

Report signs of disease immediately!

Don't wait to report unusual signs of disease to your private practitioner or the Illinois Department of Agriculture. State or U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarians will work with you and your private veterinary practitioner at no charge to take samples for foreign animal disease diagnostic tests. Early reporting is crucial to the health and safety of YOUR herd or flock and the entire livestock and poultry industry.

Your veterinarian can contact state and federal veterinarians if needed to assess a symptom and dispatch a foreign animal disease diagnostician, if the situation warrants.

Signs of disease that should be reported immediately:

1. Sudden, unexplained death loss in the herd or flock.
 2. Severe illness affecting a high percentage of animals.
 3. Blisters around an animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves.
 4. Staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders that prevent animals from rising or walking normally.
- A foreign animal disease outbreak could stop Illinois interstate and international livestock and poultry trade "dead in its tracks."
 - Early reporting is the most important step in eradicating a disease outbreak!

Register your livestock premises by phone or online at 866-299-9256 or www.agr.state.il.us/premiseid

To protect your herd by allowing animal health officials to rapidly identify all animals and premises that have had direct contact with disease.



**Don't take shortcuts!
Biosecurity Helps Protect
Your Herd Against
Agroterrorism and Disease**



**To develop a
Biosecurity Plan that
fits your operation,
call your veterinarian!**

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phone or online at
866-299-9256
TTY: 217/524-6858
or
www.agr.state.il.us/premiseid**

State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor



Department of Agriculture
Thomas E. Jennings, Director

**BIOSECURITY
BASICS**



Food Safety & Animal Protection
PO Box 19281 ~ Springfield, IL 62794-9855
866/299-9256 ~ TTY: 217/524-6858

Biosecurity...

Plain & Simple

LIVESTOCK ARE AT RISK of foreign animal disease. Swine, cattle, horses, sheep, goats, poultry and other livestock can be affected by a few unseen bacteria, parasites or viruses. Simple changes can provide an extra measure of protection for your animals.

Biosecurity practices are like barriers to keep disease out! Your premises should be a "safe" area. Biosecurity doesn't have to be confusing or expensive. In fact, a small tub, a gallon of bleach or disinfectant, and a brush will go a long way toward protecting your livestock.

Give "germs" the boot!

The coffee shop, feed store, elevator or livestock market... If you walk around in your work boots, then head home and work with your animals, you may be tracking germs right to your pasture, animal bedding or livestock feed.

Don't take unwanted germs to your animals. Keep extra boots or shoes to wear only on your premises, or clean and disinfect your footwear before heading out to check on livestock. Commercial disinfectants are readily available, or you can mix between 1 to 4 ounces of bleach to 1 gallon of water. A quick scrub of your boots with a long-handled brush will remove manure, mud or debris, and the bleach or disinfectant will kill viruses, germs and parasites.

Where have your hands been?

Handling animals at the livestock market? In Great Britain, foot-and-mouth virus was spread at the livestock auction by buyers in-

specting the mouths of hundreds of sheep. Wash your hands before handling feed or livestock.

Put security first.

Be aware of who is on your property!

If you see strangers on or near your property, ask questions or call your local law enforcement officials. It pays to be alert!

Lock your gates! Keep veterinary supplies and feed sacks in a secure location. Don't tempt someone to tamper with feed, supplements or medicines.

Taking animals to a show or fair? Don't take chances with feed and equipment at the show grounds. With the increased threat of agricultural terrorism, security is extremely important, particularly where unknown persons have access to livestock or poultry.

International travelers.

Friends, family or business associates coming to visit? If they've traveled internationally within the previous week, discourage any contact with your livestock. At least make certain footwear is disinfected. You could also provide visitors clean rubber boots that are never removed from your premises.

If you've traveled internationally, wash your clothes, shower and clean your boots before checking on livestock or poultry. Better yet, avoid getting near your animals for at least 48 hours after traveling internationally, to ensure you don't pass any viruses that may be harbored in your clothing or nasal passages.

Trash & Garbage: **"Bag it!"**

Control refuse on your premises. Don't haul home trash or garbage from your office, store or another site, unless it's bagged in plastic and sealed.



Don't haul disease home.

Car, truck or trailer tires can harbor germs. Take a few minutes to spray disinfectant over your tires to kill germs you've picked up in the parking lots, on dirt roads or in a friend's feed lot. If you've been hauling livestock, a quick trip through the car wash is advisable before returning home.

Bucket brigades & tool trades.

Borrowing equipment or tools from a neighbor? Carrying buckets, shovels or wheelbarrows to use at the fair? You can bet you've picked up germs at the event. Don't bring these items home until you've washed off the "crud" and sprayed the equipment with disinfectant. Clean and disinfect borrowed items before returning them.

Give germs space!

Newly acquired animals should be isolated for two weeks or longer to ensure that you don't introduce disease to your main herd or flock. Have your private practitioner inspect animals prior to, or shortly after, making a purchase.

Consider keeping show animals segregated for two weeks after they've been to a fair or exhibit. If someone has introduced a disease at an event, you'll be protecting your main herd or flock.

