

Hosting International Visitors on Your Farm

All visitors pose a risk of introducing diseases onto a farm. International visitors, however, pose the additional risk of carrying diseases we do not have in the United States. These diseases can be carried on clothing, footwear and even on hands. The amount of risk varies with the country the visitors are traveling from and if they have been around animals. For example, a visitor from a country where Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) has been confirmed poses a greater risk than a visitor from a non-FMD country.



To prevent disease transmission onto your farm, the following procedures are recommended when hosting international visitors:

- **Restrict visitors to those who have been preapproved.** Restricting and preapproving visitors will help the site control which visitors are allowed. Site biosecurity measures should be discussed with visitors prior to arrival.
- **Require international visitors to have at least 48 hours minimum of no animal contact before arriving on your farm.** International visitors should follow farm downtime requirements. If there are no set requirements, 48 hours is a minimum downtime to reduce the likelihood that the visitor will carry a disease onto the farm.
- **Instruct visitors to shower prior to arrival and to wear clean clothes and footwear to the farm.** The chances of bringing a disease onsite are reduced when visitors shower prior to arrival and wear clean clothes and footwear to the farm.
- **Direct visitors to park in a designated area away from animal areas.** The tires or undercarriage of vehicles can be contaminated. Parking vehicles away from animal areas will reduce the chance diseases carried on vehicles will infect animals.
- **Keep an escort with visitors at all times.** An employee should meet with visitors when they arrive and stay with them during their visit. This ensures that visitors stay out of restricted areas and follow all biosecurity measures.
- **Require visitors to shower-in if shower facilities are available on site.** All visitors need to follow biosecurity protocols, including showering, when possible.
- **Provide site-specific footwear and coveralls or clothing for all visitors to wear.** Site-specific apparel needs to be provided to all visitors to ensure they do not bring a disease onto the farm.



Hosting International Visitors on Your Farm (Cont'd)

- **Prohibit visitors from bringing any food items to the farm.** Diseases can be carried in undercooked food products.
- **Prohibit personal items that cannot be disinfected from entering the facility.** Personal items such as cell phones and jewelry can be contaminated. If the item cannot be disinfected, it should be left in the vehicle.
- **Prevent animal contact by visitors.** Keep visitors out of animal pens to reduce the possibility of disease transmission to the animals.



An employee should verify the following biosecurity measures are followed on the farm:

Restrict visitors to those with a verified need to be there.	✓
Discuss with visitors the need to follow the farm downtime requirements. If there are no set requirements, 48 hours is a minimum downtime.	✓
Instruct visitors to shower prior to their arrival and to wear clean clothes and footwear to the site.	✓
Provide a designated parking area for visitors that is clearly marked and located away from animal areas. Instruct visitors to park in the designated parking area upon arrival.	✓
Have an escort available to stay with the visitor to ensure that the visitor stays out of restricted areas and follows all biosecurity measures.	✓
Provide site-specific coveralls or clothing and boots for visitors to wear onsite.	✓
Instruct visitors that food items are prohibited.	✓
Inform visitors that any personal items that cannot be disinfected are prohibited. They should leave valuables in their car.	✓



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