

2020 BIOSECURITY TRAINING AND PROTOCOL

Purpose: The purpose of the biosecurity training is to educate our exhibitors about the correct practices to ensure the health and wellbeing of their animal projects while entering, exiting and housing their project before and after the California Mid-State Fair. It is our intent to educate all parties at the fair regarding good animal husbandry practices that will help keep our animals, exhibitors, parents, leaders, advisors and fairgoers healthy.

We further encourage exhibitors to adopt these practices at the location where projects are housed prior to and after the fair.

How this works: This process is intended to be educational, simple to conduct and easy for leaders and advisors as well as the fairgrounds staff to be able to account for each exhibitor to have completed the training. **We are kindly asking all advisors and leaders turn in ONE form (see attached) per species club leader or project advisor. Please DO NOT turn in a form for every exhibitor.**

Exhibiting at the Fair: Animal agriculture is an important component of the United States agricultural industry. The quality and diversity of California animal agriculture is evident at livestock exhibitions and fairs throughout the State and nation. Many hours of training and hard work are invested to prepare healthy, high-quality animals for competition and in most cases for the food chain. Exhibition of animals is a rewarding experience. Unfortunately, even healthy animals entered in fairs are at risk for exposure to disease, stress or other negative health conditions.

Fairs and expositions may pose a potential threat to individual animal health. The commingling of animals of different species, breeds, and ages, from multiple premises and herd management backgrounds, creates an environment for potential exposure and spread of animal diseases. The stresses of travel, close confinement, and a changing environment, may compromise an animal's resistance to disease. People attending the fair also contribute to potential disease spread. At the end of the fair, animals that return to their home premises may also pose a risk of disease spread to their home herd or flock mates.

Fair Biosecurity: Biosecurity refers to measures taken to prevent the introduction of new disease agents into a herd or flock. Commingling of animals, multiple human contacts, and contaminated equipment represent the greatest threats for disease exposure and spread at a fair. To minimize risks, fair exhibitors can implement a fair biosecurity plan.

The objective of a fair exhibitor's biosecurity plan is to minimize potential exposure to disease and to prevent or limit disease spread from the fair to the home premises. Even the best biosecurity plan may not eliminate all risk of disease exposure; each step taken will reduce the potential.

Some practices to keep in mind:

- Provide fresh , clean water and feed
- Restrict animal contact with other animals, people, and livestock equipment,

- Clean and disinfect equipment, and tools
- Isolate and remove sick animals.
- Keep pens, stalls and surrounding areas clean and dry
- Communicate immediately with your specie superintendent or the official veterinarian when you suspect your animal is sick. Signs include: listlessness, not eating, not drinking water, appears to have a high temperature, the animal is injured, heavy coughing and heavy sneezing, heavy mucus discharge from eyes, nose and/or mouth.

Biosecurity Before the Fair: Disease prevention and fair biosecurity start before exhibitors leave home. Only healthy animals should be entered in the fair. Before animals leave the home premises, the herd or flock veterinarian should examine each animal to ensure healthy animals enter the fairgrounds. To help with this process the fairgrounds will be enacting vet checks before each trailer is unloaded, this check will be a visual check to assess, quarantine or remove any animals that are actively, or visibly ill or those that display other health conditions of concern before they enter pens or stalls.

Tools and equipment may harbor disease agents. To minimize potential disease spread from the home premises to the fair, before packing for transport, clean and disinfect:

- Feed equipment: buckets, feeders, and hay racks.
- Cleaning utensils: shovels, pitch forks, and wheelbarrows.
- Grooming equipment: clippers and brushers.
- Vehicle and trailer (inside and outside).

Biosecurity at the Fair: To protect fair animals and minimize disease transmission risk while at the fair:

- Limit animal-animal contact,
- Limit animal-human-animal contact,
- Avoid sharing equipment with other exhibitors unless you thoroughly clean and disinfect between use,
- Cover feed and equipment to reduce risk of contamination, and
- Change clothing, hats, and shoes used at the fair before doing chores at home.

