



## **Farm Biosecurity...a Common Sense Approach Towards the Protection Against Foreign Animal Disease**

Some operations, such as integrated poultry and swine barns, have a well-developed biosecurity plan designated to protect the high health status of the herd or flock. The following recommendations are directed towards smaller operations and offer practical steps for protecting the health of the herd.

### **FARM VISITORS**

Accepting visitors from countries with serious animal diseases requires special precautions. They must not be allowed contact with susceptible species on your farm for at least 48 hours after arrival in Canada.

#### **Low Risk Visitors**

Visitors coming from urban areas that have no contact with livestock pose very little risk of spreading disease to your livestock.

Recommended Precautions:

- Ask visitors to arrive with clean clothing and footwear. Dirty boots must be disinfected before proceeding. You may provide your own clean boots or disposable footwear.
- Ask visitors not to enter pens or make contact with the animals.
- When visitors leave, ask them to wash soiled boots and hands with water and detergent.

#### **Moderate Risk Visitors:**

People who travel from farm to farm, but have no direct contact with livestock pose a moderate risk for disease transmission. These may include salespersons, feed distributors, farm equipment mechanics and various types of inspectors.

Recommended Precautions:

- Same precautions as above with additional requirements
- Clean coveralls should be worn if there is any contact with feed, water, soil samples, manure or farm equipment
- Sampling equipment should be cleaned after each use
- When leaving the farm, dirty boots must be cleaned and disinfected, and soiled coveralls should be removed before entering the vehicle.

#### **High Risk Visitors:**

These are visitors that travel from farm to farm and have direct, often intimate contact with livestock. These would include veterinarians, inseminators, processing crews, livestock haulers and neighbours.

Recommended Precautions:

- Same precautions as above with additions requirements
- Visitors should arrive with clean outerwear, boots and equipment. Vehicle interiors should be clean and be equipped with easily removable rubber floor mats.
- Before leaving the farm, soiled equipment and footwear must be cleaned and disinfected. Wash hands with detergent. Remove dirty coveralls before entering vehicle.

***(From the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website: [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca))***