

# Pests & Biosecurity on the Chatham Islands



## BUYING USED VEHICLES OR MACHINERY?



### *What you need to know ...*

The Chatham Islands environment is unique and beautiful and the economy is highly dependent on farming and fishing. The Chatham Islands are free of many pests and diseases which cause economic and environmental problems on mainland New Zealand. Please read the following information before bringing used machinery to the Chathams.

### Why biosecurity is important

Pests are among the most serious threats to the Chatham Islands' natural environment and primary production. Weeds, for example, reduce farm and forest productivity, displace native species and contribute significantly to land degradation. In New Zealand, pests have significant impacts on native species and are estimated to cost the agricultural industry more than \$500 million annually in control and lost production.

### The types of pests likely to be carried in secondhand machinery

#### Plant seeds:

Nodding Thistle, Chilean Needle Grass, Broom, Cape Tulip.

#### Animals:

Lizards, rodents (Pitt and many other islands in the Chathams archipelago are rat-free).

#### Insects:

Argentine Ant and German Wasp.

**Pathogens:** Soil-borne plant diseases.

### Preparing your machinery for importing to the Chathams

All used machinery imported to the Chathams should be free from contamination. There are areas within New Zealand with significant pest issues. It is highly likely that any used machinery from these and other locations will be contaminated with dirt, seeds, plant material and possibly insects.





### Simple steps to help reduce the risk of transporting pests to the Chatham Islands:

- Clean or arrange with the seller to clean all used machinery. Steam clean and/or wash with high pressure water blasting to remove dirt and seeds before shipping. Shipping agents might reject machinery which has a lot of dirt or plant contamination.
- Vehicles should be thoroughly cleaned, inside and out, ensuring that any rubbish and soil in the cab or interior has been removed before shipping.
- If you are unsure or concerned about the quarantine risk of any vehicles or machinery already shipped, contact the Chatham Islands Council.

**For further information about biosecurity or queries about importing used machinery to the Chatham Islands, please contact the Biosecurity Officer on 03 305 0013 or email [info@cic.govt.nz](mailto:info@cic.govt.nz).**



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