

Overview for Farms / Agri-Food Businesses

While this 2-page overview highlights key considerations for farms as well as food and agricultural businesses, **we recommend consulting the Federal checklist when preparing detailed plans** found here:

- [Federal Checklist for the control of COVID-19 in agricultural facilities](#)

Additional guidance and resources can be found here: [Resources for Employers of Temporary Foreign Workers](#).

Questions	Considerations
Have you provided workers with resources in their primary language?	<u>Public Health Agency of Canada Resources</u> are available in multiple languages. Translated resources are also listed <u>here</u> .
Do you have a quarantine plan for new arrivals? Have you notified Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph about new arrivals?	Quarantine requirements for temporary foreign workers and employer responsibilities are outlined in <u>Federal Guidance</u> . Employers must notify Public Health when new workers arrive by emailing: <u>PHI.Intake@wdgpublichealth.ca</u> . If a worker develops any symptoms, even mild, the worker should be tested, and Public Health notified (further details below).
Do you have processes to <u>actively</u> screen workers (including all employees)? (Note that daily screening must continue after the quarantine period is complete.)	Having an active screening process where all employees are screened / complete a form each day has been shown to decrease COVID-19 risks. Examples of a screening log and posters are <u>available here in English, Spanish, Thai and Tagalog (Filipino dialect)</u> . For more details, see the “ <i>Screen Workers for COVID-19-like symptoms</i> ” section of <u>Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance</u> .
Do you know what to do when a worker shows any signs of illness, even very mild symptoms?	Isolate the symptomatic worker in a private bedroom, ideally with dedicated washroom. Ensure worker does not use common rooms / spaces that are shared with other workers. Use the online <u>Ontario self-assessment tool</u> and follow the directions provided. Notify WDG Public Health by calling 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4753.
Do you know how to book an appointment for COVID-19 testing?	Visit the <u>Testing and Assessment Centre</u> webpage for information on booking an appointment. Remember to provide your assigned Farm Testing Number to the Testing and Assessment Centre. This will facilitate follow up by Public Health if any results are positive.

Questions	Considerations
<p>Do you have an isolation plan for a confirmed COVID case (a worker that tests positive) or a probable case (worker with COVID symptoms)?</p> <p>Do you have an isolation plan for <u>all household members</u> of a worker that tests positive?</p>	<p>Confirmed/probable COVID-19 cases must isolate in their own enclosed room with dedicated bathroom.</p> <p>All close contacts of a confirmed case, which includes all household members, must also isolate. Ideally, each person under isolation should have a private room to isolate safely.</p> <p>Employers should have a plan for rapidly securing private isolation spaces (e.g., pre-arrangement with a local hotel). Public Health will provide direction regarding a worker that tests positive on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>See “<i>Isolation Spaces</i>” section of Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance for details.</p>
<p>Do you know how to reduce risks during transportation of workers?</p>	<p>Vehicles are closed spaces that do not allow physical distancing. Anytime workers are travelling in vehicles, all vehicle occupants should wear masks / face coverings.</p> <p>See “<i>Transportation</i>” section of Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance for additional guidance.</p>
<p>Does the housing and work setting allow workers to practice physical distancing?</p>	<p>Housing should make physical distancing achievable. For example, occupied beds should be at least 2 meters apart.</p> <p>Review pages 2-3 and page 6 of Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance for additional recommendations for housing and work settings.</p>
<p>If workers live in different housing, are they kept on separate work teams?</p>	<p>Work teams (or cohorts) should match housing cohorts to keep workers living in different housing separated. Physical distancing within cohorts is still required. If distancing is challenging, masks / face coverings should be worn.</p> <p>For additional considerations, see “<i>Cohorting</i>” Section of Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance</p>
<p>Do workers work exclusively for one farm / agri-food business?</p>	<p>It is strongly advised that workers only work for one farm. The use of Temporary Help Agencies has been identified as increasing risks as workers that move between farms can spread the virus.</p> <p>See “<i>Limiting Work Locations</i>” section of Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance</p>
<p>Do workers have the supplies / resources needed for hand hygiene, and for cleaning and disinfection?</p>	<p>See “<i>Keep Hands Clean</i>” and “<i>Cleaning and Disinfectants</i>” section of Ontario Ministry of Health Farm Guidance.</p> <p>Wash Your Hands posters are available for download in multiple languages.</p>