Ian N. Morrison Research Farm Management (INMRF)

Plan for Physical Distancing and Sanitation

These guidelines will be updated as required when provincial physical distancing and disinfection/sanitation rules change. The latest Province of Manitoba COVID-19 related guidelines and health advisories can be found at <u>https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html</u>. This document supplements the documents entitled "Department of Plant Science *SARS-CoV-2* Related Best Practices", "Disinfection using 70% Ethanol and 0.1% Bleach" and "Department of Plant Science *SARS-CoV-2* Seed Setup and Field Research Health and Isolation Protocol" that are posted on the Department of Plant Science Website:

http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/dept/plant_science/covid19policies.html

Following the recommended COVID-19 Provincial guidelines (<u>https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html</u>)

- Do not come to work when experiencing COVID related symptoms.
- Social/physical distancing (a minimum of 2m) must be maintained at all times.
- When social/physical distancing cannot be maintained, appropriate PPE such as masks, face shield, gloves, etc. must be used.
- All surfaces and touch points must be disinfected before and after any use. Disinfectant will be provided in all common use areas.

General

- Signs warning against coming to work when sick, advising frequent hand washing and disinfecting of work surfaces before and after use will be posted throughout the buildings.
- Sanitation of assigned space door handles and work surfaces will be the responsibility of individual users and follow protocols established by the safety committee.
- Start and return times for those accessing the research farm should be coordinated to maximize physical distancing and documented to limit any potential contact. Any adjustments due to weather or specific tasks should be posted online or communicated through the farm manager or designate.
- Some areas will be assigned to certain programs. Shared work areas will be reserved through methods established by the farm manager, or designate.
- Communication is important and cell numbers of all INMRF users should be shared.
- Anyone leaving messages on whiteboards should disinfect the pen before and after use. The whiteboards may be replaced with at digital messaging system once a platform is identified.
- Use of the buildings by non-departmental people will be prohibited without authorization from the Plant Science Department Head. Any pickup or drop off of samples or supplies should

occur at the drop location behind the main entrance sign with no physical contact and prior arrangement. Use of drying ovens should be by plant science staff only. Any collaborators should arrange to have plant science staff handle samples.

- Equipment and departmental vehicle use will be reserved online or through another established booking mechanism. Disinfection protocols will be according to best practice.
- Students bringing vehicles to work will park on the south side of the parking lot south of the main building (690). If they are to use them to go to the INMRF fields or to eat lunch in them biosecurity protocols will be in place. Arrangements for an alternate parking space may need to be arranged.
- Portable canvas shelters or storage containers may be utilized for additional working space.
- Students and staff will be required to keep a daily detailed log including vehicles used, work areas used, lunch and coffee break areas, equipment used and any contacts within 2 m (excluding brief contact such as passing in the hallway) for each day.
- Logbooks are used to record hours used, checks done, users and any problems with equipment.
 Where practical an online version may be set up and accessible via cell. The mechanism to maintain logbooks will be determined by the farm manager, or designate.
- Handwashing and washroom use protocols will be posted in the washrooms. People will be assigned specific washrooms and sinks to use within the main building. Those assigned to use field portable washrooms will be assigned an alternate location to be used if weather and road conditions prevent travel to their assigned location.
- Room occupancy is restricted to 1 person per 10m².

The INMRF site has a number of buildings as outlined in the map in Figure 1A/B and 2. Approved projects have field plots on the farm as outlined in the field map attached to the end of this document. Different areas of the facilities are outlined in sections below along with the primary users where applicable.



Figure 1A:

Figure 1B:



Figure 2:



INMRF, Carman & Region Facility Main Building (690)

There are multiple rooms within the Carman & Region Facility, (Figure 3:) Room access is assigned and scheduled with a designated entrance and exit route to minimize travel through the building. (Figures 4 and 5).



Figure 3: Building (690) Room Map

Figure 4: Entrance Exit Doors for Room Access

- Each PI will be responsible for coordinating their groups activities within the room assigned to them. The following will be practiced within each room. Work surfaces will be disinfected before and after use with either 70% ethanol or 0.1% bleach or Spray Nine as outlined in the best practices document. Storage areas will be disinfected after use.



- Figure 5: Program Rooms



Figure 6: Building Access by Program



Lunchroom (119) and Kitchen (109)

- Lunchroom and kitchen will be closed to regular use. Microwaves, fridge and water cooler will be labelled as off limits/do not use. The water fountain will be shut off.
- Individuals will be responsible for ensuring the safety of their own lunches. E.g. using their own cold packs to keep their lunches cool if required.
- Water will be available at the lunchroom sink (room 119), if necessary, but people are strongly recommended to bring water from home or to use bottled water.

Washroom Procedures

- Washroom is restricted to one person at a time.
- A marker cone on the floor outside of the door will be used to signal when the washroom is in use.
- Push open door with shoulder or arm.
- Using a paper towel, turn on the faucet
- Push soap dispenser for soap and wash hands for the 20 seconds.
- Dry hands with paper towels. Use a clean paper towel to turn off the faucet. Use them also to turn the door knob and pull the door open.
- Use your shoulder or foot to keep the door open and discard the paper towels.

