

Livestock Biosecurity

A 'Foreign Animal Disease' (FAD) in your herd can have a devastating effect on the health and welfare of your livestock, and the economic viability of your business.

The same is true for every herd in Canada. We have only to look at the recent experience in the UK to see that an outbreak in Canada would permanently alter your business and Canada's livestock industry, and cost billions.

You can reduce the chance of an outbreak – or the impact, if it occurs – by having your own biosecurity program.

WHAT IS IT?

A management program to prevent the spread of disease.

WHY DO IT?

To reduce – in your herd and the national herd:

- The chance of introducing disease;
- The spread of disease, and;
- The cost of disease.

HOW TO DO IT?

As a part of the management program for your operation. Consider your inputs, the products you produce, the assets you manage (i.e. the livestock, feed, equipment and buildings), and the costs and the risks you are prepared to bear.

WHERE TO GET HELP?

From your veterinarian, commodity group, provincial veterinary service, the CFIA and the Canadian Animal Health Coalition.

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 program will assist those responding to a major outbreak.

Do your part ...

Prevent foreign animal diseases from entering Canada ...

Implement a biosecurity program.

*Contact Canadian Animal Health Coalition
'... promoting a collaborative approach to animal health'
www.animalhealth.ca*

This bulletin supported by the Western CARD Council

Your Livestock Biosecurity Checklist

VISITORS

- Control traffic on and off the farm**
- Post prominent signage** to restrict access and provide directions to the farm office, using words appropriate to your location and operation
- Discourage unnecessary visitors**
 - All visitors must be accompanied, and prohibited or limited from accessing structures or pens containing animals, medications or feed
- Keep a 'visitor log'**
 - all visitors, service calls and deliveries – no exceptions
 - date, name, business, contact information, next farm visit, previous farm visit (see www.animalhealth.ca)
- Ask visitors to arrive in clean clothes**, footwear and vehicles
 - on arrival, instruct visitors as to your sanitation practices
 - provide clean clothes and footwear if this condition is not met
- Discuss visitors from other countries** with your veterinarian or the CFIA, to assess the risk and appropriate measures

LIVESTOCK

- Purchase healthy livestock** from reputable suppliers following good management practices and a recognized on-farm food safety program
- Isolate purchased livestock** for a minimum of 2 weeks
- Purchase quality feed** from feed mills that follow good manufacturing practices
- Separate sick from healthy animals**
- Deadstock** should be
 - removed immediately from other animals
 - removed promptly from the farm by deadstock truckers
 - held away from animals, feed and buildings while on-farm, in such a manner that the deadstock trucker does not have to enter livestock buildings
 - necropsied to confirm cause of death

SANITATION

- Keep clean** ... all personnel, buildings, yards, equipment, instruments, feed storage areas and feed equipment
- Disinfection**
 - choose the right product for the job
 - clean items with warm water and detergent, before disinfection
- Use disposable equipment** once, and discard

WILDLIFE & PESTS

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