Protect your Livestock!

Practical biosecurity protocols are vital to reduce the risk of animal diseases, particularly during this period of heightened risk. Use the following tips to review your biosecurity protocols and make sure you are doing all you can to protect your animals from notifiable diseases...



- Keep yards clean and don't let water pool
- Ensure effective control of vermin to avoid other potential paths of transmission





 Restrict access - ensure gates and doors are locked where possible

STAFF

- Where possible, use site specific boots and clothing and change before leaving
- Park in designated places away from livestock and manure
- Provide regular training on biosecurity protocols
- Ensure all staff and contractors, including vets, AI techs, foot trimmers, shearers etc. are aware of and adhere to biosecurity protocols
- Staff and contractors should arrive with clean equipment that is free of organic matter and ensure protective clothing is disinfected.

FARM EQUIPMENT

- Avoid sharing equipment between sites and sheds
- If this is unavoidable, ensure thorough cleansing and disinfection in between uses
- Disinfect farm vehicles that leave the site on their return



VISITORS

- Monitor and restrict visitors and vehicle access where possible
- Provide signage on where vehicles can or can't go, especially around livestock areas
- Instruct and supervise visitors on biosecurity requirements, display clear signage



- Provide facilities for cleansing and disinfection of footwear
- When appropriate provide PPE such as foot covers and coverall
- Provide facilities for cleansing and disinfection of vehicles
- Provide facilities for handwashing



LIVESTOCK MOVEMENTS

- Buy from known sources and enquire about the health of the livestock you intend to purchase
- Ensure you follow the 6-day standstill and monitor purchased livestock
- Report movements to national systems accurately and maintain herd/flock register
- Ensure your holding is correctly registered with Defra/APHA or Welsh Government including any tCPH and TLAs
- Consider isolation of animals that moved onto the holding before these are introduced to the rest of the herd or flock
- Have a contingency plan in place, to consider labour, feed and housing needs if a national movement ban was imposed



- Use Defra/government-approved disinfectants at correct dilution rates and ensure surfaces are clean and free of organic matter
- Be proactive with biosecurity
- Minimise the number of vehicles and people on site to essential only





More information on biosecurity can be found at NFUonline.com





