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BIOSECURITY BASICS FOR NRCS FARM VISITS

With a Technical Presentations by:

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Biosecurity Reminder: A P C U

- A** Arrive clean - Keep contact surfaces (shoes and hands) clean
....don't a bring disease to customers operations
- P** Prevent vehicle transport of disease-Keep vehicles at a distance
....respect or assume access restrictions as vehicles are
difficult to disinfect
- C** Clean-up after visit – Clean and disinfect or remove manure
contaminated surfaces
....don't take a disease home
- U** Use proper hygiene methods

REASONS biosecurity is a concern

a few examples: **Name** **disease:** **transmission**

Name	Disease	Transmission
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	Virus	Ingestion Aerosols
African Swine Fever (AFS)	Virus	Ingestion Contact
Johne's disease (mycobacterium paratuberculosis)	Bacterial Spores	Ingestion
Escherichia coli (E. coli) 0157	Bacterium	Ingestion
Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD)	Virus	Ingestion Contact
Salmonella	Bacteria	Ingestion



Manure is a common medium of transmission for these as well as other harmful agents

NRCS staff collect data during farm visits for :

- * The inventory and evaluation in a planning process
- * Information for a CNMP
- * Site topographic survey
- * Assessment for a waste storage facility site
- * And other purposes

These activities often have a high likelihood of coming into contact with animal manure.




WHY BIOSECURITY? -----

If you conduct business with or visit a livestock operation, **you** are the person responsible for your biosecurity actions

*Remember Biosecurity Basics... **A P C U***

.....Biosecurity is also NRCS POLICY

GM 130 403 H, Homeland Security/Crisis Responsibilities, which outlines three levels of biosecurity.



NRCS Agency Policy: GM 130 403 H,
Homeland Security/Crisis Responsibilities
Policy - **403.84 Policy**

- (a) *During periods of outbreak of infectious animal diseases, NRCS employees shall not enter affected areas for normal planning and implementation purposes.* Entry to those areas shall only be made in response to a request from the State Veterinarian or other responsible official in order to provide guidance and assistance for mortality disposal. In those situations, biosecurity measures as directed by the responsible official shall be followed.



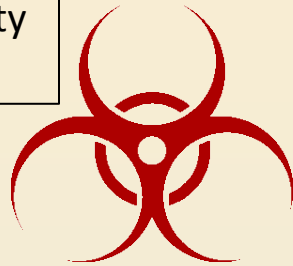
Policy - **403.84 Policy** (continued)

(b) NRCS employees will adhere to Level 1 biosecurity measures at all times or more stringent measures that farmers/ranchers or owners/producers may have in place.

During periods of heightened concern for infectious animal disease, additional procedures outlined in Levels 2 and 3 below may be implemented as recommended by APHIS and the State Veterinarian.

NRCS Policy states: Level 1 - Visits to farms or ranches that entail office or home visits only:

Biosecurity
Symbol





Level 1 biosecurity hygiene protocol:

Level 1

- ✓ Avoid livestock area, pens, barns, etc., unless it is necessary to complete the goal of a visit.
- ✓ Park vehicles on paved or concrete areas, away from production sites on farms, to avoid contact with dirt, mud or manure.
- ✓ Wash hands with soap and water or an antibacterial gel before entering and after leaving the premises to avoid transmitting disease agents from person to person.

NRCS Policy states: Level 2 required for visits to farms or ranches where minimal contact with livestock/poultry or their housing (barns, pens, hutches, etc) is unavoidable to attain the goal of the visit:





Level 2 hygiene protocol is Level 1 biosecurity plus:

- ✓ Put on clean rubber or new plastic boots upon exiting the vehicle.
- ✓ After returning to vehicle, clean and disinfect any equipment used with a brush and approved EPA disinfectant solution (i.e. Virkon-S Oxonia Active/Oxycept 333).
- ✓ Clean rubber boots with an approved EPA disinfectant diluted with water. Scrub the bottom of the boot with a brush to remove all dirt or debris. Dispose of disinfectant solution according to the label. Do not discard unused disinfectant on the ground.
- ✓ If wearing disposable overboots, place them in a plastic bag and leave it on the premises for the owner/producer to dispose of them or place them in a designated “dirty” area of your vehicle.

**NRCS Policy states: Level 3 Biosecurity protocol during
Visits to farms/ranches where there will be close contact with
livestock/poultry (walking through narrowly confined pens/lots
where animals are within reach or actually handling/inspecting
the animals):**





Level 3 hygiene protocol is Level 2 biosecurity plus:

- ✓ Pre-plan the needed supplies and clothing for daily visits including, but not limited to, coveralls (cloth or Tyvex); boots (rubber or disposable plastic); latex exam; large water container; EPA approved disinfectant –Virkon-S Oxonia Active/Oxycept 333; long-handled brush; trash bags; paper towels; spray bottle w/water; liquid and/or gel antibacterial soap; and bucket/pail.
- ✓ Put on a pair of clean coveralls for each visit.
- ✓ Designate a “clean” area in your vehicle to place clean equipment and boots.
- ✓ Designate a “dirty” area in your vehicle for clothing and equipment that has been used on the farm.
- ✓ Remove coveralls so that they are inside out and place them in a garbage bag.
- ✓ Place the clean equipment and boots in the designated “clean” area of the vehicle.
- ✓ If the vehicle was not parked on a paved surface, wash vehicle tires and wheel wells to remove dirt and debris at a nearby pressure car wash.
- ✓ At the end of the day, dispose of all plastic bags that contain dirty supplies in a manner that prevents exposure to other livestock.
- ✓ Launder all coveralls.
- ✓ Personal hygiene should include shampooing hair and cleaning under fingernails.



