

## Checklist from G1411

# Biosecurity Basics for Cattle Operations and Good Management Practices (GMP) for Controlling Infectious Diseases

### Biosecurity GMP Checklists

Review the checklists below and discuss each item with your veterinarian. Ask your veterinarian to rank the biosecurity importance of each item (0=not important, 5= very important). Check Y (yes) or N (no) if the biosecurity item is being addressed.

#### General Good Management Practice (GMP) Checklist

*Notes Rank importance of each GMPs in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Meet all of the Beef Quality Assurance Good Management Practices and Guidelines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Understand it is more profitable to prevent problems than to correct problems.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Agree that doing things right the first time is a critical part of biosecurity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Biosecurity requires some method of cattle identification. An identification system in place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Can readily track and validate management practices used on my cattle.

#### GMP Checklist for Sanitation

*Notes Rank importance of each sanitation measure in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Attempt to prevent manure contamination of feed and equipment used orally.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clean equipment used orally between animals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attempt to prevent cross contamination between healthy and sick/dead cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Regularly evaluate the activities on my operation to assess the potential for contaminating cattle.

- \_\_\_\_\_ If manure accidentally contaminates feed or water, an immediate remedy is provided.

#### GMP Checklist for Equipment

*Notes Rank importance of each equipment item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Use different equipment to feed and to clean pens or completely clean between use.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Never step in the feed bunk.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Never leave manure-hauling equipment in pens with different groups of animals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clean contaminated vehicles and equipment before use around healthy cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Routinely clean and disinfect feeding equipment and cattle handling equipment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Routinely clean and disinfect equipment used to medicate cattle.

#### GMP Checklist for Disease Containment

*Notes Rank importance of each disease containment item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Facilities provide a clean area for restraint, treatment and isolation of sick cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Facilities prevent cross contamination of water, manure, feed, or equipment between groups.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Have a plan to manage group size, age distribution, and animal flow to reduce risk of disease.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Handle highest health status animals first (*young calves, healthy older cattle and sick animals last*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone uses strict sanitation practices
- \_\_\_\_\_ All animals that die are examined by a veterinarian (*necropsy*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinarian collects blood samples from all cows that abort.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have visitors observe our strict sanitation practices.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clean contaminated vehicles and equipment before use around healthy cattle.

**GMP Checklist for Preventing Infectious Disease from Entering All Operations**

*Notes Rank importance of each disease entry item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Know the health history of the herds from which cattle are purchased.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Know the health status of animals brought into my operation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ My veterinarian talks to the seller's veterinarian prior to buying animals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Never bring in animals without knowing their vaccination history.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Never buy animals from a herd that has mixed origin cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Transport animals in clean vehicles.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have a control program for outside animals which could spread disease (rodents, etc.).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Loading area is located at the perimeter of the operation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dead animal pickup area located so rendering trucks do not contaminate my operation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Limit people's access to my cattle pens, feed mixing and storage area, and treatment area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Keep a record of visitors to my operation.

**GMP Checklist for Preventing Infectious Disease from Entering Cow/Calf Operations**

*Notes Rank importance of each disease entry item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Cattle don't use community pastures, or are not placed in performance evaluation centers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cattle do not share fence lines with neighbor's cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do not purchase, borrow, or use loaner bulls from other farms.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Buy cattle from a Johne's certified free farm.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Limit purchases to open heifers and virgin bulls.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Know the biosecurity, vaccination, and testing program of herd(s) for my replacement cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Quarantine new arrivals for 21-30 days before allowing them contact with my cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Quarantined area is designed to prevent cross contamination between cattle.

**GMP Checklist for Calf Management**

*Notes Rank importance of each calf management item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Have a strategic vaccination and parasite control plan in place for all cows.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Replacement cattle are kept off pastures where manure has been spread for six months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Replacement cattle are kept separate from other cattle for at least six months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Replacement cattle have a separate source of water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Consult with veterinarian annually about calf care.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Calving area is clean and disinfected.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All calves are born from cows that have been tested clean of infectious diseases.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All colostrum fed to calves comes from cows that have been tested clean of infectious diseases.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Calves are permanently identified prior to any grouping.

### GMP Checklist for Strategic Vaccine Use

*Notes Rank importance of each strategic vaccine item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Have a written strategic vaccination plan for my operation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Know when and how to use the vaccines listed in the vaccination plan for my herd.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss the vaccination history of all cattle purchased before the cattle enter my operation.

### GMP Checklist for controlling Johne's (*M. paratuberculosis*) Disease

*Notes Rank importance of each Johne's control item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Understand how Johne's disease can impact my herd and how it is spread.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Whole herd is screened using an antibody ELISA test (*measures antibody in blood*).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Whole herd is tested using a fecal culture.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Animals testing positive are culled. (*Johne's is reportable disease in some states.*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Replacement heifers are tested prior to introduction to the herd.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Calves from cows testing positive are removed to a feedlot.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have implemented a follow-up Johne's testing program and reviewed the results with my vet.

### GMP Checklist for controlling Bovine Leukosis

*Notes Rank importance of each Leukosis control item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Are needles and sleeves used on more than one animal?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are cows which provide colostrum for your calves tested for bovine leukosis?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Purchased cattle are tested during quarantine.

### GMP Checklist for controlling Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD)

*Notes Rank importance of each BVD control item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Understand "persistently infected" (PI) animals as they relate to BVD.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am not willing to live with one or more PI calves in my herd.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am not willing to keep a PI calf as a replacement heifer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am committed to finding BVD PI cattle and removing them from herd.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have discussed killed versus modified live virus (MLV) vaccines for BVD with my veterinarian.

### GMP Checklist for controlling Salmonella

*Notes Rank importance of each Salmonella control item in biosecurity and note if being addressed:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Realize that my family and employees can be infected with salmonella from cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Isolate sick cattle in hospital area and prevent cross contamination.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss proper antibiotic use with my veterinarian.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clean all instruments and equipment used on sick cattle between cattle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide dry, clean, disinfected calf and maternity pens.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Test purchased feed for salmonella once per year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Restrict birds, cats, rodents and stray animals from access to my operation's animal feed and water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do not allow rendering trucks to access feed or animal areas.

### Index: Animal Diseases General Livestock

2000, Revised December 2007

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.