

Basic principles of biosecurity (Part 1)

(Add to GOOD MANAGEMENT PRACTICES in *Dairy Farming at your fingertips*)

Dairy farm workers provide the first line of defence in keeping dairy cows healthy and content. An important part of those efforts is biosecurity, which refers to the protection of health through the avoidance of disease.

There are four basic goals for any farm's biosecurity programme:

1. Prevent the spread of disease, both onto the farm and between animals on the farm.
2. Improve animal welfare by keeping the animals healthy.
3. Identify the disease early if it gets on the farm.
4. Protect the safety of the food supply.

For these goals to be achievable, a farm worker must understand how diseases spread. Direct transfer of disease occurs when one animal transmits it to another. Indirect transfer happens when some type of equipment or other object contaminated with the disease causing organism carries the disease to an animal. Some examples of disease carrying objects include: boots, overalls, needles, syringes, obstetrical chains, skid steers, tractors and loaders.

The role of farm workers

Prevent the spread of disease

Keep all equipment clean. This includes trucks, tractors, veterinary supplies, hoof trimming tools, clothes, boots and all farm equipment, as well as the vehicles that go in and out of the farm. They can carry disease from farm to farm if not cleaned between deliveries.

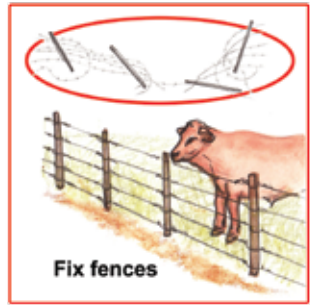
Help enforce farm rules that restrict access to certain areas to reduce risk.

Clean tools

Sanitise small equipment, such as hoof trimming tools and calving chains. Start by scrubbing all the tools with a brush. Once they are clean of dirt and debris, disinfect them. Residual dirt left on tools can cause disinfectants to be ineffective.

Clean clothes

Wear clean clothes to work each day. When washing your clothes, use the hottest temperature possible and tumble dry them if you can.



Make sure your boots don't have dirt on them. Disinfect your boots when moving from one pen to another, especially after working in pens with sick animals.

Work with the youngest animals first as they are most susceptible to disease.

Hands

Wash your hands frequently, before you start work, before you eat, treat animals and after you finish work. It takes a minute to properly wash your hands.

There are six different steps to properly wash your hands. First wet your hands, add soap and then wash them thoroughly, making sure you get the palm, heel of the hand, finger tips and back of the hand. Then rinse and dry. Finally, turn off the tap with a paper towel, so you don't contaminate your hands again.

Visitors

Be aware of visitors. Ask visitors to report to the office or to the owner. If you see someone you don't know, tell your immediate supervisor.

Make sure all gates and doors are locked as required. Areas of restricted access include: drug storage rooms/refrigerators, bulk tank areas, water sources and hazardous chemical storage areas.

Feed storage areas

Clean before you restock. Check the corners and bottom of walls and bins for mouldy feed. Clean up spilled feed to help control the rodent population. Destroy all contaminated feed.

Repair fences

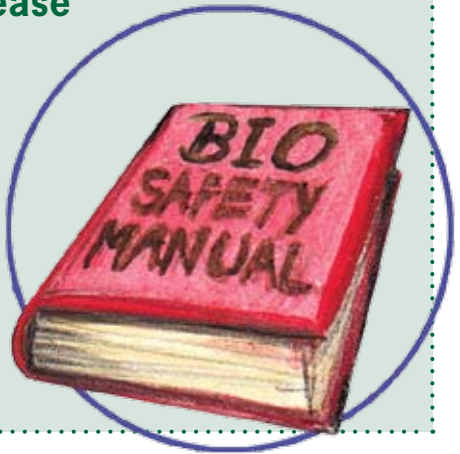
Keep wildlife and other people's animals out. Repair fences immediately.

Immediately report sick animals to your supervisor. Also report suspicious activity or people and unusual events.

Biosecurity

Prevent the spread of disease

- Follow a vaccination programme.
- Provide clean, healthy food.
- Clean water and feed troughs regularly.
- Clean and disinfect vehicles after transporting stock.
- Provide disinfecting facilities for workers and visitors (clean water, soap and foot dip).
- Keep all newly brought animals apart and look for signs of illness.
- Test milk.



Voorkom die verspreiding van siektes

- Volg 'n inentingsprogram.
- Gee skoon, gesonde kos.
- Maak water- en voerbakke gereeld skoon.
- Was en ontsmet ook voertuie nadat vee vervoer is.
- Voorsien ontsmettingsfasiliteite vir werkers en besoekers (skoon water, seep en voetdip).
- Hou alle nuutgekoopte diere apart en let op siektetekens.
- Toets die melk.

Thintela ukwanda kwezifo

- Landela imiyalelo yokutofa.
- Sebenzisa ifidi okanye ukutya okusempilweni nokucocekileyo.
- Sebenzisa amanzi acocekileyo neenkonkxana zokugalela ifidi ezicocekileyo ngalo lonke ixesha.
- Hlamba iimoto uze ufake izibulala-ntsholongwane emva kokuba uthuthe imfuyo ngazo.
- Yakha indawo ekunokusetyenziselwa kuyo izibulala-Ntsholongwane ngabasebenzi nangabatyeleli (amanzi acocekileyo, isepha nediphu yeenyawo).
- Yonke imfuyo efikayo mayigcinwe yodwa kuze kukhangelwe iimpawu zokugula kwayo.
- Xilonga ubisi.



Thibela ho hasana ha mafu

- Latela lenaneo la ho enta.
- Di fe dijo tse hlwekileng tse hahang mmele.
- Metsi a hlwekileng mme o hlwekise le sebaka sa ho fepa se kgafetsa.
- Hlwekisa le ho bolaya mahloko dikoloing ka mora ho tsamaisa thepa.
- Eba le dibaka tse bolauweng mahloko bakeng sa basebetsi le baeti (metsi a hlwekileng, sesepe le foot dip).
- Boloka diphoofole tsohle tse sa rekwa ka thoko ho tse ding mme o lekole matshwao a ho kula.
- Etsa diteko tsa lebese.

Vimbela ukusabalala kwezifo

- Landela uhlelo lokugoma.
- Hlinzeka ngokudla okuhlazekile okunempilo.
- Amanzi ahlazekile kanye nezitsha zokudlela njalo nje.
- Hlanza ubulale amagciwane ezimotweni ngemuva kokuthutha imfuyo.
- Hlinzeka ngezindawo zokubulala amagciwane zabasebenzi kanye nezivakashe (amanzi ahlazekile, insipho kanye nediphu lezinyawo).
- Gcina zonke izilwane ezisanda kulethwa zizodwa bese uhlonza izimpawu zokugula.
- Hlola ubisi. **UM**