



# **BIOSECURITY** **CHECKLIST**

## Outbreak prevention for poultry operations

Advance preparation is key to a strong biosecurity program. As part of their disease prevention efforts, poultry producers typically consider the introduction of pathogens from new birds, pests, migratory animals, visitors, suppliers and employees. They also have to find a way to consistently implement premise-wide sanitation protocols.

Our checklist can be used as a timely reminder of habits that contribute to strong biosecurity programs. When used regularly, they'll be another tool you can use to safeguard the health of your birds and your business.



### Isolation/Animal Health

- ✓ Follow all veterinarian recommendations and protocols for vaccinations, disease prevention and treatment.
- ✓ Source from a hatchery that operates under a disease control program or from flocks that have current health records and no evidence of disease.
- ✓ Ensure that poultry placements have equivalent health status and vaccination history as resident flocks.
- ✓ Practice all-in-all-out management which groups birds based on introduction/origin. All birds in a group are completely moved out before the next group of birds is introduced.
- ✓ Handle bird placements in a manner which minimizes stress. New birds should be closely monitored, and sick, dead or distressed birds should be removed immediately.
- ✓ Ensure that personnel are trained to recognize any change in productivity, appearance and behavior within a flock that might indicate disease.
- ✓ Increase flock monitoring after higher risk activities, such as vaccination or catch crew visits, and following seasonal risks, such as migratory birds near the operation.



### Traffic/Premise

- ✓ Includes human, vehicle and animal traffic.
- ✓ Minimize outside contact with your flocks and operation. Develop (and enforce) protocols that require non-employees to stop at the main office before proceeding to poultry houses or any other area of your operation.
- ✓ Require live haul personnel to follow cleaning/disinfection protocols for their vehicles and themselves. Clearly mark a distinct line between “clean” and “not-clean.”
- ✓ Require all feed trucks, delivery trucks and employee vehicles to adhere to all cleaning and disinfection protocols or remain in limited/no access areas.
- ✓ Keep gates always secured and in good repair.
- ✓ Avoid the crossing or dual use of roads between poultry houses, feed and waste disposal to minimize cross-contamination from manure.
- ✓ Minimize the use of the same equipment for feeding and waste removal/dead animal disposal. Develop a dual-use cleaning protocol, if applicable.
- ✓ Migratory birds and local birds (especially waterfowl), rodents, insects and feral animals are all vectors for disease. Seal/Secure all facilities. Have a pest-management program in place. Cats and dogs also spread pathogens – keep them off the production site.
- ✓ Ensure feed is secured from pests, and cover vehicles during transportation to minimize contamination.
- ✓ Develop and enforce biosecurity protocols specific to your operation.



### Sanitation

- ✓ Clean and disinfect poultry houses before introducing new animal groups, including rooms that may share walls, such as an egg-packing area.
- ✓ Consider scheduling downtime between flocks. Pathogen load is greatly reduced in the absence of a host.
- ✓ Enforce proper foot bath usage for all visitors, and between barns. Consider shower in/shower out procedures and provide clean personal protective gear.
- ✓ Read the labels on your disinfectant, and follow all mixing, application, and follow-on instructions.

**For more information, contact your Animal Health International representative or visit our website at [animalhealthinternational.com](http://animalhealthinternational.com).**