



A Biosecurity Checklist Handout for Livestock Exhibitors

Practicing good biosecurity may help protect the health of the animals you bring to the fair. It is also good to remember that you and your animals may bring disease agents back home that you picked up during your stay at the fair.

Biosecurity Recommendations for Before and During the Fair/Exhibit:

- Carefully consider whether you want to bring animals that would return home after the fair, consider the risk that presents animals at home.
- Follow fair vaccination guidelines (if provided) and give vaccination(s) at least 30 days before the event.
- Vehicles and trailers used to transport animals to and from the fair should be well cleaned and sanitized, inside and out, between uses.
- Do not mix species in the same trailer (especially sheep and cattle). Avoid commercial haulers with multiple animals from multiple farms.
- Disinfect all equipment, such as buckets, shovels, wheelbarrows, halters, lead ropes, etc, before entering the fairgrounds.
- Do not share equipment with other exhibitors unless it is cleaned and disinfected before and after use.
- As much as possible, minimize feed and water changes from home to fair.
- People may accidentally help transmit disease from animal-to-animal.
 - If you must handle other's animals, remember to wash your hands and change your outer clothing before returning to your own animals.
 - If you must enter pens or stalls of other exhibitor's animals, remember to clean and disinfect your boots before entering your own animal's pen or stall.
 - If you exhibit sheep (especially lambs), do not handle other exhibitor's cattle or enter other's cattle pens without washing your hands, changing outer garments and disinfecting your boots before doing so.
 - If you exhibit cattle, do not handle other exhibitor's sheep (especially lambs) or enter their pens without washing your hands, changing outer garments and disinfecting your boots before returning to your cattle.
- Minimize animal stress by keeping them cool, well bedded and comfortable.
- If an animal becomes ill at the exhibit, consult the fair veterinarian
- Keep unused equipment and feed bagged or covered to reduce the risk of contamination.
- The person caring for animals at the fair should not perform animal-related chores at home. If the same person must do both, do chores at home first. Do not wear the same clothes to care for the animals at home and the fair animals.

Recommendations for After the Fair/Exhibit:

- Clean and disinfect all items at the end of the fair before taking them home.
- Properly dispose of unused bedding, hay, and feed after the fair. Do not bring it home.
- The biosecure way to transport your animals is in your own vehicle and/or trailer. Do not haul animals from other farms.
- After arriving home, keep fair animals isolated from other animals and pets for at least 30 days.
- Check these isolated animals every day for any signs of illness.
- Care for isolated animals separately, then change your clothes, clean and disinfect your boots and wash your hands before tending your other animals.
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- Contact a veterinarian as soon as you see any unusual symptoms in any animal. Many diseases can look similar to a foreign animal disease, only a veterinarian can tell for sure.

The biosecurity recommendations listed here were edited from the Indiana Department of Agriculture January 2009 issue of the Ketch Pen and “Biosecurity Considerations When Exhibiting Animals”, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign by Seibert D, Firkins L, and Wallace D. Ernst M.

These biosecurity practices are a good idea no matter what disease might be of concern. The goals are to keep every animal healthy and to safeguard the Oregon livestock industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don Hansen".

Don Hansen DVM, MPVM
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