



Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

## Animal Biosecurity

# National Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard for the Goat Industry



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## KEY AREA OF CONCERN 1: Sourcing and introducing animals

The Biosecurity Planning Guide for Canadian Goat Producers can be found at:  
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/producer-guide-goats/eng/1375213342187/1375213659306>

### 1: Self-Evaluation Checklist

Biosecurity practices for sourcing and introducing animals	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
I raise as many replacement goats as possible and add new goats only when necessary.					2.1.1
I purchase new goats from a limited number of sources.					2.1.1
Artificial insemination is the method used to breed replacement goats.					2.1.1
Embryo transfer is used to replace goats and/or grow the herd.					2.1.1

Biosecurity practices for sourcing and introducing animals	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
When my goats participate at a show or a fair, I take preventive measures to reduce the risk of disease transmission from other goats. For example, I ask people to avoid touching the goats. If they are in contact with the goats, I request they wash their hands with soap or apply sanitizer before and after touching a goat.					2.1.2
I avoid commingling of all types of animals from other farms during transportation.					2.1.2
When I purchase new goats, I know the health status of the animals and of the <b>herd of origin</b> and/or <b>source herd</b> . The source is of equal or higher health status to my farm.					2.1.3
My goat purchases are supported by documentation on the health and disease status of animals, such as <b>verified</b> test results for some specific diseases (e.g. Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE), scrapie, <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , infectious abortion, Johne's disease)					2.1.3
All goats introduced or re-introduced (e.g. after going to a show, loaned goats) are isolated for a period of time, as recommended by my veterinarian. The time period required is adjusted specific to the diseases of concern.					2.1.4

Biosecurity practices for sourcing and introducing animals	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
Goats in an <b>isolation</b> pen are monitored daily for signs of clinical sickness.					2.1.4
The isolation area does not permit nose-to-nose contact and <b>indirect contact</b> (e.g. feed, water, shared equipment) with my home herd.					2.1.4
The enclosed sheltered isolation pen does not share common airspace (including direction of air movement) with resident animals.					2.1.4
The equipment used for treatment, handling, and other husbandry chores in the isolation area is not used for the main herd; otherwise, the equipment is cleaned and disinfected between uses.					2.1.4
Separate dedicated personal protective clothing (including, but not limited to, gloves, coveralls, and boots) is used to work with goats in the isolation area.					2.1.4
My employees handle goats from the home herd before handling goats in isolation pens.					2.1.4
I have a <b>protocol</b> in effect for releasing goats from isolation, which may include testing, vaccinating, or treating for diseases of concern, as recommended by my herd veterinarian.					2.1.5

## KEY AREA OF CONCERN 2: Animal health

### 2: Self-Evaluation Checklist

Biosecurity practices for animal health	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
I currently have in place an active herd health management program, developed in partnership with a licensed veterinarian.					2.2.1
My workers and I observe and evaluate the health of animals at least daily.					2.2.2
When a sick animal is identified, I have a protocol in place for isolation.					2.2.2
In my herd health management program, there are specific clearly identified criteria (i.e. trigger points) for contacting my veterinarian regarding animal health issues.					2.2.2
If there is unexpected or unexplained mortality in my herd, I contact my herd veterinarian for further diagnostic workup (e.g. post-mortem, sample submission to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory).					2.2.2

Biosecurity practices for animal health		Self-evaluation				Reference
		Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
I have written treatment protocols, developed by my herd veterinarian, for the management of sick animals.						2.2.3
My herd health management program includes written protocols for disease control measures (e.g. vaccination, parasite control, disease testing, biosecurity) for various production groups.						2.2.3
Milking for human consumption	Udder preparation for milking includes 1) udder/teat <b>cleaning</b> and <b>disinfection</b> (approved or prescribed product), 2) udder/teat drying (using, for example, a single-use towel, paper towel, or multi-use washable microfibre cloth that is disinfected between animals)					2.2.3
	Milk is routinely tested for bacterial counts.					2.2.3
	I use prestripping and/or other methods to routinely test for evidence of mastitis, and I have specific protocols to manage goats with evidence of mastitis.					2.2.3
	After milking, teats are dipped in an approved product.					2.2.3

Biosecurity practices for animal health		Self-evaluation				Reference
		Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
Kidding	I have a protocol in place for kidding that includes cleaning and disinfection of the area after each kidding, and personal protective clothing for workers.					2.2.3
	When abortions occur, I remove the fetus and placenta, and clean and disinfect the area and equipment immediately.					2.2.3
	If I kid on pasture, I ensure that all birth and abortion material and the surrounding environment are promptly cleaned up.					2.2.3
	I investigate the cause of abortions, if the number of abortions increases.					2.2.3
	I use the appropriate <b>heat treatment</b> for colostrum. I pasteurize milk for kids. Only clean milk (i.e. not from a sick animal) is used.					2.2.3
	I have written herd health protocols in place for kids that include navel disinfection at birth, vaccination, parasite control, and identification.					2.2.3



Biosecurity practices for animal health	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
Animals are managed so that the youngest and healthiest have no contact with the older and/or diseased animals. This applies to animal movement through the farm, including milking order, and to worker contact with the animals.					2.2.4, 2.2.6
If I have <b>other livestock</b> species (aside from guardian animals) on my farm, I avoid direct and indirect (e.g. common equipment) contacts between them and the goats.					2.2.4
I have a biosecurity protocol for common or <b>community pastures</b> , if applicable.					2.2.4
I have a plan to move my animals within the production area that limits commingling and exposure to animals of higher disease susceptibility.					2.2.6
Water provided to goats is tested for suitability for livestock consumption annually and whenever it is a source of concern.					2.2.7
Feed and bedding are sourced from known and reliable sources, and are stored in a manner that avoids contamination by dogs, cats, <b>pests, and wildlife</b> .					2.2.7

