

## LEPTOSPIROSIS CONTROL CHECKLIST FOR BANANA FARMS

Hazardous Activities	People at Risk	Control Measures
<b>Working with bare feet, open shoes, or uncovered skin cuts.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Banana farmers</li> <li>• Farm workers</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>	<p><b>Workers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid contact with puddles or mud.</li> <li>• Keep cuts, scratches and skin breaks covered, change waterproof bandaids/dressings regularly, cover with gloves as well if possible. (Tape may help to keep dressings on and keep water out.)</li> <li>• Wash with running water and soap after contacting (or being splashed by) puddles, mud or potentially contaminated water.</li> <li>• Wear boots to cover tinea or infections on feet.</li> <li>• Have a soapy shower at the end of the working day.</li> <li>• Wear waterproof footwear in the field. Wear closed shoes in packing sheds.</li> <li>• Contact doctor within 24 hours if flu-like symptoms develop.</li> </ul> <p><b>Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display information that leptospirosis may be a risk in this work area and include in employee induction and on-going training.</li> <li>• Make sure new workers and farm visitors are aware of risks eg signage, induction training.</li> <li>• Provide running water, soap, disposable towels or tissues for hand and face washing for field and shed workers.</li> <li>• Provide first aid kit with waterproof bandaids/dressings to cover cuts for field and shed workers.</li> <li>• Provide first aid information: flush skin, face and eyes with water if exposure is suspected.</li> </ul>
<b>Walking barefoot or with open shoes around moist soil and puddles.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Service workers</li> <li>• Farm visitors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect skin cuts: if in doubt, avoid the water.</li> <li>• Wash feet with running water and soap after contacting (or being splashed by) puddles, mud or potentially contaminated water.</li> </ul>
<b>Eating, drinking, smoking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide facilities for washing and drying hands before eating, drinking or smoking for both field and shed workers. Use running water, soap and disposable paper towels.</li> <li>• Clean kitchen benches and tables with 1 in 100 dilution of household bleach. Lunch areas to have bins with covered lids. Do not leave scraps that attract vermin.</li> </ul>

Hazardous Activities	People at Risk	Control Measures
<b>Coming into contact with water pooled on banana bags.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers</li> <li>• Farm workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect hands: Wear waterproof bandaids on cuts and wash and dry hands as often as possible.</li> <li>• Avoid splashes from water on banana bags (particularly splashes onto face)</li> </ul>
<b>Packing sheds – contact with puddles of water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers</li> <li>• Farm workers</li> <li>• Service workers</li> <li>• Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear closed footwear in the packing shed.</li> </ul>
<b>Cleaning Spraying bananas with water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers</li> <li>• Farm workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear overalls and gumboots or waterproof footwear when cleaning.</li> <li>• Use low-pressure hoses/direct spray away from people.</li> </ul>
<b>Coming into contact with or handling animals (rodents, bats, bandicoots) dead or alive.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers</li> <li>• Farm workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover skin cuts. Wear gloves. Wash hands with running water, soap and use disposable paper towels.</li> </ul>
<b>Presence of rodents in the field and shed.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone at the banana farm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General shed hygiene: discourage rodents by containing food scraps and waste products in covered bins which are emptied regularly.</li> <li>• General farm hygiene: keep grasses and weeds low by slashing and/or spraying around the farm.</li> </ul>
<b>Farm maintenance, especially drain-laying or anything involving water.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers</li> <li>• Farm workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear waterproof clothing; cover skin cuts.</li> </ul>