

Biosecurity Tips when Visiting Livestock Farms

When planning farm visits, it is best to limit them to one per day. If you have attended a conference with international attendees, you should refrain from conducting farm visits for 5 days. When planning to visit more than one farm in a day, schedule your visits to allow for a shower and a change of clothes between farms, even if they feature different animal species since some diseases can be zoonotic. When planning visits, start with the youngest, most susceptible animals first and finish with diseased animals. If visiting feed storage areas this should be done before animal contact. If making a farm records-only visit with no animal contact, make these your first visit for the day. If this is your first visit to a farm, ensure that your clothes and vehicle clearly display your organizational identity.



Before leaving your home or office

- **Call the producer ahead of time to schedule the visit and collect background information**

- Are there any known sick animals on the farm beyond the normal illnesses? Does the farm have any biosecurity requirements ie: no same species contact for 24 hours before the farm visit
- Ask about parking areas at the farm and initial meeting location
- Ask if you can take pictures to document the farm visit and needs (remember, for some diseases, electronic devices can be a fomite)

- **Have the proper supplies.**

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Coveralls or other protective clothing | <input type="checkbox"/> Boot brush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trash bags (one for disposables and one for laundry per farm) | <input type="checkbox"/> Paper towels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Disposable gloves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water (good to carry a jug for wash water only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand brush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber or plastic disposable boots to wear around the farm | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand wipes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Short boots for walking from the farm office to the vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> If working with sick animals, consider wearing a mask and safety glasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bucket or large pan | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety googles or at least safety glasses <i>D3 droplet rated or higher</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved Disinfectants, Chlorine products inactivate H5N1 | |

- **Identify a Place to wash coveralls outside your home**

- **Designate one part of your vehicle clean (back seat) and one part dirty (trunk).**

- **Consider using plastic totes for storing clean (before use) and dirty (after use) stuff.**

- **Plan your visit by seeing young and healthy animals first, then mature or sick animals last.**

Arriving at the farm

- Make sure your vehicle is clean before arriving at a farm
- Park in a designated area by the farm
If that area is not clean, park in a clean area.
- Put on boots right after leaving your vehicle
- Wash and dry rubber boots before entering farm facilities
- Wash boots in designated area
- Wash boot between each pen of animals, especially when going between age groups
- All material carried on the farm should be disinfected first
- Computers or tablets should be in a cleanable case
Only take the electronic devices you need

After the farm visit

- If you crossed farm traffic wash your vehicle
- If disposables are not left at the farm dispose of them in a dumpster, not your home or in the office
- Put coveralls in a plastic bag or secure laundry bag, be sure to wash both
- Wash/disinfect all equipment you took on farm before returning it to your office for storage
- Choose a disinfectant that works against a broad spectrum (Viruses, bacteria, bacterial spores, protozoa, and fungi)
Remember, disinfectants work best after all organic matter is removed



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