

Field practices and biosecurity survey

Introductory information

Invasive non-native species (INNS) are plants and animals (vertebrates and invertebrates) that have been accidentally or deliberately introduced to a new area and have the potential to spread causing problems for the environment, economy or human, animal or plant health. The term INNS can also be used to encompass non-native microbes such as bacteria, viruses and fungi that cause problems for human, animal and plant health.

This survey explores the types of field activities that researchers and students do that might inadvertently spread INNS. It will take less than fifteen minutes to complete and may be completed anonymously. We are interested in your responses whether you carry out field activities regularly or only occasionally.

If you decide to take part please click the 'agree' tab below.

Thankyou.

June 2015

*I have read and understood the purpose of this survey and consent for the data I provide to be used in anonymous form for this research project and future research by the University of Leeds. * Required*

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

Further information: The findings of this survey will be used to complete a report to be submitted to the research funders, NERC (the Natural Environment Research Council), in summer 2015, and will also be disseminated within academic publications within 2015-

16. Your data will be anonymised and amalgamated with the data of other participants so that neither you nor your place of work or study will be identifiable in any research outputs. In order to ensure optimum benefits accrue from this research, it is the policy of the University of Leeds that collected data should be made available in anonymised form to other researchers in future. Should you wish to obtain a summary of the research report and any subsequent publications then please let us know using the contact details given below. By participating in this research you will be assisting in the development of more effective biosecurity recommendations which will help guard against the negative impacts of INNS.

For further information please contact: Dr Claire Quinn (c.h.quinn@leeds.ac.uk), Sustainability Research Institute, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT or Caitriona Shannon, (c.f.shannon@leeds.ac.uk), School of Biology, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT

Demographic details and work/study discipline

Gender

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Age

- ☐ 18-25
- ☐ 26-35
- ☐ 36-45
- ☐ 46-55
- ☐ 56-65
- ☐ 66 or over
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Name of institution (this information will be kept strictly anonymous in any outputs from this research)

Role(s) at institution

- ☐ Undergraduate student
- ☐ Masters student

- ☐ PhD student
- ☐ Research assistant
- ☐ Post-doctoral researcher
- ☐ Lecturer
- ☐ Assistant professor/Senior lecturer
- ☐ Reader
- ☐ Professor
- ☐ Technician
- ☐ Teaching assistant
- ☐ Support staff
- ☐ Scientific officer
- ☐ Research officer
- ☐ Other

If you selected Other, please specify:

Please select the disciplinary area(s) that best describes your study/research/teaching, or select 'other' and provide details

Please select between 1 and 4 answers.

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Anthropology
- ☐ Aquaculture
- ☐ Archaeology
- ☐ Architecture
- ☐ Atmospheric science
- ☐ Biology
- ☐ Botany

- ☐ Climatology
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Earth science
- ☐ Ecology
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Entomology
- ☐ Environmental science
- ☐ Environmental studies
- ☐ Forestry
- ☐ Glaciology
- ☐ Geography
- ☐ Geology
- ☐ Horticulture
- ☐ Hydrology
- ☐ Landscape architecture
- ☐ Marine biology
- ☐ Meteorology
- ☐ Mycology
- ☐ Oceanography
- ☐ Palaeoclimatology
- ☐ Palaeontology
- ☐ Parasitology
- ☐ Remote sensing
- ☐ Sedimentology
- ☐ Social science
- ☐ Sociology
- ☐ Soil science
- ☐ Surveying
- ☐ Sustainability science
- ☐ Zoology
- ☐ Other

If you selected Other, please specify:

If your work or study is funded please provide the name(s) of your funder(s):

Locations and environments of field activities

Where do you carry out your field activities? (You can select more than one option)

- ☐ UK
- ☐ Overseas

Which county or counties?

Which country or countries?

Do you take or bring back any samples or equipment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Are there any import/export/quarantine procedures that you follow?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please give a brief description of these procedures

How frequently do you carry out field activities in protected areas (such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Parks or Biosphere Reserves?)

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

Please select the environment(s) in which you carry out your field activities

- ☐ Woodland
- ☐ Freshwater
- ☐ Lowland
- ☐ Upland
- ☐ Marine
- ☐ Coastal
- ☐ Urban
- ☐ Agricultural
- ☐ Other

If you selected Other, please specify:

Frequency of field visits

When you are working, teaching or learning in the field roughly how many different sites will you visit in a single week?

- ☐ 1-2
- ☐ 3-4
- ☐ 5-6
- ☐ 7-8
- ☐ More than 8

Do you typically visit more than one field site in a day?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Can you list the locations of the three sites you most recently visited and indicate when each visit took place?

	Location (please provide as much information as you can e.g. map/ GPS co-ordinates, county, country)	Date
First most recently visited		 (dd/mm/yyyy)
Second most recently visited		 (dd/mm/yyyy)

Third most
recently
visited



(dd/mm/yyyy)

Fieldwork activities

Which activities do you carry out in the field? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Monitoring/ surveying
- ☐ Sampling
- ☐ Conservation/ habitat management
- ☐ Social research methods (interviews/ questionnaires/ focus groups/ participatory methods)
- ☐ Supervising others
- ☐ Other

Do you ever transport samples between field sites?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

What do you collect samples of?

If you selected Other, please specify:

Equipment

Do you use equipment in the field?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Which item(s) of equipment do you use?

Equipment continued

What does the equipment come into contact with on site?

- ☐ Water
- ☐ Soil
- ☐ Vegetation
- ☐ Other

If you selected Other, please specify:

How often do you...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
...clean your equipment before arriving on site?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...clean your equipment before departing from a site?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...ensure equipment dries thoroughly in between uses?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...use the same equipment at more than one site within the same day?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please indicate which of the following cleaning methods you employ to clean your equipment before you arrive at a site, before you leave a site, and upon your return from field activities (tick any that apply).

