CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Foot and Mouth Disease Preparedness and Prevention

International Travel and Visitors - Information and Resources for Producers

Globalization has made international travel commonplace, providing additional routes for contact and spread of disease agents and vectors. Though there are safeguards in place to help prevent the introduction of exotic pests and foreign animal diseases (FAD) into the U.S., the risk of an outbreak is always present. Traveling abroad and visiting animal facilities (farms, zoos, fairs, sale barns, stockyards, animal laboratories, packing houses, etc.), or hosting visitors who have recently traveled, may have unintended consequences, as disease agents do not respect borders and might be transmitted on shoes, clothes, and personal items, or in food.

This document is a compilation of materials focusing on the potential livestock disease risks involved with international travel and visitors, and tools and preventive practices producers can use to protect their herds from an FAD like foot and mouth disease.

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Prevention Practices for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) (CFSPH)
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Prevention Practices Checklist (CFSPH)
Protecting America from Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Other High-Consequence Livestock Diseases Factsheet (July 2013, USDA APHIS)
Overview of FMD Freedom and Vaccination Factsheet (November 2015, USDA APHIS)

August 2016

International Travel Biosecurity Tips

Best Practices for Producers

Biosecurity is a series of management procedures to prevent the introduction and spread of disease into an environment.

Diseases in livestock and wildlife vary geographically. When traveling, people can unknowingly transmit a disease to susceptible animals, and vice versa. If a foreign animal disease (FAD), such as foot and mouth disease, is accidentally introduced into the United States (U.S.), the effects on livestock health and the economy could be catastrophic. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) advises international visitors or travelers returning to the U.S. to avoid farms, sale barns, stockyards, animal laboratories, packing houses, zoos, fairs and any other animal facility for **five** days *prior* to travel. *After* arrival in the U.S. it is important to avoid contact with livestock and/or wildlife for an additional **five** days. People that have been exposed to an FAD may harbor virus particles in their throats and nasal passages for several days. Virus particles can also be carried on clothing, shoes, personal items, and within food products, specifically meat and animal products.

Traveler Biosecurity Tips

International travelers should take extra precautions with livestock and/or wildlife contact, and are recommended to do the following (especially, if coming into the U.S. from a country experiencing an FAD outbreak):

- ◊ Before traveling to the U.S., launder, disinfect or dispose of clothing, shoes, equipment, and other items* that may have been contaminated by exposure to livestock and/or wildlife.
- ◊ When visiting livestock and/or wildlife facilities, use protective gear such as disposable gloves or boots.
- ◊ Avoid animal facilities **five** days before *and* after travel.
- ◊ On the U.S. customs form, declare:
  - Visits to any livestock facilities and farms
  - All food items or products of plant and animal origin

*Items such as luggage, jewelry, watches, and glasses are difficult to disinfect if they come become contaminated.

Producer Biosecurity Tips

Producers should take extra biosecurity precautions when allowing international visitors on their premises:

- ◊ Ask visitors to provide information about recent travel and farm/animal contacts, and require all visitors to sign a log.
- ◊ Keep clean clothing and footwear available for visitors if they absolutely must enter the livestock areas.
- ◊ Discourage visitors from handling animals.
- ◊ Provide a shower in and shower out facility, if possible.
- ◊ Require all employees and visitors to adhere to the facility's biosecurity protocols.
- ◊ Report serious or unusual animal health problems to your veterinarian, state, or federal animal health officials.

Do Not:

- ◊ Allow visitors in the livestock areas unless it is necessary (use *clear signs* to designate biosecure or employee only areas).
- ◊ Allow soiled clothing, footwear, equipment, or high risk items onto the premises.
- ◊ Allow meat, animal products or food waste from foreign countries onto the premises.

For more information on whether a country has been recently affected by an animal or zoonotic disease:
World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
World Health Organization Disease Outbreaks by Country

CDFA Animal Health Branch
Headquarters - (916) 900-5002
Redding District - (530) 225-2140
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462
USDA-APHIS-VS (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit: www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health

Additional information and resources:
Animal Health Branch Biosecurity
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Information

References and Resources: Foot and Mouth Disease Fact Sheet. USDA-APHIS Veterinary Services, U.S. Passports and International Travel; *FAD PReP/NAHEMS Guidelines: Biosecurity*. USDA-APHIS and The Center for Food Security and Public Health. 2016; CFSPH Infection Control

August 2016

Foot and Mouth Disease
Guide for Producers

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is highly contagious viral disease that infects cattle, swine, sheep, goats, and other cloven-hoofed animals. FMD is considered a foreign animal disease, with the last outbreak of FMD occurring in California in 1929. The disease is widespread in much of the world. Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and South America have experience re-occurring FMD outbreaks over the past several years.

