



Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

## Animal Biosecurity

# The National Sheep Producer Biosecurity Planning Guide



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## Self-Assessment Checklists

The National Sheep Producer Biosecurity Planning Guide can be found at:  
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/planning-guide/eng/1368630861102/1368630952082>

### 1 Animal Health Management Practices

Biosecurity practices for animal health management	Self-evaluation Checklist				Section References
	Always/ frequently	Some- times	Never	N/A	
	Yes	No			
The sheep needed to maintain and grow my flock are produced on my farm.					3.1.2
Artificial insemination is used to replace sheep and rams.					3.1.2
Embryo transfer is used to replace sheep and rams.					3.1.2
I purchase new sheep from a limited number of sources.					3.1.2
When I purchase new sheep, I know the health status of the individual animals and of the source flock.					3.1.2
My sheep purchases are supported by documentation on the health and disease status of the animals.					3.1.2; 3.2.1

When my sheep participate at a show or a fair, I take measures to reduce the risk of disease transmission from other sheep.					3.1.3; 3.3.2
When my sheep use common or community pastures I follow specific <i>biosecurity protocols</i> .					3.1.3
I avoid commingling my animals with animals from other farms during transportation.					3.1.2; 3.1.3; 3.1.5; 3.3.5
All newly-acquired sheep that are brought to my farm are isolated for a period of time determined by the specific diseases of concern for my farm.					3.1.1; 3.1.2; 3.3.1.; 3.3.2; 3.3.3
All sheep that return to my farm (e.g. after going to a show, and loaned sheep or rams) are isolated for a period of time determined by the specific diseases of concern for my farm.					3.1.1; 3.1.3; 3.3.1; 3.3.2; 3.3.3; 3.3.6
I have an <i>isolation area</i> .					3.1.2; 3.1.3; 3.1.4; 3.3.1; 3.3.3; 3.3.6
Sheep in an isolation area are monitored daily for signs of illness.					3.1.1; 3.1.4; 3.3.1; 3.3.3
Sheep in an isolation area do not have direct contact or indirect contact (feed, water, shared equipment) with my main flock.					3.1.4; 3.3.1; 3.3.3
Sheep in an isolation area are enclosed and sheltered and do not share common airspace with my main flock.					3.1.4; 3.3.1; 3.3.3
The equipment used for treatment, handling and other husbandry chores in the isolation area is only used for that purpose.					3.1.4; 3.3.1; 3.3.4; 3.3.6; 3.3.8; 3.3.9; 3.3.10
When the equipment used for treatment, handling and other husbandry chores in the isolation area is used for the main flock, the equipment is cleaned and disinfected between uses.					3.1.4; 3.3.2; 3.3.3; 3.3.4; 3.3.6; 3.3.8; 3.3.9; 3.3.10
Dedicated clothing and footwear are used when working with sheep in the isolation area.					3.1.4; 3.3.1; 3.3.8
My employees work with the main flock before handling sheep in the isolation area(s).					3.1.4; 3.3.3

I have a protocol in effect for releasing sheep from isolation. (Note: such a protocol may include testing, vaccinating or treating for diseases of concern.)					3.1.1; 3.1.4; 3.1.7; 3.3.1
More susceptible animals in the flock are separated from older and/or diseased animals.					3.1.5; 3.3.3
Separation of animals by susceptibility applies to sheep movement through the farm, handling order, and worker contact with the animals.					3.1.6; 3.3.3
I use a flock health program to manage disease on my farm.					3.1.1; 3.2.3
My flock health program includes written protocols for disease control measures (e.g. vaccination, parasite control, disease testing, biosecurity) to be followed during specific production activities.					3.1.1; 3.1.7; 3.2.3
I use written treatment protocols for the management of sick animals.					3.1.1; 3.2.1
I follow written protocols for the use of all prescribed drugs, including withdrawal times.					3.1.1; 3.2.1
I routinely inspect and maintain my facilities to avoid pest and predator invasion.					3.1.8
Pest and insect management is in place.					3.1.8
I follow a protocol to prevent contact between wildlife and my sheep.					3.1.8
I follow a health plan for the dogs on the farm (working, guardian and pet) that includes vaccination against rabies and treatment for tapeworms.					3.1.8; 3.1.9
Female cats are spayed to reduce the risk of toxoplasmosis.					3.1.8

