

# BIOSECURITY PRACTICES

Beef Cattle Operations



## EXTERNAL

The best preventative measure to reduce the risk of introducing disease onto your livestock facility is to avoid bringing new animals into the herd, altogether.

- When facing a potential outbreak of contagious disease, it is strongly recommended to delay the import of new groups of animals to minimize the introduction of disease.
- When purchasing/importing new groups of cattle, use discretion in regards to the origin of the animals.
- Buying animals from a herd that is of “mixed-origin” is not recommended.
- Ask questions before you buy or move the animals.
  - Have these cattle traveled anywhere in the last 14 days or have they comingled with cattle that have traveled?
  - Have these animals been examined by a veterinarian? When?
  - When purchasing cattle, ask for the breeding, calving, vaccination and treatment history.

## INTERNAL

- Isolate and monitor the health of any new cattle brought onto your facility BEFORE introducing them into your herd.
  - Recommended quarantine for new arrivals is a **minimum of 30 days** in a separate pen with no over-the-fence contact with resident animals to minimize spread of disease or pests.
  - Have a plan for managing cattle on your facility on a daily basis. Resident cattle should be fed/handled first. New arrivals and cattle more susceptible to disease should be handled last. Movement between groups of animals within the same facility should be kept to a minimum.
  - Complete regular cleaning/disinfection of feeding equipment and cattle handling equipment.
    - Bleach is an excellent disinfectant ONLY after all organic material (manure, dirt, straw, etc) has been removed.
- Restrict nose-to-nose contact between livestock from other premises.
- Minimize the entry of vehicles, contaminated equipment, people, wildlife and other domestic animals onto your facility.
- Recommend all employees have dedicated barn clothes and boots that never leave the premises.
- Require visitors to use protective measures such as boot covers or foot baths on your premises.
- As much as possible, avoid equipment, clothes or vehicles that travel off the facility, from coming in contact with livestock or facilities where livestock are held.
- If any equipment, clothing or vehicles come in contact with external livestock or livestock facilities, proper cleaning and disinfection should be performed.
- Apply official identification tags to cattle for quick and efficient record keeping.
- Maintain disease status and movement records on all livestock.

## CONTACT US

Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
**Animal Industries Division**

(208) 332-8540  
animal\_info@isda.idaho.gov

For additional information and recommendations on beef cattle biosecurity, go to [www.securebeef.org](http://www.securebeef.org).

# BIOSECURITY PRACTICES

Dairy Cattle Operations



## EXTERNAL

The best preventative measure to reduce the risk of introducing disease onto your livestock facility is to avoid bringing new animals into the herd, altogether.

- When facing a potential outbreak of contagious disease, it is strongly recommended to delay the import of new groups of animals to minimize the introduction of disease.
- When purchasing/importing new groups of cattle, use discretion in regards to the origin of the animals.
- Buying animals from a herd that is of “mixed-origin” is not recommended.
- Ask questions before you buy or move the animals.
  - Have these cattle traveled anywhere in the last 14 days or have they come in contact with cattle that have traveled?
  - Have these animals been examined by a veterinarian? When?
  - When purchasing cattle, ask for the breeding, calving, vaccination and treatment history.

## INTERNAL

- Isolate and monitor the health of any new cattle brought onto your facility BEFORE introducing them into your herd.
  - Recommended quarantine for new arrivals is a **minimum of 30 days** in a separate pen with no over-the-fence contact with resident animals to minimize spread of disease or pests.
  - Have a plan for managing cattle on your facility on a daily basis. Resident cattle should be fed/handled first. New arrivals and cattle more susceptible to disease should be handled last. Movement between groups of animals within the same facility should be kept to a minimum.
  - Recommend regular cleaning/disinfection of feeding equipment and cattle handling equipment.
    - Bleach is an excellent disinfectant ONLY after all organic material (manure, dirt, straw, etc) has been removed.
- Restrict nose-to-nose contact between livestock from other premises.
- Minimize the entry of vehicles, contaminated equipment, people, wildlife and other domestic animals onto your facility.
- Recommend all employees have dedicated barn clothes and boots that never leave the premises.
- Require visitors to use protective measures such as boot covers or foot baths on your premises.
- As much as possible, avoid equipment, clothes or vehicles that travel off the facility, from coming in contact with livestock or facilities where livestock are held.
- If any equipment, clothing or vehicles come in contact with external livestock or livestock facilities, proper cleaning and disinfection should be performed.
- Apply official identification tags to cattle for quick and efficient record keeping.
- Maintain disease status and movement records on all livestock.

## CONTACT US

Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
**Animal Industries Division**

(208) 332-8540  
animal\_info@isda.idaho.gov