The detection of FMD has immediate and severe implications to domestic and international trade. The painful lesions associated with the disease create serious animal welfare concerns. FMD is one of the most feared animal diseases worldwide. Awareness and early detection of this disease are critical.

Transmission

The FMD virus spreads to susceptible animals by direct contact with infected animals and their secretions and excretions (including urine, saliva, or semen). Airborne spread is possible for up to 40 miles over land and 180 miles over water. Animals may also be exposed to FMD by:

- Being fed raw or improperly cooked garbage containing FMD-infected meat or meat products,
- Contact with infected animals,
- Contact with contaminated facilities, equipment, or vehicles,
- Exposure to contaminated water, hay, feedstuffs, hides, or pharmaceuticals, and
- Contact with humans wearing contaminated clothing or footwear.

Disease Development

Susceptible animals exposed to FMD develop signs of illness in 3-5 days (range: 2-14 days). Clinical signs may vary with the species affected and the viral strain involved. Virus is present in all excretions and secretions of infected animals. Virus may be present in milk and semen up to four days before clinical signs appear. Cattle may recover from FMD, but may become carriers of the disease for 6-42 months. FMD can impact weight loss, milk production, and conception.

Consequences of FMD

FMD outbreaks are devastating to animal production, animal industries, the economy, and international trade. If FMD is diagnosed, severe trade restrictions, including a ban on export of all cloven-hoofed animals and their products, are inevitable.

Clinical Signs in Cattle

- Fluid filled vesicles of the mouth, nostrils, muzzle, or teats,
- Drooling, lip smack, and teeth grinding,
- Hoof lesions - vesicles on coronary band and between the digits,
- Lameness, and reluctance to move,
- Lack of appetite,
- Fever, and
- Decreased milk production.

Severe oral lesions on cow tongue

Subtle foot lesions on back of cow hoof

Clinical Signs in Sheep and Goats

- Lesions similar to cattle, but often less apparent,
- Erosions on dental pad from ruptured vesicles, and
- Redness of coronary band with or without vesicles.

Sheep dental pad with erosion

Clinical Signs in Pigs

- Foot lesions - vesicles on coronary band, heels, and digits,
- Vesicles and open sores on snout,
- Oral lesions less commonly seen, and
- Lameness.

Pig foot lesions

Vesicles on pig snouts

Report Clinical Signs

Painful oral lesions cause lip smacking and drooling

If you observe clinical signs compatible with FMD, promptly notify state or federal animal health officials and your private veterinarian. A Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician (FADD) will be sent to assess the situation. An FADD obtains a thorough history and physical examinations of animals. Samples of blood, vesicular fluid, and tissues will be collected and transported to the laboratory. If FMD is suspected, procedures to contain and prevent the spread of the disease are implemented. Other diseases that may show clinical signs similar to FMD include vesicular stomatitis, bovine viral diarrhea, bluetongue, malignant catarrhal fever, swine vesicular disease, and infectious bovine rhinotracheitis. Prompt accurate assessment and appropriate diagnostic testing are essential to differentiate FMD from other diseases.

Emergency Response Measures to FMD

- Strict quarantine, biocontainment, and enhanced biosecurity of infected premises,
- Depopulation of animals on FMD-infected premises; prompt destruction and appropriate disposal of carcasses and contact materials,
- Movement restrictions on animals and their products,
- Closure of livestock markets,
- Trace in and out of infected premises, and
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection of all infected premises, followed by 30 days of vacancy.

Protect California's Livestock Industry

Livestock producers and their veterinarians may be the first to suspect a foreign animal disease based on compatible signs. Oral lesions in livestock may be caused by infectious agents or feed related mechanical trauma. All suspicious cases should be reported and investigated as a potential FAD. A delay in reporting may result in significant spread of disease.

BE PROACTIVE!

Help Keep the U.S. Free from Foot and Mouth Disease!

