

continued

VISITORS

- Control traffic on and off the operation**
- When possible, **post prominent signage** to restrict access, to inform visitors to report to the office/house and to explain your biosecurity procedures
- Assess the risk level of visitors** and be vigilant with biosecurity practices when hosting high-risk visitors
 - High-risk visitors include veterinarians, livestock haulers and residents of FAD infected countries that have contact with livestock
- Check the country disease status** of the countries your guests have visited in the past 21 days
 - To check an official country disease status, contact your provincial cattle organization or visit www.oie.int
- Instruct visitors on your sanitation practices** on or prior to arrival
 - Provide clean clothes and footwear and clean equipment and vehicles if necessary
- Keep a 'visitor log'**
 - For all visitors, service calls and deliveries – no exceptions
 - Include date, name, business, contact information, next farm visit, previous farm visit

SANITATION

- Keep clean**, including all footwear, clothing, instruments and equipment
- Use disposable equipment** once and safely discard
- Disinfection**
 - Choose the right product for the job
 - Clean items with warm water and detergent before disinfection

WILDLIFE & PESTS

- Protect your feed and water supplies** from fecal contamination by wildlife and other livestock
- Control or eliminate vermin**

Do your part to prevent
foreign animal diseases from
entering Canada
and the spread of production
limiting diseases to your herd.

Implement a
**BIOSECURITY
PROGRAM**

For more information:
Contact your local veterinarian
or
visit www.inspection.gc.ca/biosecurity

Livestock Biosecurity

for Beef Producers



The information contained in this document is a summary of best practices. The CCA, CFIA and the provincial cattle organizations are developing a Biosecurity Standard for Canada's beef cattle industry. The Standard will be available for producers in early 2011.

Compiled by



Biosecurity

Disease can have a devastating effect on the health and welfare of your livestock and the economic viability of your business. We have only to look at the recent experience in the UK and Japan to see that a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak in Canada would permanently alter your business and Canada's livestock industry.

Beef producers can reduce the chance of a FAD outbreak, like Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), or the impact if one occurs, by having a sound biosecurity program. In addition, a biosecurity program provides ongoing risk management for endemic diseases like IBR virus, BVD virus, Johne's Disease and calf scours.

With a customized plan that suits your operation, you will find that biosecurity is a practical, effective and low-cost approach to protecting your herd and the national herd.

A biosecurity plan should address how you manage animal health, day-to-day operations and animal, vehicle and human access on the operation.

By following the principles outlined in this pamphlet and working with a veterinarian, you can play a significant role in keeping your animals and your industry as healthy as possible.



Implement a Biosecurity Program

WHAT IS IT?

A biosecurity program is a risk management program to prevent the impact of disease.

WHY DO IT?

To reduce in your herd and the national herd:

- the introduction of disease
- the spread of disease, and
- the cost of disease.

HOW TO DO IT?

Some biosecurity basics may already be in your management system - learn about additional measures to implement. Develop a customized plan that makes sense on your operation. Be aware of disease outbreaks and continually reassess the risk of disease in your herd. Be especially vigilant with your biosecurity practices when risk is higher, such as when introducing purchased animals from an unknown source or welcoming visitors from an FMD infected country.

WHERE TO GET HELP?

From your veterinarian, cattle associations, provincial government and the CFIA.

WHEN TO DO IT?

Now. Implement a control program for your operation right away and keep it current.

WHO HAS TO DO IT?

You. You are responsible for animal health on your operation – that is a critical control point in preventing or controlling the spread of disease to the national herd.



Your Livestock Biosecurity Program Checklist

LIVESTOCK

- Discuss your animal health program** with your veterinarian
- Learn to detect the first signs of disease**
 - Seek advice from your veterinarian when necessary and train staff
- Separate sick from healthy animals** where possible and appropriate
 - Have a designated sick pen in which animals can not share feed or water or have nose-to-nose contact with animals in other pens
- Notify your veterinarian** if you suspect a reportable disease
- Obtain vet diagnostics** in cases of unusual symptoms or unexplained deaths
- Deadstock** should be disposed of in a timely manner according to municipal and provincial regulations. Keep in mind the location of water
- Ensure good fencing** between your livestock and neighbouring animals
- Choose suppliers** that practice good biosecurity
 - Use only commercially available milk replacers and colostrum or colostrum from your own cows
- Purchase healthy livestock** from reputable suppliers with a recognized on-farm food safety program
- Isolate purchased livestock** for 2 or more weeks because infected animals may not show symptoms for up to three weeks
 - This is especially important when animals are purchased from an unknown source
 - Do not use designated sick pen for this purpose
- Manure** should be handled according to municipal and provincial regulations