	Before arriving at a field site	Before leaving a field site	Upon returning to your place of work/ study
Examine equipment and pick off any visible biomass by hand	☐	☐	☐
Rinse in cold water	☐	☐	☐
Rinse in hot water	☐	☐	☐
Soak in hot water	☐	☐	☐
Wash with detergent	☐	☐	☐
Clean with disinfectant	☐	☐	☐
Dry thoroughly	☐	☐	☐

If you soak equipment in hot water, how many minutes do you allow it to soak for?

How do you go about drying your equipment (if at all)?

Transport

How do you normally arrive at your field sites?

- ☐ On foot
- ☐ By car/ bicycle or other wheeled vehicle
- ☐ By boat
- ☐ Other

If you selected Other, please specify:

Do you take your vehicle or bicycle off road?

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

Transport continued

How often do you...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
...clean your tyres/ wheels or hull before arriving at a field site	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...clean your tyres/ wheels or hull before departing a field site	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...clean your tyres/ wheels or hull after returning from a field site	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...ensure your tyres/ wheels or hull are thoroughly dried in between site visits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Footwear and outerwear

How often do you...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
...clean your footwear in between site visits?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...clean your outerwear in between site visits?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please indicate which of the following methods you employ to clean your footwear (tick any that apply).

	Before arriving at a field site	Before leaving a field site	Upon returning to your place of work/ study
Examine and pick off any visible biomass by hand	☐	☐	☐
Rinse in cold water	☐	☐	☐
Rinse in hot water	☐	☐	☐
Soak in hot water	☐	☐	☐
Wash with detergent	☐	☐	☐
Clean with disinfectant	☐	☐	☐
Dry thoroughly	☐	☐	☐

Please indicate which of the following methods you employ to clean your outerwear (tick any that apply).

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Before arriving at a field site	Before leaving a field site	Upon returning to your place of work/ study
Examine and pick off any visible biomass by hand	☐	☐	☐
Rinse in cold water	☐	☐	☐
Rinse in hot water	☐	☐	☐
Soak in hot water	☐	☐	☐
Wash with detergent	☐	☐	☐
Clean with disinfectant	☐	☐	☐
Dry thoroughly	☐	☐	☐

Invasive non-native species

How often do issues related to invasive non-native species come up in relation to your field activities?

- ☐ Always
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

Do you consider your field activities to pose any risk in terms of spreading INNS?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Without undertaking any special measures to reduce the risk of spreading INNS, on a scale of 1-5 how much risk do you feel your activities pose?

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

Please select at least 1 answer(s).

	1	2	3	4	5	
Low risk	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	High risk

Have you ever carried out field activities in an area where you knew or suspected that INNS were present?

- ☐ Yes

☐ No

Which species?

Did you change anything about how you carried out your field activities as a result of this?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please describe the change(s) you made.

Are you required to produce risk assessments for your field activities?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Have you ever mentioned or been asked about INNS in a risk assessment?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did you raise the issue of INNS yourself, or were you asked about INNS by the person evaluating your risk assessment?

- ☐ Myself
- ☐ Someone else
- ☐ Both

Did you specify any procedures within the risk assessment(s) to reduce the risk of spreading INNS?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please describe the procedures you specified

Biosecurity

Are you familiar with any guidance or campaigns on biosecurity?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please specify the guidance or campaign(s) with which you are familiar.

Have you ever undertaken any training on biosecurity?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Which organisation provided this training?

When you carry out activities in the field do you consciously employ any biosecurity measures (measures which are specifically aimed at reducing the risk of spreading of INNS)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Biosecurity measures

During field activities do you...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
...try to avoid unnecessary contact with INNS?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...feel confident to challenge the practices of others that you believe present an unacceptable risk of spreading INNS?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

When planning your field activities do you...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not applicable
...find out whether INNS are known to be present in any of your field sites?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

...take out duplicate sets of equipment in order to use different equipment at different sites to avoid transferring INNS?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...plan the order in which you visit your sites in order to minimize the risk of spreading INNS?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...time your field visits in order to avoid higher risk times (e.g. when INNS are seeding or spawning)?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

When supervising others in the field do you...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not applicable
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...inform those you supervise about the presence or potential presence of INNS?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...ensure those you supervise undertake biosecurity measures?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Identification

On a scale of 1-5 (where 1 is not at all confident and 5 is very confident) how confident are you at identifying INNS that are...

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	1	2	3	4	5
...terrestrial animals	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...terrestrial plants	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...aquatic animals	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
...aquatic plants	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Identification continued

Which of the following images are of species that are INNS (invasive non-native species) within the U.K?



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know



- ☐ INNS
- ☐ Not an INNS
- ☐ Don't know

We are grateful to GBNSS, Matt Brazier, Trevor Renals, the Environment Agency, David Gerke, Kurt Stuber, Frank Vincentz and FERA for the images used above.

Thank you!

To submit your survey don't forget to click the 'finish' tab at the bottom of this page!

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey! Your contribution is valuable and will be used to help improve biosecurity guidance for academics and practitioners who undertake field activities. If you would like to provide us with some feedback about this survey please use the box at the bottom of the page. For more information about this research project please contact either Dr Claire Quinn (c.h.quinn@leeds.ac.uk) or Caitriona Shannon (c.f.shannon@leeds.ac.uk).

You are under no obligation to provide us with your contact details. However, if you would be happy to participate in a further research project about biosecurity from autumn 2015 then please provide your name and email address below. Regardless of whether you provide your details, neither you, nor the organisation where you work or study, will be identifiable in any of the research outputs.

Name:

Email address:

If you would like to make any comments about this survey please do so here:



End of survey