Washrooms (107, 108, 121 and 122)

- Washrooms are single units where doors will be propped open when not in use and leave lights on. Washroom use will be limited to one person at a time. A washroom protocol is appended and will be posted in the washroom. A marker cone will be placed in front of the door when in use and will be visible from a distance.

Washrooms (117 and 118) multi-stall units

- Washrooms (117), has 3 stalls and two sinks and room (118) has two urinals, stalls and sinks. Washroom use will be limited to one person at a time. People will be assigned a specific stall and sink to use. A marker cone will be placed in front of the door when in use and will be visible from a distance.
- Some programs are renting portable washrooms for their own use. When portable washrooms in the field are not accessible due to weather, road conditions, or immediate need, alternate washrooms within the building will be assigned.

Figure 7: Portable Washrooms on Farm:



Locker Shower Rooms; (120 and 122)

- Room is off limits unless showers are required for herbicide application safety reasons. Users are to provide own towel soap and shampoo. Disinfect shower before and after use.
- Lockers are not to be used.

Plant Analysis Lab (124)

- Access and exit through east processing room door.
- Space to set up workspace table. This should be further back to allow at least 2 m from the walkway used to move samples from the drying room to the processing room.
- Users will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting any surfaces touched.

Shop (125)

- Access is through the west outside walk in door and overhead door. Access from the hallway is discouraged to reduce traffic within the building.
- Working in the shop needs to be coordinated with Terrance Anseeuw or Justice Zhanda
- Any tools borrowed from the shop should be cleaned and disinfected before and after use. Use of the air-hose or pressure washer will require a similar procedure.
- There will be outside air hose access beside the shop walk in door.
- An electric pressure washer will also be set by building #4

Seed Cleaning Room (127)

- Users will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting any surfaces touched before and after use best practice.
- Do not use vacuum in this room. Floors should be swept carefully with a push broom while minimizing dust suspension into the air.
- Dust collector is not to be used at this time. See farm manager (Justice Zhanda) or designate for further information.

Chemical Lab Room (129)

- See safe lab procedures, best practice.
- http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/dept/plant_science/covid19policies.html

Chemical Storage Room (130)

- One person in room at a time for accessing herbicides/ insecticides/fungicides only. Disinfect door handles with wipes after you leave the room.



Building #1-(692) Small Wood Storage Shed

 One person in room at a time used for temporary storage of treated seed, triple rinsed herbicide containers and herbicides for disposal, insecticides/fungicides only.

Building #2-(693) Wood Storage Shed



- Room 101, two sinks and storage shelves can be used for processing samples with 1 person per room
- Room 102 Storage shelves, room for a table to process samples, large overhead door.
- Room 103, Seasonal washroom
- Emergency Shower outside south east corner of the building.

Building #3-(694) Metal Storage Shed

Over the course of the growing season these spaces will be accessed by multiple groups. Work will be coordinated to ensure the physical distancing and sanitation requirements are met. Space will be used for drying samples on drying beds or in a large drying oven, and seasonal equipment storage.

- Drying beds, access to drying ovens, and space to set up tables for workspace will be assigned.
- Overhead door is used to deliver biomass or seed samples from the field to the drying beds or drying ovens.
- West door should be used to access drying oven and workspace.
- Overhead door will be used to bring in samples for any drying beds during harvest.
- Fans used to help dry samples should be turned off when workers are in the room.
- Samples will be moved off drying beds into rodent proof containers which are then moved into the preprocessing room or processing room for storage or cleaning.
- Biomass samples are processed after drying. Subsamples should be put into rodent proof containers. Any discarded material should be taken to the compost pile at the end of the task or as soon as possible.
- Anyone using a workspace will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting any surfaces touched.
- Drying oven
 - Currently 1 large drying oven is available. The oven is currently signed out on a whiteboard. An alternative booking system may be implemented by the farm manager or designate.
 - Filling and emptying of the drying oven should be coordinated to maintain physical distancing. If physical distancing is not possible, appropriate PPE must be worn.
- Anyone using ovens or workspace will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting any surfaces touched, including oven controls.



Building #4-(695) Metal Storage Shed

Used for equipment storage, air compressor and pressure washer, drying oven. Access is from the outside through a walk-in and overhead door.

- Each user will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting any surfaces touched.
- In the biosecurity area, any controls, wands, hoses, etc touched in the use of the pressure washer or air compressor should be cleaned before and after use.





Attco Storage trailer #5-(698A)

Attco Storage Trailer #6-(698B)



Metal Storage Shipping Containers:

#7A-(699A) Yvonne Lawley#7B-(699B) Rob Gulden#7C-(699C) Anita Brule-Babel#10-(699D) Annemieke Farenhorst



#8-(691) Metal Storage Shed (60x100')

Most programs store equipment in a shed assigned to them. Access to each is from the outside through an overhead door.

- Each user will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting any surfaces touched.
- Although multiple groups may need to access this space over the course of the growing seasons, access will be coordinated to make sure that physical distancing and sanitation requirements are met.



#9-(696) Metal Storage Shed

Building is used by Manitoba Agriculture, the Crop Diagnostic School and INMRF staff for storage of seed and equipment.

