



Essential Recommendations Checklist for Farmers and their Employees (November 6, 2020)

This document outlines a checklist for COVID-19 essential risk mitigation strategies for farms. This is a guide only and should be adapted to the context of each facility. A full set of guidance can be found [here](#).

EDUCATE WORKERS

- Post local health department information, camp address, 911 information, as well as nearest Community Health Centers, Farmworker Health Clinics, and other locations where workers can receive medical care if needed
- Post education materials in workers' preferred languages on COVID-19 mode of transmission, symptoms and complications
- Designate a person in each crew to ensure other workers are following the 3Ws. Use incentives and other social measures (e.g. competitions between work crews) to ensure workers follow the 3Ws, especially on transportation and while indoors

TEST WORKERS

- Ensure all workers have regular (weekly) access to testing, either on the farm or by providing transportation to community testing sites.
- Test all workers who may have had close contact to someone with COVID-19 both immediately on identification and 5-6 days after last contact.
- Contact your local health department or farmworker health program for more information on testing in your area.

MANAGING SICK WORKERS = ISOLATION PLAN

- Immediately separate workers who tested positive and workers who appear to have symptoms from other workers. These workers need to stop working immediately
- House sick workers who can't be isolated in their existing housing arrangement in alternative housing

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- Workers who test positive for COVID-19 should not be permitted to work and should not share transportation with other workers, even if they do not have any symptoms
- Outline who will provide for water, food, clean laundry and medical supplies available for sick workers

MANAGING EXPOSED WORKERS = QUARANTINE PLAN

- Workers, drivers, staff members who had close contact with a COVID-19 patient should be tested and must quarantine for 14 days
- Some exposed workers may be deemed essential to continued operation of critical farm functions. This subset of workers may continue to work if they remain asymptomatic, do not test positive, and if [CDC guidelines for critical infrastructure workers can be met](#)
- [Workers at high risk for severe disease, such as those with chronic medical conditions, should not be permitted to work and should be quarantined individually](#)

MANAGING WORKSITE

- Reduce crew sizes. Stagger work shifts, mealtimes and break times
- When soap and water are not immediately available, provide access to hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol

MANAGING SHARED HOUSING

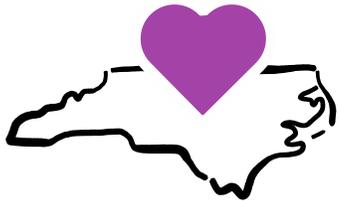
- Ensure there is good airflow - Use an air conditioner or open windows
- Increase the number of hand washing stations or sanitizing stations
- Provide supplies for cleaning and disinfecting common areas and living quarters
- In communal areas, mark places 6ft apart to encourage social distancing

MANAGING SHARED TRANSPORTATION

- Always require all riders to wear a face covering when they are in the vehicle
- Allow for at least a 6-foot distance or as much space as possible between riders. Increase the number of vehicles and/or the frequency of trips to allow for social distancing. School buses should have no more than one worker per bench seat.
- Transport workers from the same crew (in housing and at worksite)
- Train riders to follow coughing and sneezing etiquette
- Increase air flow in vehicles by opening windows if weather permits. Do not set air to recirculate
- Clean and disinfect vehicles between rides

Additional Resources

- NC DHHS: [North Carolina COVID-19](#)
- CDC: [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- CDC: [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)
- CDC: [Reopening Guidance](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
- FDA: [Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- HHS/OSHA: [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)



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