At the end of the fair disinfect all equipment before loading the trailer. Unused feed, hay, and bedding should be discarded at the fairgrounds, not taken home.

Biosecurity After the Fair: The possibility of animal exposure to disease agents can occur with even the best biosecurity practices at the fair. Since they may be harboring disease agents without clinical signs, animals returning from the fair should be isolated from other animals and pets. Monitor animals in isolation daily for signs of illness and contact your veterinarian if any unusual symptoms are observed. To minimize the possible chance of disease spread to the main herd or flock, modify your chore routine to care for isolated fair animals last. Change your clothes after completing chores for isolated animals. Consult your veterinarian to develop an isolation plan suitable for your premises and herd or flock.

Help Protect Fairgoers: Animal show barns are one of the most popular areas of fairs. Fairs are great places to learn about different livestock species. Fair exhibitors have an opportunity and responsibility to educate

fairgoers about animal safety and biosecurity practices. Animal diseases such as ringworm, E.coli, and Salmonella may cause significant problems in humans. It is important the people visiting fair show barns wash their hands after contact with animals. Handwashing or use of hand sanitizers, reduces possible disease transmission from animals to humans.

Handwash Stations : Please make parents, exhibitors, leaders, advisors and fairgoers aware of the locations around the barns where handwash stations are located. This is a proactive approach to good Biosecurity practices.

Veterinary Inspection upon arrival at the Fair

Veterinarians and their assistants will inspect all livestock upon arrival prior to unloading into pens and stalls. Each animal owner must have veterinary clearance for their animal to be penned or stalled. Animal health will be monitored throughout the fair as well.

Health conditions that will be of concern and may be cause for quarantine , removal or at the very least treatment include but are not limited to : Parasites (internal and external) signs of communicable disease, unsightliness caused by a health condition and any wounds open or closed . Specific conditions that may further warrant quarantine include: active ringworm, advanced lamb fungus, advanced flu like symptoms, sore mouth, pink eye, lice, mites, infectious pneumonia, infectious or bloody scours or dysentery ; abbesses that are balding showing hair separation, draining, or still scabbed; animals that are seriously lame or injured; surgical sites that still have stitches or are not healed and any health condition that would compromise the animal or other animals if left untreated.

All Veterinary fees including health visits and medications are the responsibility of the exhibitor when treatment, medication or veterinary service is required or requested. The fair will provide limited veterinary hours each day. Exhibitors are responsible for costs associated with any treatment required or requested during those hours but not the inspection. Outside of those hours , if the animal's welfare is at risk as determined by management or if the exhibitor calls upon the veterinarian for service outside of those hours, the exhibitor is responsible for all those fees.

2020 BIOSECURITY TRAINING AND PROTOCOL CONFIRMATION FORM

Signed version must be submitted to the California Mid State Fair

Due Date: June 9, 2020

This form must only be signed by a project leader, advisor or community leader to verify they have distributed this material to all members in their organization or sector of organization they are responsible for. By turning this form in the responsible signing party verifies their members have read and understand these practices.

Documents that Must be reviewed and can be found on the fair's web site at [www. midstatefair.com](http://www.midstatefair.com) :

1. 2020 CMSF Biosecurity Training and Protocol Document
2. 2020 CMSF Biosecurity Commitments and expanded health protocols for livestock and other animal shows
3. California Mid State Fair Influenza Vaccination Program (Q & A)

Documents that are optional: Multiple Biosecurity documents online and found on the fair's web site at www.midstatefair.com under Livestock

Date: _____

Club or Chapter: _____

Leader name: _____

Leader Signature: _____

Leader Email: _____

Leader Phone Number: _____

Please Circle the project groups that this material has been distributed to:

Swine

Sheep

Cattle

Goats

Rabbits Dogs

Horse

Poultry

California Mid-State Fair

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