To Help Prevent FMD:

- Promptly report any compatible clinical signs observed in your animals to your veterinarian, or to a state or federal animal health official,
- Implement and maintain farm biosecurity practices,
- Feed only cooked food waste to pigs,
- Avoid visiting U.S. livestock facilities for a minimum of five days after visiting livestock facilities in foreign countries, and
- Consult your veterinarian or local animal health official for specific biosecurity recommendations for foreign travelers or visitors.

Animal Health and Food Safety Services
Animal Health Branch
Headquarters - (916) 900-5002
Redding District - (530) 225-2140
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462
USDA-APHIS-VS - (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

For more information, please visit:
www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health

For more information and resources:
Animal Health Branch Biosecurity
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Information

Visitor Questionnaire

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Date of Visit: _____

Reason for Visit: _____

Does your visit require viewing or handling the animals at this facility? _____

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1. Have you traveled outside the U.S. in the last 14 days? (circle one) **Yes or No**

If yes, what country(s) did you visit or originate from and when?

_____

2. Have you had livestock contact in the last 5 days? (circle one) **Yes or No**

If yes, what species and when? _____

3. Has the clothing (or footwear) you are currently wearing been worn around livestock? (circle one) **Yes or No**

_____

Guest Signature Date

_____

Approval Signature Date

If you answered yes to question #1, depending on country, contact with animals may not be allowed.

If you answered yes to question #2 and/or #3, protective clothing will be provided.

DAILY VISITOR LOG

Date	Name	Reason for Visit	Last Date of Contact with Livestock	Species	Time In	Time Out

(FARM NAME) International Travel Form

To be completed at least two (2) weeks prior to departure **Date: _____**

Name: _____

Class of: _____ **Phone Number: __(____)_____**

Destination Country(ies): _____

Dates of Travel: _____

Reason for Travel: _____

Does your trip require visiting animal operations or handling animals? _____

Upon return to (FARM NAME):
Indicate any changes to the above information: _____

_____

1. **Have you properly washed clothing worn while on animal operations in foreign country? (circle one) Yes or No**
    a. **If No, did you leave the items in the foreign country? Yes or No**
2. **Have you thoroughly washed and disinfected footwear worn while on animal operations in foreign country? (circle one) Yes or No**
    a. **If No, did you leave the items in the foreign country? Yes or No**
3. **Date on Passport Stamp or other valid travel document: _____**
4. **Date animal contact will be allowed on (FARM NAME):_____**

_____
Employee Signature Date

_____
Approval Signature Date

If you answered No to questions # 1a or 2a, these items must NOT be worn while on farm until cleaned and sanitized appropriately.

WELCOME!

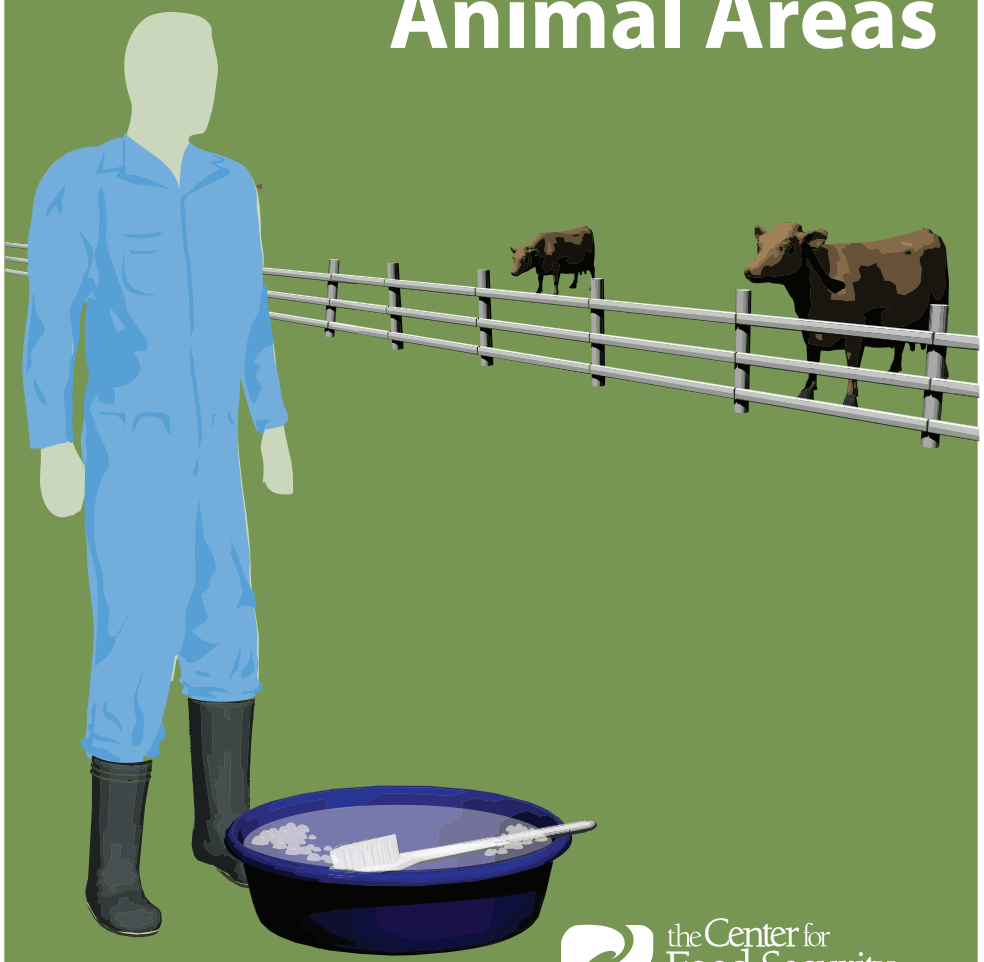
the Center for Food Security & Public Health

