

Is the machine clean?

Biosecurity measures for harvesters

A used harvester requires a substantial amount of dismantling and thorough cleaning before it is free from soil and plant matter.

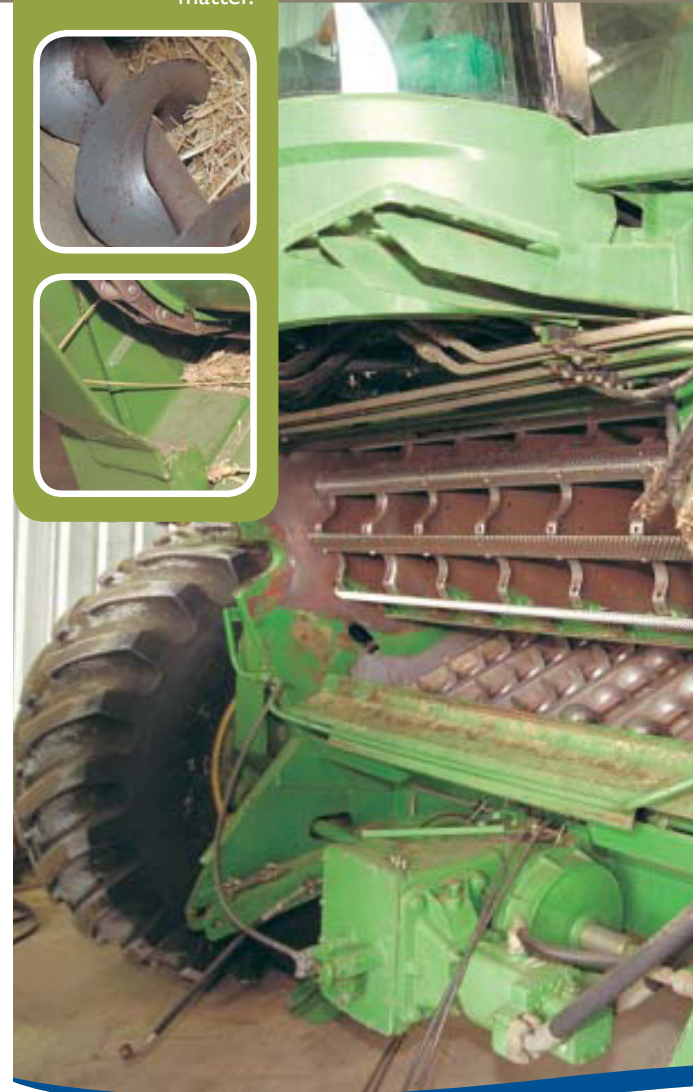
Handy hints for cleaning machinery

- Before cleaning, always run the machine to shift any loose material out of the internal workings
- Clean and inspect the machine in a well lit area
- Dismantle the machine as far as practically possible to give access to internal spaces
- Wash as a last resort - water tends to clump and swell plant matter and cause it to stick. It may also damage electronic equipment.
- Leave inspection covers off after cleaning to facilitate inspection
- Get a second opinion – a fresh pair of eyes will see contamination that you missed

For further information please contact:

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For further information on Import Requirements see the Plant Quarantine Manual (Tasmania) at: www.dpiwte.tas.gov.au/quarantine



The movement of used harvesters and harvesting equipment presents a serious biosecurity risk.

Dirty harvesters contain soil, seeds and plant material. These are transported together with the machine, and may become dislodged when the machine is next used.

Pests and diseases like lupin anthracnose, chickpea blight and pea weevil can be carried into previously uncontaminated areas through the trash found in a dirty harvester.

Weed seeds and Genetically Modified (GM) plant material can also be transferred from one State to another via contaminated harvesting equipment.

Harvesters and associated parts must be cleaned prior to import, and must also pass a quarantine inspection upon arrival in Tasmania.

Machines found to be contaminated upon arrival will be cleaned at the owner's expense before they are permitted entry. If cleaning is considered not to be feasible, the machine may be re-exported.

The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment acknowledges the following as sources of material contained in this Info note:

- Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia
- Photographer Peter Maloney Copyright © Western Australian Agriculture Authority, 2003
- John Deere Limited (Australia)
- Department of Industry and Investment NSW (Primary Industries)

Department of
Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

The numbers on these images represent contamination “hot spots” found in harvesters.

The cleaning checklist below matches these diagrams.

Use the checklist as a guide to locate the areas that require cleaning, and then to conduct your own inspection to check that they are clean.

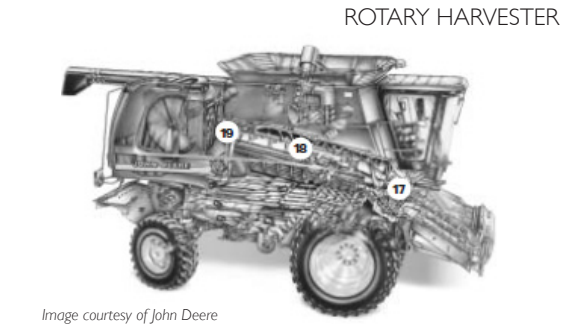
Note that the checklist is designed to serve only as a guide – all areas of the machine must be found to be clean by Quarantine Tasmania before they can issue certification that declares the harvester is free from soil and plant material.

What equipment should I use?

All plant material and soil needs to be removed from the machine. Consolidated dirt (i.e. dust and trash) may need to be loosened before it can be easily removed.

The following equipment should be available:

- Tools to dismantle the machine
- Portable lights
- Scraper
- Wire probe
- Vacuum cleaner
- High-pressure air (an industrial air compressor or leaf blower)
- High-pressure water



What is the order of cleaning?

Harvesters should be cleaned from the top down to avoid contaminating areas already cleaned.

Cleaning should take place on a hardstand (i.e. bitumen or concrete surface).

- Loosen all consolidated material first
- Remove as much as possible by brushing or blowing the surfaces
- Vacuum contaminants from pockets or spaces

CLEANING CHECKLIST

The checklist below is designed to act as a guide to assist in the cleaning of a used harvester. Cleaning requirements are not limited to these areas; all parts of the machine should be checked to ensure they are free from soil and plant material.

The numbered sections listed below correspond to the numbers in the diagrams on this page

ALL HARVESTERS		CLEANED
1	Area under the skid plate	
2	Header knives and fingers	
3	Horizontal auger	
4	All areas behind covers	
5	Areas inside belts (draper fronts)	
6	Feeder house	
7	Driver's cab	
8	Fan, fan housing and shields	
9	Chassis, including axles, chassis rails and undercarriage areas	
10	Tailing auger	
11	Sieves and grain pan	
12	Grain bin and auger(s)	
13	Engine compartment, radiator core and covers	
14	Grain elevator, including cups and rubber flights	
15	Straw spreaders or choppers	
16	Tyres and rims	
CONVENTIONAL HARVESTER		
17	Threshing or separating area, including the drum, concave, concave wire and stone trap	
18	Beater drum, including the area between the drum and walkers	
19	Straw walkers, including the beater and chaff pan, underneath the straw walkers and any concealed area under air flaps	
ROTARY HARVESTER		
17	External top and sides of the conical section of the rotor cage and stone trap	
18	Areas inside the top of the conical section	
19	Threshing or separating area, including along the rotor cage	
BINS AND AUGERS		
	All bins and augers must be empty and clean	
WIRING LOOMS		
	Conduit need not be removed, but must be cleaned	
MACHINES SHOULD BE LEFT DISMANTLED TO FACILITATE QUARANTINE INSPECTION		

Contact Quarantine Tasmania for further details of requirements for movement of harvesting machinery and equipment.