

Responsibilities for Landscaping Businesses

Under biosecurity laws, all Queenslanders have a shared responsibility to help eradicate pests such as fire ants. The latest biosecurity regulations allow businesses and individuals to find better ways of managing their risks.

Here are some of the ways you can fulfil your biosecurity obligation.

- Understand what fire ants look like and what materials (i.e. fire ant carriers) they might be moved in
- Be aware if you are living or working in a fire ant biosecurity zone and follow movement controls
- Follow the correct procedures when moving or storing fire ant carriers
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure you do not spread fire ants
- Report suspect nests to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or [HERE](#)

Important Links

[Fire ant biosecurity zones - Interactive map](#)

Quarantine area that dictates where the requirements for moving fire ant carriers must be followed in QLD.
Members can use this link to type the address and determine if they must follow movement controls for fire ants.

[Planned activities](#)

Programs deliver the Response Plan for fire ant eradication. This map helps to understand the planned activities for treatment and surveillance against that plan. This interactive resource will also give you dot points summarising fire ant biosecurity expectations for Queenslanders based on the typed address.
You can also use this map to understand what areas are priorities for the National Fire Ant Eradication Program regarding engagement.

[Online training](#)

[Training for the Landscaping Industry](#)
[Training for your clients - Residential Training](#)
[Training for Pest Managers](#)

[Fire ant compliance tool](#)

Interactive tool to navigate fire ant requirements based on location and type of material. You can also use this tool to report non-compliance.

[Processed materials video](#)

Quarry materials, mulch, animal manure, and processed soils can spread fire ants if not managed properly. The Biosecurity Regulation 2016 requires specific storage and disturbance procedures for materials within fire ant biosecurity zones. Materials on-site for over 24 hours must be covered and placed on a fire ant-resistant surface or treated ground, with a chemical perimeter treatment using bifenthrin insecticide. Rigorous disturbance of materials every 21 days or within 24 hours before movement is also necessary. Always ask sellers if materials comply with regulations and keep records of actions for at least two years to avoid penalties.

[How to treat fire ants](#)

Video summarising program advice on how to treat fire ants using granular baits.

[Landscaping Industry Tools and Resources](#)

A range of tools for commercial landscapers, nurseries, gardeners and homeowners doing work in their yards.
Soil, turf, potted plants and other gardening materials can carry fire ants. If you are buying or selling these products, make sure they have been stored and transported correctly.



Fire ant training for the Landscaping Industry

This course will help you carefully manage fire ants or materials that can carry fire ants, such as soil, hay, mulch, animal manure, quarry materials, turf and potted plants.

Who is this for: Groundskeepers, gardeners and maintenance staff, businesses, contractors, suppliers, landscapers and community groups

Cost: Free

Availability: Course material is available now, online 24/7
Time requirement: 30–45 minutes to complete

Grading: A certificate will be provided at the end of the training and completion of a short multiple-choice assessment

[Start Course](#)