

**Aims:**

Look at the practical ways to stop the spread of seeds from invasive (or any plants!) by using a basic biosecurity kit.

**You will need:**

- Tray
- A collection of 'Seeds' e.g. Rice crispies, Golden puffs, barley, rice, dried peas
- Biosecurity kit - brush / hoof pick and spray bottle with water

**Instructions:**

1. Prepare your own biosecurity station – this is made up of a spray bottle with water and a brush (a washing up brush is ideal), plus optional hoof pick.
2. Prepare a small area with loose damp soil or loose compost and add a selection of 'seeds' on top.
3. In small groups, ask one person to walk across the soil and the seeds.
4. That person should then head to the biosecurity station and the rest of the group should clean the shoe treads with a brush, depositing the material in the tray and rinsing the bottom of the shoe with water.
5. Look at the tray and count how many seeds were picked up under the shoes.
6. Repeat with other members of the group and compare different shoes and seeds.

Are some shoe treads worse than others for picking up seeds?

Does a certain size or shape of seed get stuck more often?

**Handy notes:**

What should be part of a basic biosecurity kit?

- Brush. (Washing-up brush is ideal)
- Water in a spray bottle or drinks bottle.

Optional extras:

- Hoof pick
- Gloves
- Hand sanitiser

**Do more:**

Put all your biosecurity kit items into a labelled bag and hang in a useful place for use whenever you've been outside.

What sort of items might need to be in a biosecurity kit for other situations? E.g. on a boat travelling internationally.