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Biosecurity Guidelines Regarding On-Farm Visitors

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The following summary of guidelines was compiled from a variety of sources providing biosecurity information and management direction to livestock and poultry producers. Only the specific practices relating to on-farm visitors were compiled in this summary. The purpose is to create an awareness of what producers may be expecting from on-farm visitors related to biosecurity.

General On-Farm Visitor Guidelines

- Biosecurity protocols should be part of every farm's biological risk management plan including biosecurity protocols for farm visitors.
- Farm visitors include neighbors, friends, AI technicians, veterinarians, feed industry personnel, supply sales and service representatives, equipment repair individuals, agency personnel, inspectors, mortality collectors, and custom manure haulers and applicators.
- Farm operators should develop, communicate, and enforce biosecurity policies and guidelines for farm visitors.
- Establish one clearly marked area away from animal housing areas on the farm where visitors can enter.
- Designate a parking area away from animal housing areas for vehicles entering your farm.
- Keep a visitor log of the names and dates of the visitors.
- Determine if the visitors have been on another farm prior to visiting your farm.
- Determine if visitors need to enter any animal housing areas on your farm.
- Visitors should wear only clean clothing and boots on your farm. You may want to consider providing disposable coveralls and boots for visitors.
- Provide a container or plastic bag for collecting dirty clothing or disposable boots used by visitors.
- Provide footbaths or disinfectant containers at the entrance to each animal housing area on your farm. Visitors should clean boots when moving between animal housing units.
- Do not allow visitors, unless absolutely necessary, to walk through animal housing areas or feed areas.
- Discourage visitors from having direct animal, feed, water, and manure contact. Visitors should not touch animals unless it is part of their job.
- Do not allow "off-farm" vehicles to drive through animal housing areas. Use farm vehicles to transport visitors.
- Vehicles and equipment such as hoof trimming tables should be cleaned and disinfected before entering your animal housing areas.

Swine On-Farm Visitor Guidelines

- Place clearly visible biosecurity signs at farm entrance.
- Build perimeter fence around facility with gated and locked driveway.
- Secure buildings with locks.
- Limit the number of visitors to your facilities.
- Establish a “No Visitor” policy for non-service visitors.
- Question visitors about their last contact with other swine.
- Visitors must park vehicles in a designated area and not be allowed inside perimeter fence.
- Require visitors to sign in and maintain a visitor log.
- Visitors must shower-in, shower-out, and wear farm-provided clothing and boots.
- Provide effective boot disinfectant solutions at strategic sites of your production facilities.
- Do not allow vehicles to enter facilities and make sure vehicles are clean and disinfected.

Poultry On-Farm Visitor Guidelines

- Keep poultry houses locked and fastened from inside while inside.
- Do not allow visitors in or near the poultry houses.
- Allow only essential visitors in facilities.
- Visitors must wear protective outer clothing, including headgear and boots.
- Keep “restricted” signs posted at drive entrances.

Dairy On-Farm Visitor Guidelines

- Discourage all non-essential farm visitors.
- Establish parking areas away from animals.
- Vehicles and equipment entering the farm should be clean and disinfected.
- Off-farm vehicles should be prevented from driving through animal housing areas.
- Visitors should not enter any facilities unless they have a real need to do so.
- Establish one area on the farm where visitors can enter. This area should not be an animal housing area and should be clearly marked.
- Leave a phone number where visitors can call for information.
- Keep a visitor log of the names and dates of the visitors.
- Determine if the individuals have been on another farm prior to visiting your facility.
- Determine if there is any need for the visitor to enter any animal housing areas.
- Limit people access to livestock pens. Post warning signs asking visitors to keep out.
- Lock the barn at nights.
- Essential farm visitors should have clean outer clothing and disinfect footwear.
- Provide clean coveralls and boots to all visitors.
- Visitors should wash their boots with disinfectant or put on plastic boots.
- Display biosecurity signs.
- Place boot baths at building entry points.
- Visitors should clean boots when moving between animal housing areas.
- Direct contact with animals, feed, or water should be discouraged. Provide appropriate viewing locations that minimize the risk of contact.