## KEY AREA OF CONCERN 3: Facility management and access controls

### 3: Self-Evaluation Checklist

Biosecurity practices for facility management and access controls	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
Biosecurity zones on my farm are identified and biosecurity principles are understood.					2.3.1
I use signs at access control points to identify that biosecurity is in effect on my farm.					2.3.1
Protocols for movement of animals, equipment, and vehicles are written and communicated to <b>farm workers</b> .					2.3.1
I provide a dedicated parking area, which is separate from animal management and housing areas, for farm workers and visitors.					2.3.1
I have perimeter fencing around my goat operation that is inspected and maintained in a timely manner.					2.3.2

Biosecurity practices for facility management and access controls	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
The animal facilities and equipment are cleaned and disinfected routinely according to written protocols.					2.3.3
Written protocols for cleaning and disinfection of animal facilities and equipment are available for situations of elevated risk (e.g. abortion outbreak, sick pen, isolation area).					2.3.3
Feed bunks, troughs, and other feeding areas are kept clean of old feed and manure.					2.3.3
Water bowls and water troughs are cleaned regularly.					2.3.3
Feeding bottles, milk, and water pails for kids are washed, disinfected, and dried after each use.					2.3.3
My facilities are routinely inspected and maintained to avoid pest and predator invasion and standing water.					2.3.4, 2.3.7
My deadstock management includes immediate removal and secured storage from the herd, facilities, food, and water, as well as protection from scavengers, dogs, cats, and pests.					2.3.5
My manure management considers removal and storage for composting or spread on cropland.					2.3.6

Biosecurity practices for facility management and access controls	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
I have a pest and insect management program in place.					2.3.7
I have a protocol to prevent contact between wildlife and goats.					2.3.7
Dogs on the farm (working, guardian, and pets) have a health program that includes vaccination against rabies and treatment for tapeworms, according to veterinary prescription or label recommendations.					2.3.7
Farm cats have a health program that includes vaccination against rabies and spaying of all queens to mitigate the risk of <i>Toxoplasma</i> exposure to female goats.					2.3.7

## KEY AREA OF CONCERN 4: Movement of people, vehicles, and equipment

### 4: Self-Evaluation Checklist

Biosecurity practices for the movement of people, vehicles and equipment	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
Farm workers, visitors, and service providers are informed of the biosecurity protocols in place. Their actions are monitored for compliance with the protocols.					2.4.1, 2.4.2
Access by visitors and service providers is controlled.					2.4.2
I maintain a logbook for visitors and service providers.					2.4.2
Clothing, footwear, and other protective equipment (e.g. masks) are provided to workers.					2.4.3, 2.4.4
Visitors are provided designated personal protective equipment before entering the facility.					2.4.3, 2.4.4

Biosecurity practices for the movement of people, vehicles and equipment	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
I have a protocol for people when they move between biosecurity zones or to an identified risk area (e.g. isolation area).					2.4.1 - 2.4.4
Designated personal clothing and footwear is available for various production areas of the operation.					2.4.3
Equipment, tools, and vehicles used on other <b>livestock operations</b> are cleaned and disinfected prior to returning to the home farm.					2.4.5
Equipment is cleaned and disinfected between dirty (e.g. shovel used for manure) and clean (e.g. shovel used for feed) duties.					2.4.5
Livestock transportation vehicles are cleaned after each use and before returning to the farm.					2.4.5

## KEY AREA OF CONCERN 5: Monitoring and record keeping

### 5: Self-Evaluation Checklist

Biosecurity practices for monitoring and record keeping	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
I have records for every animal and for the herd collectively (e.g. ID #s, production, disease experience, test results, movements).					2.5.1
I monitor and record all treatments, vaccinations, mortalities, and necropsy and laboratory results.					2.5.1
All goats are identified. The identification is linked to an individual animal's health and production data.					2.5.1
I have records for all purchases: animals, feed, bedding, etc.					2.5.2
I have written protocols and records for cleaning and disinfection procedures.					2.5.2

## KEY AREA OF CONCERN 6: Communications and training

### 6: Self-Evaluation Checklist

Biosecurity practices for communications and training	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
Managers and I lead by example in terms of biosecurity compliance.					2.6.1
My biosecurity protocol is written and communicated to all employees.					2.6.2
My biosecurity protocol is communicated to all visitors and service providers.					2.6.2
My biosecurity protocol is posted.					2.6.2
Visitors, including service providers and family members, are escorted by farm workers or myself to ensure compliance with biosecurity protocols.					2.6.2
I provide biosecurity training to all my farm workers and expect all new employees to review the biosecurity protocol when commencing work.					2.6.3



Biosecurity practices for communications and training	Self-evaluation				Reference
	Always / frequently	Sometimes	Never	N/A	
The biosecurity training sessions are conducted at least annually.					2.6.3
I review my records to assess performance and effectiveness of biosecurity practices.					2.6.4
I review and update my biosecurity plan at least once a year with the participation of my farm workers and herd veterinarian.					2.6.4

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## Developing the biosecurity plan

Based on the self-evaluation and the information provided in this checklist, consider the following:

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1. *What are the biosecurity gaps on my farm?*

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2. *What are the biosecurity goals that address these gaps?*

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3. *What steps can I take to achieve these goals?*

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