



Biosecurity protocols for farm visitors and contractors

Keep emergency animal diseases out of Western Australia

Did you know that when you enter a property, you could carry a livestock disease with you – on your vehicle tyres, boots and clothes, equipment or even in your lunch?

Introducing a disease like foot-and-mouth disease could cause devastating losses to the Australian economy and our farmers, with large social and financial impacts on our regions and industries.

Whether you are a stock agent, consultant, transporter, shearer, fencing contractor, utilities provider, or on a social visit, it is vital to follow these biosecurity protocols.

Biosecurity protocols

Before you arrive

- Before visiting the property, contact the owner about their biosecurity protocols, including visitor parking areas and washdown bays. Tell them if you have had contact in the past 7 days with livestock or manure in a country that has foot-and-mouth disease.
- Wear clean and disinfected boots and clean clothes, and ensure your vehicle is free from mud, dirt or manure. Clean and disinfect any equipment to be used on animals or with feed.
- Keep a biosecurity kit in your vehicle, including clean coveralls, clean gumboots, boot brush, bucket, broad-spectrum disinfectant, disposable gloves, soap, water (for washing boots and hands) and thick garbage bags. Use these to ensure you arrive and leave clean.



When you arrive

- Follow instructions on farm biosecurity signage and contact the owner on arrival.
- Stay on marked tracks and park the vehicle at the visitor parking area, away from livestock.
- Sign the property visitor register.
- If possible, use the client's vehicle to travel on / within the farm.
- If entering paddocks or yards, put on gumboots from the biosecurity kit or use boots supplied by the owner.
- Minimise contact with livestock, particularly sick livestock. Wash and sanitise hands before and after handling livestock.
- Avoid walking through manure where possible.
- Do not feed livestock or leave food or rubbish in the paddock or yards. Note that it is illegal to feed pigs meat or products containing meat.
- If you see signs of illness in livestock that look similar to an emergency animal disease, contact the farm owner immediately.

When you leave

- Use your biosecurity kit to remove organic matter on your boots and equipment before disinfecting them. Disinfectants are much more effective when used on cleaned items.
- Where a farm washdown station is available, use it to wash your vehicle.
- Change clothing/coveralls before entering the next farm if you have handled or had contact with any livestock. Put used clothing in a garbage bag until it can be laundered. Also bag the used gumboots.
- Wash your hands to complete the cleaning process.
- Sign out on the visitor register and fill in your vehicle logbook.

More information

- dpir.wa.gov.au/foot-and-mouth
- farmbiosecurity.com.au

Important Disclaimer

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