Iowa State University®
College of Veterinary Medicine

BIOLOGICAL RISK MANAGEMENT

If you have traveled outside the U.S. in the last five (5) days, please notify the farm manager and refrain from animal contact.

Policies for Visitors Contacting Animals or Entering Animal Areas



the Center for Food Security & Public Health
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- Clean coveralls, hats, and disposable or disinfected rubber boots will be provided by the farm and must be worn while in animal areas
- Boots must be clean before entering animal areas
- Wash hands with soap and warm water before AND after handling animals
- Boots must be washed and disinfected or removed and disposed of properly after exiting animal areas
  - Clean all dirt, manure, and debris off of boots BEFORE stepping into the disinfectant solution
  - Allow the disinfectant solution to have ample contact time with the boot surface
- When leaving, remove all protective outer clothing and footwear provided by the farm and leave it in the designated area
- For your own protection, wash your hands with soap and warm water before leaving the farm

Additional Resources

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
Animal Health and Food Safety Services | Animal Health Branch | www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health

- Biosecurity: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Biosecurity.html
- Foot and Mouth Disease: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/fmd_info.html

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service | Veterinary Services | www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth

- Animal Disease Information: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information
- Foot and Mouth Disease: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergency-management/ct_fmd
- International Travel: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/travelers-int

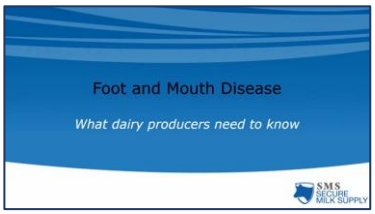
The Center for Food Safety and Public Health (CFSPH) | www.cfsph.iastate.edu

- Infection Control – Cattle Facilities: http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Infection_Control/Species/cattle.php
- Infection Control – Signs and Visitor Information: http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Infection_Control/Sign/index.php
- Foot and Mouth Disease: http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/disease.php?name=foot-and-mouth-disease

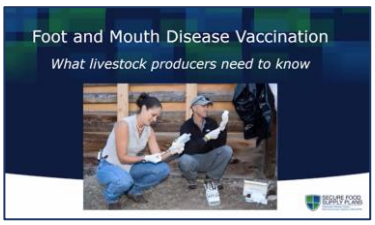
Secure Food Supply Plans | www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Secure-Food-Supply

- Secure Milk Supply: http://securemilksupply.org/
- Secure Beef Supply: http://securebeef.org/

Western Institute for Food Safety and Security | www.wifss.ucdavis.edu



FMD: The Basics: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKTymApL__4



FMD Vaccination: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKf-aMgb-y0

World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) | www.oie.int

- FMD Portal: http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/fmd-portal/
- FMD Status for Member Countries: http://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/official-disease-status/fmd/list-of-fmd-free-members/