

Field Harvest Activities

Field Sanitation and Hygiene

Pre-Harvest Assessment

A pre-harvest assessment is made of each crop production area immediately prior to harvest, and all workers made aware of possible sources of contamination and the steps needed to avoid contamination depending on the contaminant found and the nature and degree of risk it presents. Risks that are monitored in the pre-harvest risk assessment include the following:

- Are toilet and wash facilities properly located and functioning?
- Is there evidence of unauthorized entry or physical contamination in the crop area?
- Is there evidence of domestic or wild animal crop damage?
- If areas are contaminated, are they isolated for “no-harvest”?

Completion of pre-harvest assessment is marked in the harvest log.

Field Sanitation Units

The North Farm does not provide field sanitation units. Employees working more than a ten-minute walk from the packing house restroom will have a farm vehicle to facilitate return to the restroom if facilities are needed.

Response Plan for Handling a Septic or Sanitation Hazard in the Field

In the case of a sanitation hazard occurring in or near field boundaries, the following clean-up steps will be performed:

- Any affected produce is immediately disposed of in a covered waste bin.
- The contaminated area will be marked off with caution tape or string.
- Signs in appropriate languages will be posted at the perimeter prohibiting entry to the contaminated area.
- People and animals will be kept out until the area is sufficiently decontaminated.
- Any solid waste still resting on the surface will be collected, shoveled up, and removed to the waste bin.
- Any affected permanent structures will be hosed off and disinfected with a dilute bleach solution.