



Standard Operating Procedure

For

**BIO-SECURITY PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING NPDES COMPLIANCE
EVALUATION INSPECTIONS AT ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS**

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

March 19, 2014

Purpose

3/19/2014

The purpose of this Bio-security Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to establish uniform procedures for ensuring that bio-security is maintained at animal feeding operations during compliance inspections, visits, complaint investigations, spills and/or any other on-site contact made by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff in performance of their duties at animal feeding operation facilities.

Summary of Procedures

The goal of this procedure is to maintain existing biosecurity at animal feeding operations being inspected or visited by DNR personnel. This will be accomplished in three stages: pre-inspection planning, inspection procedures, and post-inspection activities.

Pre-inspection planning will be used to identify areas with known reportable diseases to animal agriculture. This information will be generally obtained by conversations with producers or by general knowledge within the industry or the DNR. The areas with known reportable diseases will be avoided, to the extent possible. During pre-inspection planning the existing bio-security at the facilities to be inspected will be determined by consulting with the facility owner or manager.

Inspection procedures will include those activities that occur during the actual inspection. This consists of personal bio-security measures, vehicle parking and avoiding areas of the facility most vulnerable to disease transmission.

Post-inspection procedures include the activities that occur immediately after conclusion of the inspection. It also includes documentation of the bio-security protocol followed: before, during and after the inspection.

Pre-Inspection Planning

- If there are areas or facilities known to have reportable disease outbreaks, they should be avoided, if practical, until the outbreak subsides.
- During the initial contact with the owner/manager, ask if they have any facility specific bio-security protocols. If so, DNR environmental specialists will follow facility bio-security protocols to every extent reasonable. If not, inform them that you will follow DNR bio-security protocol.

Inspection Procedures

- Vehicles should be relatively clean before any inspection or visit. Base footwear should be clean of all organic matter.

- Whenever feasible, vehicles should be parked just off the driveway or at the edge of the bio-security perimeter in the facility's bio-security protocol during a scheduled or non-scheduled inspection or visit. As an alternative, the facility owner/manager may designate another parking place. All reasonable attempts should be made to avoid muddy areas and/or areas that may contain manure.
- At no time during the inspection, shall DNR environmental specialists contact animals or enter the production areas of buildings or feedlots. Production area includes an office attached to a building that houses animals. Inspectors may enter an office that is not attached to a production building.
- Disinfect base footwear with an Iowa DNR-approved disinfectant.
- Disinfect hands with a DNR-approved disinfectant prior to inspection or visit.
- Cover base footwear with a DNR-approved disposable plastic boot or disinfected outer rubber boot.
- If ground conditions such as snow or ice make wearing plastic boots a safety (slip hazard) issue, disinfectant only on base footwear may be used with facility owner/manager approval. As an alternative, a rubber type boot may be placed over the base footwear and disinfected prior to the inspection.

If a DNR environmental specialist conducts multiple inspections in the same day, production phase will become the priority for scheduling. For example, a sow farrowing site shall be inspected first, followed by nursery animals, followed by finisher sites.

Post-Inspection Procedures

- All disposable footwear should be left at the facility. If that is not possible, the footwear shall be put into a sealed plastic bag and properly disposed. Base footwear and/or rubber boots shall be disinfected prior to leaving the facility and entering the environmental specialists' vehicle.
- Disinfect hands after entering the vehicle and prior to leaving the facility.
- Documentation of the bio-security protocol used will be made in the facility contact form.
- Any environmental samples taken will be placed in a container and shipped to the laboratory as soon as possible after the inspection.