Everyone has a role in biosecurity

NRCS staff - If you conduct business with or visit a livestock operation, **you** are responsible for your own biosecurity actions.



403.85 Roles and Responsibilities

District Conservationist

- (d) District Conservationists (or designated employees responsible for local management of NRCS resources) are responsible for:
- (1) Ensuring that the local staff follows procedures as stated above to prevent the spread of harmful and highly contagious livestock and poultry diseases. Additional information regarding safety and health can be found in Title 360, Personnel, Part 420, Safety & Health Management Program.
 - (2) Ensuring that the local partners and staff are familiar with the above procedures.
 - (3) Providing status report to the appropriate line officer of activities and conditions in the Area.




403.85 Roles and Responsibilities

State Conservationist

(c) State Conservationists and the Director, Pacific Islands Areas are responsible for:

- (1) *Communicating the NRCS policy to all offices and to all State partners.*
- (2) *Providing all NRCS offices with required equipment, materials, and information to implement Homeland Security and biosecurity measures and procedures.*



Most of the work NRCS does can be covered under Level 1 and Level 2 biosecurity protocol

This requires that NRCS staff need to plan out the farm visits they are making on any given day.

- A** Arrive clean - don't a bring disease to operations
- P** Prevent vehicle transport of disease
- C** Clean-up after visit – don't take a disease home
- U** Use proper hygiene methods

Staying Informed:

“During periods of heightened concern for infectious animal disease, additional procedures outlined in Levels 2 and 3 may be implemented as recommended by APHIS and the State Veterinarian.”

APHIS has a website below that may help.



The screenshot displays the USDA APHIS website. At the top, the logo for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is visible. Below the logo is a banner image featuring a cow, a sheep, and a chicken. A navigation menu includes links for Home, About APHIS, Help, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled "Animal Health Monitoring & Surveillance" and features a section for "Status of Reportable Diseases in the United States". This section includes a paragraph explaining that the following tables show the United States' status for animal diseases reported to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). A "Related Topics" sidebar on the right lists "Find Monitoring & Surveillance Information" and "National Animal Health Surveillance System".

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Home About APHIS Help Contact Us

You are here: s

Animal Health Monitoring & Surveillance

Status of Reportable Diseases in the United States

The following tables show the United States' status for animal diseases that are reported to the [World Organization for Animal Health \(OIE\)](#) if they are confirmed to be present in specific livestock, poultry, and aquaculture species. This information is reported to OIE every six months and is also presented on the international OIE website.

Related Topics

- Find Monitoring & Surveillance Information
- National Animal Health Surveillance System



NRCS Biosecurity responsibility is to know that not all diseases are created equal...

Get information about diseases of concern to know the correct type of disinfectant to use.

State or Area Offices can designate a staff person to maintain an awareness of reported disease outbreaks in the state.

APHIS regional contact:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/area_offices/

APHIS disease monitoring:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/disease_status.htm

State veterinary office for direct information:

Search for contacts listed for the animal health service associated with your state government offices

Example of Level 2 Cleaning and Disinfection biosecurity supplies




Example of Level 2 supplies Disposable/Travel



Instant Hand
Sanitizers





NRCS staff will be asked to have greater presence in the field and need to prepare for the the Conservation Delivery Streamline Initiative (CDSI)biosecurity.

- A** Arrive clean - don't a bring disease to operations
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NRCS staff tasks for farm visits

Be Prepared:

1. Become familiar with the diseases most likely to be encountered in your area.
2. Find out the best disinfectant to clean the surfaces to be treated.
3. Order supplies and equipment for staff and vehicles used for field visits.
4. Follow-up with staff to ensure they understand the proper procedures for field visit hygiene
5. Plan visits by contacting the farm ahead
6. Make each visit count by taking all the supplies needed to collect data and information
7. Clean up properly after the visit to prevent bring any diseases back with you.



Handouts available with webinar participation

- ⇒ Copy of General Manual Policy for Biosecurity
- ⇒ Table of Disinfectants
- ⇒ Web Links: [USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service \(APHIS\)](#)



QUESTIONS?

***THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION***



Technical Presentations

Dr. Dan Grooms, D.V.M. Michigan State Univ., author of Ext. Bulletin E-2842, Biosecurity Guide for Livestock Farm Visits.

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