

BIOSECURITY GUIDE: KEEPING YOUR EXHIBITION AND EVENT LIVESTOCK HEALTHY

Anytime animals travel from their premises to events, there is an increased risk for the spread of disease. Establishing and following strong biosecurity practices and knowing what to do before, during, and after an event helps prevent the spread of disease.

Before You Leave for an Event

- Work with a veterinarian to develop a preventative health program, including vaccinations, nutrition, and wellness appropriate for the animals.
- Have animals examined by a veterinarian and obtain a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI or health certificate) before attending the event.
- Do not take sick animals that have clinical signs of disease to an event.
- Carefully inspect livestock trailers to ensure good operating conditions. Be sure the trailer has adequate ventilation and secure, slip-resistant flooring that is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before and after each use.
- Clean and disinfect all equipment, including buckets, shovels, manure rakes, wheelbarrows, ropes, halters, brushes, clippers, etc., before packing to leave.
- Avoid transporting animals from different premises in the same trailer. If you must, arrange for a pick-up and drop-off point to prevent haulers from entering the premises and keep animals from different premises separate within the trailer.
- Know the health and vaccination status of animals that are hauled with your animals. Avoid contact with all visibly ill animals and people.
- Take sufficient amounts of feed and hay that animals are accustomed to consuming for the event.

During an Event

- Keep copies of CVIs, vaccination records, and test results on hand and readily available.
- Provide plenty of fresh water and feed. Avoid changing sources and types of feed or hay during the event. Do not allow manure to contaminate animals feed, water, hay, or feeding equipment.
- Don't share equipment with other exhibitors, unless it has been cleaned and disinfected between uses.



- Avoid contact with other exhibitors' animals and do not enter their pens. If contact is unavoidable, frequently wash your hands and disinfect your shoes.
- Keep unused feed and hay covered to reduce risk of contamination.
- Minimize stress by keeping animals cool, clean, and comfortable. Use recommended pest and fly control products as appropriate.
- Watch your animals closely for signs of illness, and immediately report any suspicious signs. Isolate your animal from other animals and people until further guidance is received.

Returning Home From an Event

- Properly dispose of leftover bedding, feed, and hay at the event facility or at an appropriate off-farm site before returning home.
- All equipment returning home should be cleaned and disinfected before leaving the event facility.
- Keep animals returning home isolated from other animals on your premises for 14 - 30 days.
- Carefully monitor animals in isolation for signs of illness.
- Feed, water, and tend to animals in isolation after caring for other animals on your premises to avoid any possible cross-contamination to other animals.

These biosecurity recommendations are for general disease prevention. For specific disease prevention practices, please contact your private veterinarian and refer to TAHC disease fact sheets.

