecurity risks emerge. Personal information may be disclosed to other Australian agencies, including the Australian Border Force, Department of Immigration and Border Protection and persons or organisations where necessary for these purposes, provided the disclosure is consistent with relevant laws, in particular the *Privacy Act 1988*. Your personal information will be used and stored in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles.

See the department's [Privacy Policy](#) to learn more about accessing or correcting personal information or making a complaint. Alternatively, telephone the department on +61 2 6272 3933.

Return completed form to:
seesecurereport@agriculture.gov.au
Phone: 1800 798 636

Office use only

Notification received

Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Time (hh:mm)

Received by

Reportable Biosecurity Incident

3 of 3

Attachment 2 – Contacts List

Company	Position	Name	Contact Number	Email
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)	Darwin Airport Duty Officer	Various	8998 4980 24/7	Nt.controller@agriculture.gov.au
	National	Various	1800 798 636	
	Assistant Director (NT)	Frances Taylor	9334 1626	Frances.taylor@agriculture.gov.au
	NBS Coordinator	Craig Smith	0475 811 161	Craig.smith@agriculture.gov.au
Darwin International Airport	Airport Operations Officer	Safety One – Various	0402 088 145	Diaoperationsofficers@ntairports.com.au
	Airport Duty Manager	Various	401 005 977	diaadms@ntairports.com.au
	Airside Operations Manager	Mike Clancy	0423 797 355	Mike.clancy@ntairports.com.au
	Environment Manager	Nick Fewster	0402 389 998	Nick.fewster@ntairports.com.au
	WHS Advisor	Steve Caldwell	0402 782 375	Steve.caldwell@ntairports.com.au
Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT	Wildlife Ranger	Ray Chatto	0401 115 702	Ray.chatto@nt.gov.au
Rentokil Initial Pty Ltd	Customer Contact	Various	1300 307 576	