Biosecurity – Keeping your animals safe and healthy

As a service to horse and livestock owners and farm managers and in lieu of recent questions that have been raised in New Jersey concerning contagious horse disease(s), The Division of Animal Health at the New Jersey Department of Agriculture is providing recommendations on biosecurity practices and management tools to keep your animals safe and healthy both at home and at competitions.

Biosecurity is the series of management steps taken to prevent the introduction of infectious agents into an animal herd. Most diseases are spread through direct or physical contact, oral ingestion through contamination of feed or water, or inhalation of infectious agents. Disease can also be transmitted via fomites. A fomite is an inanimate object or substance that is capable of transmitting infectious organisms from one individual to another. This would include brushes, pitchforks, wheel barrels, automobile tires, clothing, shoes and even human hands. Keeping in mind how disease is spread should help you in reducing the risk that infectious agents are carried onto your farm.

Precautions to protect your horses/livestock:

- Clean and disinfect equipment such as bits, bridles, lead shanks and clippers between use on different animals.
- Horse specific equipment such as water buckets, feed buckets, and halters should be clearly labeled as belonging to an individual horse and used only on that horse.
- When filling water buckets, keep the nozzle of the hose above the water level to avoid carrying infectious agents from one bucket to the next.
- Wheel barrels should only ever be used for either feed/hay or waste removal. DO NOT use the same wheel barrel for both.
- Multi-dose medications such as dewormers or paste medications should not be shared between horses.
- Quarantine new arrivals for at least 30 days (horses returning from stays off the farm should be quarantined for at least 2 weeks). During quarantine do not allow nose to nose contact. Monitor the quarantined animals daily and take daily temperatures – this will help in early detection of disease. Keep separate equipment for the quarantine animals. This includes pitchfork, wheel barrel and brushes. Care for the quarantine animals last.
- Visitors to the farm should wear clean clothes and shoes. They may cover their shoes with plastic shoe covers or be asked to spray their shoes with disinfectant. If you have visited another farm or been to a competition, you should change shoes and clothes as well as wash your hands before entering your barn.

When off premises with your horse/livestock, avoid using commensal water buckets, feed buckets, tack or equipment. Avoid hand grazing your animals at shows as this should also be considered a common eating area. Avoid you or your animal having contact with animals of unknown origin.

If you suspect your animal is ill, it should be examined by a licensed veterinarian. If the sick animal is not already in quarantine, isolate it from having further contact with other

animals in your barn. In the case of a reportable disease or disease outbreak, your veterinarian will notify the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health.

The following are reportable diseases:

Multiple Species Diseases
Aflatoxin
African Animal Trypanosomiasis
Aujeszky's disease (Psuedorabies)
Bluetongue/ Epizootic Hemorrhagic Dz
Botulism
Burkholderia (pseudomallei, mallei)
Campylobacteriosis
Coccidiomycosis
Echinococcus/hyatidosis
Foot and Mouth disease
Foreign Pests and Vectors of Arthropod-borne disease
Hantavirus
Heartwater
Leptospirosis
Lumpy skin disease
New and Old World Screwworm
Nipah Virus
Orthopox virus (Monkey Pox, Camel Pox, Sheep and Goat Pox)
Paratuberculosis
Plaque (Yersinia pestis)
Q fever (Coxiella brunetti)
Ricin
Rift Valley Fever
Salmonellosis
Tuberculosis
Tularemia (Francisella tularensis)
Vesicular stomatitis
Viral Hemorrhagic diseases
Hemorrhagic Septicaemia
Toxins (Shigatoxin (STEC e.coli),Staphylococcal enterotoxins,T-2 toxin)

Diseases infectious to livestock
Akabane
African Horse Fever
African Swine Fever
Anaplasmosis
Anthrax
Bovine Ephemeral Fever
Brucellosis
Cattle tick fever (Babesiosis)
Caprine Arthritis Encephalisis (CAE)

Classical Swine Fever
Contagious Agalactia of Sheep and Goats
Contagious Bovine Plueropneumonia
Contagious equine metritis (CEM)
Contagious Caprine Plueroneumonia
Cysticercosis
Dourine
East Coast Fever
Epizootic Lymphangitis
Equine Morbillivirus Pneumonia
Equine Piroplasmosis
Equine infectious anemia (EIA)
Equine rhinopneumonitis (EHV-1, EHV-4)
Equine viral encephalitis
Erysipelas in swine
Glanders
Hendra Virus
Louping Ill
Maedi-Visna
Malignant Catarrhal Fever
Meliodiosis
Menangle Virus
Mycoplasma (Capricolum/M.F38/ mycoides mycoides, mycoides capri
Mucosal disease complex
Nairobi Sheep Disease
Parafilariasis in Cattle
Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS)
Pseudorabies
Peste Des Petits Ruminants
Rabies
Rinderpest
Swine Vesicular Diseases
Transmissable spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs)
Trichinellosis
Trichomonosis
Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium bovis, and Mycobacterium tuberculosis)
Vesicular exanthema

Diseases infectious to poultry
Asian tapeworm (Bothriocephalus acheilognathi)
Avian infection bronchitis
Avian infectious laryngotracheitis
Avian influenza
Avian mycoplasmosis
Exotic New Castle Disease (VVND)
Duck virus enteritis
Erysipelas in poultry
Fowl cholera

Fowl typhoid (Salmonella gallinarum)
Paracolon infestation
Paratyphoid infection (Salmonella paratyphi)
Psittacosis (ornithosis, chlamydiosis)
Pullorum (Salmonella pullorum)
Salmonella enteriditis

Diseases infectious to aquaculture
Bacterial kidney disease (Renibacterium salmonarium)
Baculovirus pennaci and other Baculovirus species
Channel catfish virus
Disseminated neoplasia blue mussel
Enteric Redmouth (Yersinia ruckeri)
Enteric septicemia of catfish (Edwardsiella tarda, Icctalari)
Epizootic hematopoietic necrosis
Furunculosis (Aeromonas salmonicida)
Infectious hematopoietic necrosis
Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus
Juvenile oyster disease
Koi herpes virus
Non-endemic Protozoan and Metazoan parasites of finfish
Onchorychus masou virus disease
Perkinsus chesapeaki
Pleistophora ovariae in baitfish
Streptococcus iniae and other streptococcus species of finfish
Spring Viremia of Carp
Taura virus
Viral encephalopathy and retinopathy
Whirling disease (Myxobolus cerebralis)
White spot disease virus
Yellowhead disease
Proliferative kidney disease
Viral hemorrhagic septicemia