



## Tips to reduce disease and weed risks

A clean farm has less diseases and weeds, which can improve your profits and productivity. Start tidying up today.

### Equipment and people spread disease

Plant pests, diseases and weed seeds can easily spread from one property to another on clothing, shoes, equipment and vehicles. Check your shoes, clothing, hair and hats for any seeds or plant material. Pay special attention to your shoes as they can easily carry contaminated soil and seeds.

#### How can you reduce the risks?

- Display signage on your farm to alert people to the potential impact they could have entering your farm.
- Have a visitor register on your farm to track movements.
- Brief all workers on your biosecurity procedures.
- Provide scrubbing brushes, disinfection, footbaths, boot covers, rubber boots and protective clothing such as disposable overalls to people entering your farm.
- Make sure visitor and employee footwear, clothing and equipment is free of soil and plant material before entering or leaving your farm.

**Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid (PSTVd) and Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus (CGMMV)** are two pathogens that can move via equipment and people.



### Bad bugs live in weeds

It may seem harmless having a few weeds around the yard, however, weeds are bad news for productivity. Unmanaged plants can provide a place for pests or diseases to live between seasons. These residual pests or diseases then have the potential to cause early re-infection of the following year's crop.

#### How can you reduce the risks?

- Remove weeds from paddocks or cropping areas.
- Remove weeds external to the paddock e.g. along roadways, in ditches, around sheds.
- Know what weeds are common to your property, and if you notice anything different, report it.
- For assistance with weed identification contact Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges at the Gawler office 8115 4600.
- Establish a weed management plan for your property, including eradicating, containing or managing weeds and stopping new species.
- Revegetate with host plants that encourage beneficial insects and can be used as part of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- Check the origin of material coming on or leaving your property to assess it for the risk of disease or insects.
- Use certified 'free from pests' seed or propagated material from trusted suppliers.

**Tomato Potato Psyllid (TPP) and Western Flower Thrips (WFT)** are two pests that can live in weeds.