## 2 Record Keeping

Biosecurity practices for record keeping	Self-evaluation Checklist				Section Reference
	Always/ frequently	Some- times	Never	N/A	
I maintain farm records for my sheep operation that include health records for each individual animal in the flock.					3.1.1; 3.2.1
My farm records include production records for each sheep including reasons for death or culling.					3.2.1
My farm records include production records for the flock overall.					3.2.1
My farm records include all disease occurrences and their treatment.					3.1.1; 3.2.1
My farm records include a record of prophylactic treatments (e.g. deworming) and vaccinations.					3.1.1; 3.2.1
My farm records include a record of mortalities, necropsies and any laboratory results.					3.1.1; 3.2.1; 3.3.10
Biosecurity training of farm workers is maintained in employee or farm records.					3.2.2
My farm records can be used to provide health and disease records for individual animals and for the flock to potential purchasers of live sheep.					3.2.1
I maintain an emergency response plan for use in case of a <i>disease outbreak</i> on the farm or in the area.					3.2.3; 3.3.1

### 3 Farm, Facilities and Equipment

Biosecurity practices for farm, facilities and equipment	Self-evaluation Checklist				Reference
	Always/ frequently	Some- times	Never	N/A	
	Yes	No			
I have a map or diagram of my farm that shows facilities, working areas, pastures and pathways.					3.3.1
Biosecurity zones on my farm are identified.					3.3.1; 3.3.5
I use signs at access control points to describe my biosecurity protocols.					3.3.1; 3.3.5
I provide a dedicated parking area for farm workers and visitors that is separate from animal management and housing areas.					3.3.1; 3.3.5; 3.4.3
I have perimeter fencing around my sheep operation.					3.1.5; 3.3.1
My farm has specified practices for cleaning and disinfection.					3.3.2; 3.3.5
My farm workers are familiar with the cleaning and disinfection processes on my farm.					3.2.2; 3.3.2; 3.3.4; 3.3.5
Perimeter and interior fencing on my farm is inspected and maintained.					3.1.5;
Pens and other livestock areas on my farm are cleaned and disinfected when risk events (e.g. abortion outbreak) occur.					3.1.1; 3.3.2; 3.3.3
Specified risk areas on my farm (e.g. isolation areas for newly-introduced or sick sheep, etc.) are cleaned and disinfected after each use.					3.3.1; 3.3.2; 3.3.3
Barn facilities and pens on my farm are designed and laid out to facilitate good biosecurity practices.					3.3.1; 3.3.3
I provide dedicated equipment and tools for use in specific risk areas, such as the isolation area.					3.3.4; 3.3.6; 3.3.8

My equipment and tools are cleaned and disinfected between uses.					3.3.2; 3.3.4; 3.3.6; 3.3.8; 3.3.9; 3.3.10
Equipment and tools on my farm are identified for dedicated use (eg manure movement, feed handling).					3.3.3; 3.3.4; 3.3.6; 3.3.7; 3.3.8; 3.3.9; 3.3.10
Feeders and feeding areas are kept clean of manure, old feed and other contaminants.					3.3.2; 3.3.4; 3.3.7
Water bowls and water troughs are cleaned regularly.					3.3.2; 3.3.4; 3.3.7
Equipment used to move and handle deadstock is cleaned and disinfected immediately after each use.					3.3.2; 3.3.4; 3.3.10
Vehicles from my farm are used to transport sheep to and from the farm.					3.1.2; 3.1.3; 3.3.5
Livestock transportation vehicles are cleaned between uses.					3.1.2; 3.1.3; 3.3.2; 3.3.5
Sheep movement pathways on my farm are cleaned immediately following use by higher-risk sheep.					3.1.6; 3.3.1; 3.3.2; 3.3.3; 3.3.-
Manure is removed regularly and stored securely.					3.3.6
I keep samples of feed batches for testing and tracking purposes.					3.3.7
I store feed in a location that is secure from access by pests and animals.					3.3.1; 3.3.7
I provide quality water and test it at least annually for its safety for livestock.					3.3.7
Clean bedding is stored in a manner that keeps it free from contamination from animal products (e.g. feces).					3.3.7
Soiled bedding is removed regularly and disposed of away from the flock.					3.3.7
Shearing protocols are followed on my farm that include sequence, cleanliness and care of nicks and abrasions.					3.3.8

Needles and scalpels are only used once and then discarded into a suitable container.					3.3.9
Deadstock is immediately removed and stored in an area away from the flock, facilities, food and water, and secure from scavengers, dogs, cats and pests.					3.1.8; 3.3.1; 3.3.7; 3.3.10

Based on the self-evaluation:

<p>1. What are the biosecurity gaps identified on my farm?</p>
<p>2. What steps can I take to correct these gaps?</p>