

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Updated July 2025

For current Biosecurity Blitz 2025 info, visit: www.dpird.wa.gov/biosecurityblitz

A collection of common questions about MyPestGuide® and the Biosecurity Blitz. How to participate, report pests and more!

Q. What is MyPestGuide®?

A. MyPestGuide® Reporter is a simple photo app for reporting and mapping pests. It connects users with biosecurity experts and supports community pest surveillance.

Q. How do I submit a report?

A. Use the MyPestGuide® Reporter app or website to upload up to four photos and describe the pest or damage. The location is recorded automatically.

Q. Who reviews my report?

A. Reports are reviewed by biosecurity experts from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).

Q. How long do I have to wait to get a reply?

A. Reports are usually responded to within 72 hours. During the Biosecurity Blitz, replies may take longer—thanks for your patience!

Q. Can I use MyPestGuide® outside of Western Australia?

A. While the app is accessible nationally, its primary focus is on pests relevant to Western Australia. Reports from other regions may be redirected to the appropriate authority.

Q. How is the information I report used?

A. Your data may be compiled with other public data from the same state. Your data helps verify the absence of unwanted pests and supports trade by confirming pest-free areas. It also helps monitor invasive species to protect our environment.

Q. Are my personal details protected?

A. All reports are saved on a secure government server. Only MyPestGuide® reports you have agreed to share are visible to the reporting community, and only after experts have reviewed. No personal contact details are shared.

Q. Why share reports with the community?

A. Sharing builds pest awareness and helps everyone discover interesting species in their area, whether they need protecting, managing, or controlling.

Q. What is the Biosecurity Blitz?

A. It's a yearly event where everyone's invited to spot and report pests—helping safeguard WA's farms, waterways, and natural environment.

Q. When does the Biosecurity Blitz take place?

A. Every year from 16 October to 16 November—starting on World Food Day to spotlight how biosecurity protects our food supply.

Q. How can I participate?

A. Sign up, spot something interesting, snap a photo, and submit it using the MyPestGuide® Reporter app or online portal. It's that easy!

Q. Do I need any special training to take part?

A. Nope! Just be observant and submit what you see. Resources and activities are available to help you build your pest ID and biosecurity skills.

Q. What is inference reporting?

A. Inference reporting assumes a pest is absent based on the presence of a similar local species. For example, spotting an Australian carpet beetle suggests the exotic Khapra beetle isn't present. These reports help estimate the likelihood of exotic pests and support trade decisions.

Q. What if I find an exotic pest?

A. If you think you've found an exotic pest, report it using MyPestGuide® Reporter or online. Our experts will confirm the ID and notify you via app and email.

Do not mail specimens unless instructed. A permit is required for interstate shipping.

Important Disclaimer

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