

Pests and Biosecurity on the Chatham Islands



Buying used vehicles or machinery?



chatham islands council



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.

The importance of biosecurity

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.

For more information please contact the Biosecurity Officers on 03 305 0013
or email Kerri.Moir@ecan.govt.nz and Robin.Seymour@ecan.govt.nz



Simple steps to take before shipping to help reduce the risk of transporting pests:

- Clean or arrange with the seller to clean all used machinery.
- Ensure the whole vehicle is cleaned. Steam clean and/or wash with high pressure water blasting to remove dirt and seeds.
- Vehicles should be cleaned thoroughly inside and out, including the engine compartment, underneath and around the wheels and wheel arches.
- Remove any rubbish and soil in the cab or interior.
- Check locker compartments, under spare tyre wells, hose reels and other enclosed areas for contamination.
Note: Contaminated vehicles will be directed for treatment and re-inspection before loading (charges apply).
- Motor and quad bikes sent to NZ for service and repair must be cleaned before they are shipped to NZ. If they are dirty on arrival in NZ, the NZ service agent will clean the vehicles and charge back to the owner as part of the service costs.

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