

Foreign Animal Disease Alert for Exhibitors at Pennsylvania Fairs

As a result of heightened awareness of security in the United States, foreign animal disease (FAD) surveillance is being increased nationwide. We encourage each of you to be particularly aware of any indication that could signal the occurrence of a highly contagious disease or any other unusual or unexplained adverse animal health event. No potential cases of foreign animal disease should be ignored.

Potential hoaxes should be treated as real threats until proven otherwise. Special attention should be directed at farms and other areas where there are large number of livestock and poultry.

Be particularly alert to these five signs:

1. **Sudden, unexplained death loss in the herd or flock**
2. **Severe illness affecting a high percentage of the animals**
3. **Blistering around an animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves**
4. **Unusual ticks or maggots**
5. **Staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders.**

If you see something unusual, alert the Fair Superintendent or fair office.

Appendix 5

Biosecurity Checklist for Livestock Exhibitors

- No visitors from a country that has animals infected with Foot and Mouth Disease have visited my farm within the previous 30 days.
- Veterinary health inspections and health certificates are current for all of the animals I will be taking to the fair.
- All equipment, such as buckets, pitchforks, shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows, manure baskets, lead ropes, halters, nose rings, snares, clippers, scissors, brushes, etc., has been cleaned and disinfected before entering the fairgrounds. (A solution of household bleach in water is recommended for disinfection purposes: add 2 gallons of bleach to 3 gallons of water for disinfecting equipment).
- No Pets on grounds except 4-H Leader Dogs!
- I have received a list of the recommended biosecurity precautions that I should follow after returning to the farm with the animals that were taken to the fair.
- Any livestock showing signs of illness, including signs that suggest infection with Foot and Mouth Disease, will be reported immediately to the Livestock Superintendent of the fair.
- Any questions about disease and biosecurity measures can be directed to the regional veterinarian or animal health inspector, who will be visiting the fairgrounds for daily inspections.