

Yukon farm biosecurity checklist

Winter 2018
Animal Health Program

Biosecurity

Practicing good biosecurity enhances the health of your animals, productivity of your farm, and safety of local Yukon food. This biosecurity checklist was developed with the specific conditions of Yukon farmers in mind. It allows you to assess on-farm biosecurity and make improvements if needed.

Preparing for a Biosecurity Assessment

Although farmers can review the checklist on their own, it's most effective if completed as part of a herd or flock health visit with a veterinarian. The Yukon government's Veterinary Services Program funds can be used to offset the cost of the veterinarian's visit. Together, farmers and veterinarians review the checklist to identify areas of good biosecurity and potential risks on-farm. A veterinarian can help clarify the specific details and explain why certain practices are important.

As each farm and type of production is different, not all points will be equally important for your farm. The information collected in this checklist is for your own use and is not shared with the government or anyone else.

How to Use the Checklist

The checklist includes a number of biosecurity practices divided into three broad categories:

- Animal health management
- Operational management
- Farm access management

A number of biosecurity practices and examples are provided. Select the boxes that most closely represent the situation on your farm to the best of your knowledge. After completing the entire checklist, think about steps you can take to improve your practices.



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More Information

- Biosecurity on the Farm fact sheet from the Animal Health Unit
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency: Animal Health Starts on the Farm – basic principles for protecting animal health on Canada's farms www.inspection.gc.ca/biosecurity.
- Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council – Livestock On-Farm Biosecurity Information Guide http://www.ontlpc.ca/pdfs/downloads/olpc-livestock_web.pdf.

Biosecurity checklist

	Biosecurity practice	Best practice	Area for improvement	Prompt action needed
Animal health management	Animal health monitoring	Daily monitoring of animals by farmer or employees	Animals monitored inconsistently and/or less than once daily	No consistent monitoring plan
	Quarantine and sick animal housing	Separate, clean isolation pens for new arrivals, sick animals and maternity/holding area	Separate isolation pens present but some contact between animals may occur and/or cleaning practices need improvement	Isolation pens not available and/or not properly cleaned
	Vaccination and parasite control program	Vaccine and parasite control program established with veterinarian and reviewed yearly	Inconsistent implementation of a vaccine and parasite control program and/or not updated	No vaccine or parasite control program
	Replacement animal source herd	New animals purchased from a healthy herd with good records (i.e., vaccinations)	Some missing health and disease information from replacement herd	Disease status and history of replacement herd is unknown
	New animal quarantine duration	New animals quarantined in isolation for at least 4 weeks	New animals quarantined in isolation for at least 2 weeks	No isolation of new animals and/or quarantine for less than 2 weeks
	Flock/herd health program	Comprehensive flock/herd health program in place that has been established with a veterinarian	Flock/herd health program in place but not followed and/or needs updating	No flock/herd health program in place
	Reportable diseases	Farmer and employees are aware of federally and territorially reportable diseases and how to report them	Incomplete knowledge of reportable diseases and how to report them if suspected	No knowledge of reportable diseases and how to report
Operational management	Property and building maintenance	Farm buildings and fencing in excellent condition	Some repairs required to reduce risk of animal/human injury or unsanitary conditions	Buildings and property in poor repair - posing a risk of injury to animals/humans and preventing proper sanitation
	Water source	Water on farm is clean and tested regularly for suitability and contamination	Inconsistent testing and/or cleaning of water source	Dirty or potentially unsafe water source
	Feed handling	Secure feed storage area and separate equipment for handling feed and manure	Some improvements needed to feed storage and handling practices	Non-secure feed storage area and no designated feed-handling equipment

	Biosecurity practice	Best practice	Area for improvement	Prompt action needed
Operational management cont.	Feed supplies	Feed is sourced from a known supplier with consistent good quality	Inconsistent feed suppliers or quality	Feed supplier information unknown or poor quality
	Borrowed equipment	Borrowed equipment is cleaned thoroughly before entering and leaving farm	Some cleaning of borrowed equipment	Borrowed equipment not cleaned before entering or leaving farm
	All-in/all-out	Animals cycle through the barn or pens in batches, with thorough cleaning Barns/pens left empty for an appropriate amount of time between batches	Variable cleaning and/or down-time between batches	No cleaning and/or down-time between batches of animals
	Deadstock disposal	Deadstock is removed within 48 hours and disposed of in an appropriate manner to minimize disease spread and scavenging	Deadstock not removed within 48 hours and/or disposal practices may allow for spread of disease or scavenging	Deadstock not removed and/or not disposed of properly
	Manure management	Manure removed frequently from barns and holding areas and disposed of in an approved manner Manure contained by a barrier or bunker At least 450 m between manure storage and buildings used for human occupancy At least 90 m between manure storage and property line or roadways Manure run-off contained and away from water source Records of movement, sale and final location of manure removed from the farm	Prolonged or inadequate manure storage and/or some issues with disposal Manure run-off incompletely contained Incomplete records of movement, sale and final location of manure removed from the farm	Manure accumulating on farm and/or not stored or disposed of properly No containment of manure run-off No record of manure removed from the farm

	Biosecurity practice	Best practice	Area for improvement	Prompt action needed
Operational management cont.	Pest and wildlife control	Rodents, birds and other wildlife excluded from farm buildings Screens over windows and exhaust openings Bait stations present and maintained Minimize brush and debris around buildings	Rodents, birds and wildlife have some access to farm buildings	Rodents, birds and wildlife present or have free access to farm buildings
	Domestic animal control	No pets allowed access to farm buildings	Pets have some access to farm buildings	Dogs, cats or other animals have access to barns and/or feed storage
	Biosecurity plan and training	Up-to-date biosecurity plan in place with regular training for employees	Biosecurity plan in place but not updated and/or inconsistent training	No biosecurity plan in place
Farm access management	Proximity to closest neighboring farm	More than 2 km	400 meters to 2 km	Less than 400 meters
	Perimeter fence	Present and in good repair	Perimeter fence would allow access by people, livestock or wildlife	No perimeter fence
	Restricted entry signs posted at farm entrance	Present and clearly visible	Present but not clearly visible	No signage
	Farm buildings	Secure, locked doors	Secure, unlocked doors	Unsecured doors
	Visitor and equipment movement	Steps taken to minimize movement of visitors and equipment on/off farm	Some effort to minimize movement	No effort to minimize movement
	Protective clothing and footwear	Appropriate clothing and boots used by farmer, employees and visitors	Available but inadequate or not used regularly	Not available
	Visitor log book	Present and up to date	Present but incomplete	No log book
	Equipment and farm delivery log book	Present and up to date	Present but incomplete	No log book
	Employee and visitor parking	Designated parking area, clean of manure and more than 4.5 meters from livestock holding area	Designated parking area but some cleanliness issues and/or not far enough from barn	Visitor vehicles are able to come in contact with livestock areas