

A Checklist for Sheep and Goats Exhibition Organizers

Minimizing the Risk of Influenza Transmission at Sheep and Goats Shows and Exhibitions

Prior to the Event

Work with State Animal Health Officials and State Public Health Officials.

- Stay up to date on Federal and State requirements for animal movement <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/small-ruminant-camelid-h5n1-info.pdf>
- Obtain the most current Federal and State requirements for animal movement to provide to potential exhibitors prior to event
- Establish a plan should an animal develop clinical signs consistent with H5N1
- Collect contact information for state animal health officials and local or state public health officials to ensure that they can be reached if they are needed during the event
- Establish an event veterinarian who will be present or on call during the event

Collect contact information from all exhibitors to be able to rapidly communicate information prior to, during, and after the event.

Develop and share the event biosecurity plan with exhibitors.

This plan should include:

- Limit co-mingling** of sheep and goats from different flocks/herds
- Limit nose to nose contact** of sheep and goats from different flocks/herd
- Stagger stalling to allow space between exhibitors
- Prohibit shared water troughs between farms

Develop a plan should an animal show signs of illness.

- Establish an isolation area away from other animals and the public
- Develop protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE) recommendations for those caring for the sick animals

Ensure handwashing stations are present and fully stocked with supplies (soap, water, towels) near the exit of the animal exhibition area.

Develop signage to remind public and exhibitors of proper and recommended biosecurity.

Locate food services away from barns.

- Create signage to instruct visitors to refrain from eating in those areas and to wash their hands prior to eating if they have visited those areas

Gather basic supplies and PPE.

- Gloves, Masks, Goggles, Disposable Boots, disinfectants



Thoroughly clean and disinfect barns and animal handling equipment with approved disinfectants prior to the event.

- Pens, Gates, Chutes, Sort Panels, Scales, Feeders, Waterers

Post signs near the entry and exit of exhibition area to prohibit food and beverages in the barn, contact with the animals, and to wash their hands when leaving the animal area.

During the Event

Document and oversee the arrival and penning of sheep/goats.

Host an exhibitors meeting to review event protocols and important information.

- Recommended hygiene and biosecurity practices
- Symptoms to look for in sheep/goats and humans
- How to monitor and report sick exhibitors
- Specific actions to take should an animal become sick
- Clean and disinfect equipment frequently and remind exhibitors to do the same
- Food and beverages are prohibited in the barn



If an outbreak occurs

Notify show veterinarian, State Animal Health officials (State Veterinarian), State Public Health officials.

Implement Biosecurity Protocols:

- Limit access to all sheep/goats and barn areas
- Utilize PPE
- Isolate and test sheep/goats in question

Implement communication with authorities and exhibitors.

Maintain records.

After the Event

Clean and disinfect the exhibition area.

Develop a communication plan should an animal that was on exhibition show signs of illness within a week after the event.

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