

# COVID-19 Gloves: Best Practices for Produce Growers



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

## Best Practices for Farms

The following are best practices to help farmers keep their workforce healthy, their food products safe, and to protect their businesses as much as possible during this COVID-19 outbreak. Farmers are encouraged to continue these best practices and integrate them into their farm hygiene and sanitation systems to ensure their on-farm health and hygiene standards remain at a high level into the future.

### Glove Use

Gloves create a barrier between germs on our hands and the things we touch. Correct use of gloves may reduce the spread of COVID-19. Follow these important tips to help protect coworkers, customers, and yourself.

### When to Wear Disposable Gloves

When gloves are in limited supply, you may wish to prioritize their use to the operations when you closely interact with others.

Consider using disposable gloves for:

- Direct produce handling at the point of sale.
- Accepting payment from customers.

Remember to change gloves and wash hands when switching tasks.

### Types of Gloves



#### Reusable gloves

- Keep clean through frequent washing and drying.
- Discard gloves that are worn, torn, or heavily soiled.



#### Disposable gloves

- Do not wash or reuse disposable gloves.
- Change gloves at least every 4 hours when working on the same task, or sooner if you change tasks or gloves become soiled or torn.
- Discard after use.

\*\*These gloves are intended for disease prevention and are not to be used when handling or applying agricultural chemicals.

# COVID-19

## Gloves: Best Practices for Produce Growers

### Tips for Proper Glove Use

- Wash your hands with soap and water before putting on gloves and after removing them.
- Wear the appropriate size of glove. If gloves are too loose they can fall off your hands, and if they are too tight they may tear easily.
- Do not touch your face, hair, or clothing while wearing gloves.
- Change gloves as appropriate, such as when you switch tasks, if you cough or sneeze into gloves, and if they rip or tear.

### How to Safely Remove Disposable Gloves



1. Hold the outside of one glove by the wrist.



2. Peel the glove down, turning it inside-out.



3. Pull the glove off, holding it inside-out with your gloved hand.



4. Slide the fingers of your now bare hand under the wrist of the other glove.



5. Peel the glove downward, turning it inside-out.



6. Pull it all the way down, over the first inside-out glove you are holding.

Image modified from: <https://www.globus.co.uk/how-to-safely-remove-disposable-gloves>

