

# BIOSAFETY NEWS

## IS your BSC properly maintained?

Engineering controls, such as biological safety cabinets (BSCs), reduce the risk of employee exposure by removing or isolating the worker from the hazard. Biological safety cabinets (BSCs) are the primary means of containment for personnel working with infectious agents and other bio-hazards.

Biosafety cabinets must be certified at least **annually** by NSF-certified technicians and according to NSF 49 standards. Contact the Department of Biological Safety for UK approved vendors. **Any BSCs not certified will be reported to the Department Chair, Executive Vice-President of Research, and Provost as a serious lab violation.** It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI) to participate in the required annual certification process. Prior to certification the user will be responsible for decontaminating the interior surfaces of the cabinet using an approved method and disinfectant specific to the agent. Copies of annual certification reports shall be maintained by the Principal Investigator or Laboratory Manager.

Notify the Biosafety Office in advance when you plan to have BSCs moved, placed in storage, transferred to a new owner, discarded, removed from the University of Kentucky, or obtained from another institution or manufacturer. The PI is responsible for ensuring proper decontamination of the BSC. **BSCs shall be professionally gas or vapor decontaminated by a certified technician, before a unit is relocated, stored, serviced (interior), or discarded** based upon the agents which have been manipulated in the cabinet and the future usage of the BSC. Most importantly, **BSCs must be recertified after movement and prior to use.**



### Inside this issue

- BSC maintenance
- Cell phone contamination
- Lab Safety Fair
- Better Bio Awards
- Biosafety Reminder



## Cells Growing Cells

University of Surrey conducted a study which exposed mobile phones to agar plates. This resulted in some eye opening photographs. Lab workers should be aware of appropriate use of personal electronic devices in the lab. Never utilize them with gloves on or use them anywhere near where culturing is taking place. Good hand hygiene is one of the best preventative measures for lab acquired illness.

<https://futurism.com/cells-growing-cell/>



*The Dept. of Biological Safety would like to thank the following labs for setting a shining example of lab housekeeping and maintenance. Well done!*

**Bix**  
(BBSRB/SB)

**CHEN, G.**  
(MED SCI)

**HUJA**  
(MED SCI)

**Lee, S.**  
(BBSRB)

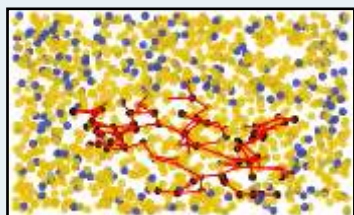
**Pal I I**  
(Ag North)

**SCHARDL**  
(Pl ant SCI)



## How Herd Immunity Works

Click on the image below for an animated gif



Link: <http://i.imgur.com/J7LANQ4.gifv>

## Biosafety Reminder:

On our routine inspections of labs we have observed an increase in the amount of used gloves laying on benches. Gloves must be discarded after a single use! Re-use of gloves is prohibited.

There are only **three** locations gloves should be found:



1) In the box



2) On your hand



3) In the trash



### Department of Biological Safety

505 Oldham Court  
Lexington, Kentucky 40502

Fax: 859-323-3838

E-mail: [biosafety@uky.edu](mailto:biosafety@uky.edu)

**Brandy Nelson.....859-257-1049**  
Biological Safety Officer

**Holley Trucks.....859-257-8655**  
Asst. Biological Safety Officer

**Eric Rouse.....859-323-5728**  
Sr. Biological Safety Specialist

**Delena Mazzetti .....859-257-1073**  
Sr. Biological Safety Specialist

As part of the Division of Environmental Health & Safety, the Department of Biological Safety is responsible for programs concerning the safe use of recombinant and synthetic nucleic acids, infectious agents, and potentially infectious materials such as human sourced materials in the research and teaching laboratories at the University of Kentucky. This includes training, auditing, and consulting with researchers, laboratory personnel and teaching staff concerning compliance with the federal and state laws and regulations in these areas.

**Visit us on the web!**  
<http://ehs.uky.edu/biosafety/>