

While Agricultural fairs provide an opportunity for rural youth to participate in animal oriented group activities, they also represent a potential threat to the health of any livestock herd or flock and the financial well-being of an industry.

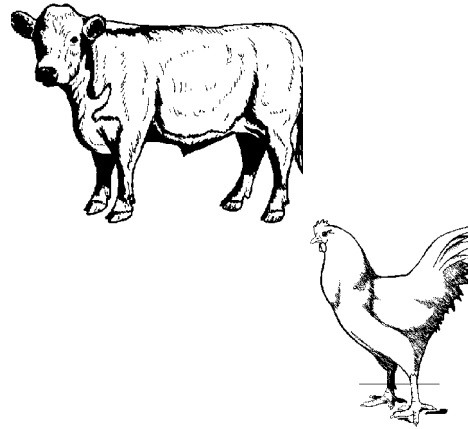
Fairs create an environment that results in the intermingling of people from different backgrounds as well as animals from various locations and even different species. Many of these situations are counter to what producers have been taught in herd and flock health management.

Few people realize that animal regulations are in place that effect the movement of animals regardless of their individual status. For example, a pot bellied pig is a pig in the eyes of animal regulations. Although small, they are totally capable of spreading swine diseases, and therefore, requirements for crossing state lines such as health permits, also refer to them.

Farm animal exhibitors are concerned with the status of exhibition animals such as petting zoos and pig races. Exhibition animals move rapidly from location to location. They may carry diseases for which they have not yet developed symptoms. The paying public may handle petting zoo animals and then visit commercial animal exhibits.

Fair management should recognize these concerns and discuss regulations with traveling exotic animal exhibitors.

This material discusses animal health management practices that reduce the risk of spreading disease. It is hoped that it will influence agricultural fair personnel, youth project participants, commercial animal exhibitors and the attending public



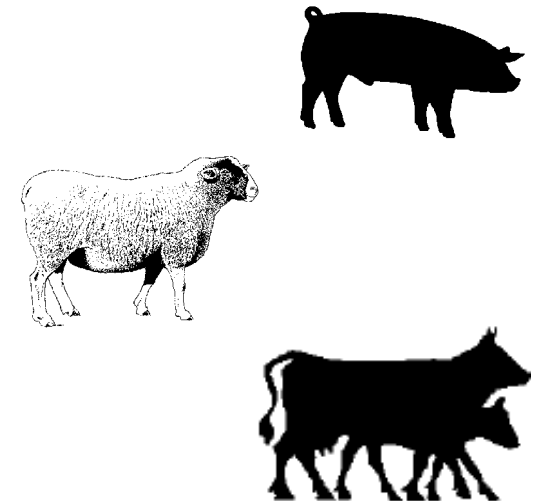
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Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture and South Carolina Counties. Issued in Furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

# BIOSECURITY FOR LIVESTOCK & POULTRY EXHIBITIONS

## Programs To Protect The Public, Livestock & Poultry



**Prepared by Clemson University  
Cooperative Extension Service  
and  
Livestock-Poultry Health Programs  
Printed by SC Farm Bureau**

**Fair Management Responsibilities** - To ensure maximum effort to protect the health of all exhibitors animals, fair management should:

- ! Ensure that a veterinarian will be on hand to inspect all arriving animals for symptoms of ill health. Clinical signs of foot and mouth include blisters or vesicles in or on the mouths, tongues, gums, hooves, and feet of infected animals.
- ! Provide signs requesting that people that have been in foreign countries in the last week not enter livestock barns and petting zoos.
- ! Provide signs asking that people wash or disinfect their hands after handling or petting animals.
- ! Fair should provide hand washing stations convenient to location for petting zoos and animal exhibition areas. Signs should be present to make these areas obvious, along with a suggestion to wash hands if animals have been petted.
- ! Exhibitors should receive a written request in advance of the fair, from the fair organizers, asking that they not bring unthrifty animals, even if they are part of an organized project.



### **Animal Exhibitor Responsibilities**

- ! Develop a plan on what to do with animals exhibited at fairs which will protect your herd or flock and the community in which you live.
- ! Obtain all reasonable veterinarian inspections requested by the fair.
- ! Keep any food purchased in foreign countries away from your animal areas, both at home, and while exhibiting at fairs.
- ! Provide your own barn cleaning equipment such as pitch forks, shovels etc, and keep them clean.
- ! Use boots and coveralls while in animal area, and change clothes before leaving animal area.
- ! Disinfect equipment and boots often. Check the disinfectants list that follows. Remove all organic matter from boots before disinfecting. Read label for effective life of all disinfectants. Chlorine must be mixed within several hours of application.
- ! Isolate animals for a minimum of 5 days after the event. Use proven protocol to reintroduce animals into established herds or flocks. (Refer to CU-Biosecurity-3, Biosecurity for Livestock Producers)

**Supplies:** The following disinfectants are suggestions, and not intended to be a complete listing of acceptable materials.

**Nolvasan/Chlorasan** - Excellent for washing boots and items such as scales and tag applicators. Material is not as corrosive and is safe for skin contact.

**DC&R** - Highly effective premise disinfectant. Has residual effect for seven days. Corrosive. Avoid skin contact.

**Household bleach** (Clorox) Used as a .1% Sodium hypochlorite solution.. Make by adding 2 ½ ounces of bleach to one gallon of water. (Excellent quick kill, no residual) Effective against Foot and Mouth disease, African Swine Fever, swine vesicular disease and hog cholera.

For heavily contaminated areas and a wider range of organisms killed, use a 3% solution. Mix 3 gallon of bleach with 2 gallons of water.

**Komfort Guard Disposable Coveralls**  
Effective for short time dust exposure to reduce dry particulates. Do not reuse if used to prevent disease spread.

### **Related Internet locations:**

Routine Biosecurity Measures for On-site Farm Visits or Other Livestock Concentration Points

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov:80/oa/fmd/fmdbiose.html>

Protecting Our Livestock and Poultry Industries: Biosecurity Tips

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov:80/oa/pubs/fsbiosec.html>

Disease Prevention Guidelines for U.S. Livestock Shows, Agricultural Fairs, and Other Agriculture-Related Events

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/oa/pubs/fsfmfair.html>

Additional biosecurity brochures and related literature references

<http://cufp.clemson.edu/avs/>