



# Tropical Cyclone – Severe Wind

- Items on the checklist are general activities for production nurseries confronting a predicted tropical cyclone.
- As each nursery site is different, nursery owners/managers need to identify which of the listed activities are applicable to their site and assess site-specific needs to include in the preparation activities.
- For example, if the tropical cyclone warning is downgraded to a tropical low system, you may need to refer to the Preparation Checklist for Flood.

Area	Activity	Who?	Done <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure all loose items in / near structures.</li> <li>• Consider closing shed doors, shade houses; consider cutting and dropping protective covers if impact is imminent.</li> <li>• Locate spare shade cloth and prepare to use.</li> <li>• Make residence safe for family, pets.</li> </ul>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and move valuable stock to safe zone or off site, if time permits.</li> <li>• Identify staff responsible for relocation of plants and stock post-cyclone.</li> <li>• Assess how/when to lay down stock against potential wind damage.</li> <li>• Assess timing of irrigation, scheduled chemical and fungicidal treatments.</li> </ul>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor automated sprinklers - assess scheduling</li> <li>• Protect exposed pumps and watering infrastructure</li> <li>• Check and isolate electrical boxes including turning off at mains box, if safe to do so.</li> </ul>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure all chemicals and dangerous goods in their locked storage units.</li> <li>• Raise fertilizers to areas above expected flood areas.</li> <li>• Move or cover growing media to avoid wash-out / contamination.</li> <li>• Relocate pallets, wrapping, pots, bags to safe zone.</li> </ul>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move vehicles undercover / to a safe zone.</li> <li>• Check and test back-up generator, ensure spare fuel is on site.</li> <li>• Turn off, safely store power and hand tools.</li> </ul>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise at-risk zones, assess timing of deliveries, dispatch and production activity.</li> <li>• Ensure staff have enough time to leave and get home safely.</li> <li>• Back up computers and secure all PCs and electronic equipment. Secure critical business documents and nursery paperwork into waterproof, plastic containers.</li> <li>• Ensure phones are fully charged and non-essential electrical points and equipment are turned off.</li> <li>• Check first aid kits.</li> <li>• Ensure family and pets are in a safe zone.</li> </ul>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Characteristics of tropical cyclone, severe wind event:



- Low pressure systems that form over warm tropical waters. They typically form when the sea surface temperature is above 26.5°C. Tropical cyclones can continue for many days, even weeks, and may follow quite erratic paths. A cyclone will dissipate once it moves over land and over cooler oceans.
- Source: <http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/tc-info/>
- Intense, destructive winds, flash flooding, storm surge on coastal locations. Excessive rainfall.
- May be followed by extreme heat days and humid conditions.

## General nursery preparation:

- Keep watch on [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) and your local Rain Radar. Listen to local radio forecasts and trustworthy social media sources.
- Have a written emergency plan. Allocate priority tasks. Exercise your emergency natural disaster plan. Keep staff, family and neighbours informed of your plans and potential for impact.
- Purchase a back-up generator.
- Identify priority at-risk areas, workflow and activity.
- Check and re-stock first aid kits.
- Conduct regular back-up of computer systems and duplicate essential documents into a safe storage location (eg. plastic boxes for hardcopies or hard drive discs). Charge phones, turn off non-essential electrical outlets.
- Identify a safe zone for staff, family and pets during an emergency.
- Keep staff, family and neighbours informed of your plans and potential for impact.

## Pre-season preparation:

- Identify shade houses, structures at risk of flood, wind damage.
- Assess gutters, clear debris from drainage channels to enable stormwater flow.
- Exercise your emergency natural disaster plan.
- Know your insurance cover for riverine flood damage.
- Check and test back-up generator.
- Purchase spare shade cloth and store in an elevated location.
- Make specific preparations related to your production cycle.

## Notes

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