

Plant Containment Survey

Dept. & Room: _____ **Date:** _____

PI: _____

This is the checklist that EHS uses for their annual survey. The purpose of this survey is to identify unsafe conditions and/or behaviors in laboratories where plants requiring containment are present. This list is meant to be used in conjunction with the Biological Safety Survey and Chemical Safety Survey. Laboratory personnel are encouraged to utilize this survey to evaluate their work area(s) on a regular basis. Safe science is smart science.

Critical Critical finding: a safety departure that can result in personnel injury or exposure and/or environmental contamination. Non-critical findings that continue unaddressed or are found to be excessive within a work area and thus present more than a moderate hazard will be elevated to a critical finding. These findings are required to be corrected onsite but no longer than 24hrs.

Non-Critical Non-critical finding: a safety departure that presents a moderate hazard; are generally indicative of inadequate safe work practice(s). These findings should be corrected as soon as possible, but no longer than 30 calendar days.

Admin Administrative safety departure: Indicates the lack of, or deficiency in, written safety policies, rules, supervision, schedules, and / or training with the goal of reducing the duration, frequency, and severity of exposure to hazardous materials or situations. Administrative safety departures can be critical or non-critical in nature. Unless otherwise specified, corrective actions should be completed within 30 calendar days.

PCL1 - PRACTICES

#		QUESTION	YES	NO	N/A	COS
1	NC	Are all USDA-PPQ requirements for organisms received, reared in, or released from the containment facility followed? (USDA: V(H)) Notes:				
2	C	Are incoming materials sterilized or decontaminated to prevent the entrance of external vectors, if appropriate? (USDA: IV(B)) Notes:				
3	C	Are overcoats, hats, backpacks, purses, etc. prohibited in the containment areas, as these articles may allow infested soil to adhere and organisms to escape containment? (USDA: V(C)2) Notes:				
4	A	Is a program in place to control undesired species (e.g., any arthropods or mammals which might have vector contained plant pathogens)? (NIH: Appendix L-II-A-1-d-(1); NIH: Appendix L-II-B-1-d-(1); (USDA:V(E)3) Notes:				
5	A	Is a record of in-progress experiments being kept and updated? (NIH: Appendix L-II-A-1-b-(1).; NIH: Appendix L-II-B-1-b-(2).) Notes:				

PCL2 - FACILITIES

6	NC	Are doors windowless or covered with blinds [when arthropods are present]? (USDA-NPAPP: III(A)7) Notes:				
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7	NC	Are the translucent panels to the frame sealed with caulk or appropriate materials on the inside and outside surfaces? (USDA: III(A)) Notes:				
8	NC	If the containment greenhouse is detached from the primary containment facility, is an interlocking vestibule installed at each door with at least 6 feet long from door threshold to door threshold? (USDA: III(A)) Notes:				
9	NC	Are airlocks, directional airflow, filtration, and ventilation appropriate for the work being done? (NIH: Appendix L-II-B-2-d-(1); USDA; II) Notes:				
10	C	Are connections in air ducts, plenums, etc., and vents to interior surfaces sealed with caulk or an equivalent material? (USDA: II(F)) Notes:				
11	C	Are filters sterilized before disposal when they are changed? (USDA: II(F)) Notes:				
12	NC	Are HEPA filters changed annually or when the maximum level of the filter's resistance is exhibited by an indicator (magnehelic gauge) and recertified annually, and after they are changed? (USDA: II(F)) Notes:				
13	NC	Are offices outside of containment areas? (USDA: II(B)) Notes:				
14	NC	Are suspended or dropped ceilings only used when a BSC is used for containment? (USDA: II(C)) Notes:				
15	C	Are windows and penetrations sealed with appropriate materials when warranted? (USDA: II(D)3); (USDA: II(C)) Notes:				
16	C	Is a Biosafety cabinet installed to work with pathogenic bacteria, nematodes, fungi, and viruses? (USDA: IV(C); USDA: IV(D)) Notes:				
17	NC	Is an autoclave available? (NIH: Appendix L-II-B-2-c-(1).; USDA: IV(B)1) Notes:				

18	NC	Is the appropriate-sized mesh and/or suitable filters covering outlets/inlets (i.e., external exhaust, outside air intake, and internal air diffusers, sewer drains, traps & vents, etc.)? (USDA: II(F); USDA: II(G); USDA: II(H)) Notes:				
PCL2 - PRACTICES						
19	C	Are contaminated organisms destroyed as soon as detected even if it means destroying beneficial cultures, if pathogens are found in the culture? (USDA: V(G)4) Notes:				
20	A	Are experimental plants, microorganisms, and/or small animals logged and recorded when they are brought into or removed from the facility? (NIH: Appendix L-II-B-1-b-(1).) Notes:				
21	C	Are exterior doors locked at all times? (USDA: V(B)) Notes:				
22	C	Are foreign-sourced packages placed in the biosafety cabinet before opening, or if a biosafety cabinet is not available, is there an enclosed area that is easy to disinfect that is used to open packages? (USDA: V(F)1; USDA: V(F)2) Notes:				
23	C	Are laboratory coats, coveralls, and other clothing autoclaved before being removed from the facility for cleaning? (USDA: V(E)) Notes:				
24	C	Are packing materials autoclaved or incinerated immediately after the removal of specimens and cultures? (USDA: V(F)3) Notes:				
PCL1 - GREENHOUSES						
25	NC	Are audible alarms that activate when emergency exit doors are opened installed? (USDA: II(E)) Notes:				
26	NC	Are doors installed between the greenhouse and the rest of the facility that close completely, and seal to their frames? (USDA-NPAPP: III(A)7) Notes:				
27	NC	Are greenhouse floors constructed of materials that are impervious to the contained organisms and can withstand repeated disinfection? (USDA: III(A)) Notes:				

28	NC	Are translucent wall and ceiling materials strong enough to guarantee the security of the facility? (Plexiglas, lumite, lexon, safety glass, and wire-reinforced glass are acceptable. Polyethylene, vinyl, or plastic sheeting are not acceptable.) (USDA: III(A)) Notes:				
29	C	Install weatherproof electrical boxes, receptacles, light fixtures, switches, etc. Notes:				
30	NC	Is a frame strong enough to support the translucent walls and ceilings installed? (USDA: III(A)) Notes:				
31	NC	Is the greenhouse tested for leaks upon new construction, when repairs are performed, and on an annual basis? (USDA: III(A)) Notes:				
PCL2 - GREENHOUSES						
32	NC	Are electrical boxes, lighting, switches, wiring, conduit, etc, sealed with appropriate materials (caulk, foam, etc,) that are impenetrable to the contained organisms and withstand repeated decontamination with bleach or other caustic solutions? (USDA: II(G)4) Notes:				
33	C	Are emergency doors used only for emergency egress, are exterior handles removed, and are hinges interior or internal? ("panic bars" on the interior side may be used). (USDA: II(E)) Notes:				
34	NC	Is a Communication System that allows communication between the interior and exterior of the facility and prevents organism escape in use? (USDA: II(J); USDA-VPPV: II(K)) Notes:				
35	C	Is one primary entry/exit used? (USDA: II(B)1) Notes:				