

# Traveller Biosecurity Requirements

February 2020

When you visit or work with animal-related operations during your travels, you run the risk of bringing pests or diseases back to our unique ecosystem.

Below are the minimum preventative measures that must be undertaken by Fonterra travellers to minimise the risk of transmission of infectious pests and diseases when they have come into contact with animals. Some of these measures also reduce the risk of introducing pests and diseases of the feed crops animals rely on.

Protecting our biosecurity is vital to help secure strong and thriving rural communities for future generations.

## While in the country

Practices that must be carried out within a country include:

- Always eliminate or minimise exposure to animals and animal products where possible. Do not enter operational facilities unless it is absolutely required. If first-hand observation of operational facilities is necessary, use viewing galleries and/or site controlled transported tours as the first option.
- Ask the tour host or the trip organiser if there are any specific known biosecurity issues or concerns relevant to the location of the visit, and if so, what additional measures are in place to mitigate risk.
- Where farms or livestock handling facilities (sites) provide their own footwear, footwear covers and coveralls for visitors, these must be used and left on farm at the end of the visit.
- If using your own footwear on sites, these must be cleaned so no visible dirt or organic material is present, and then disinfected with an approved chemical disinfectant when you are leaving the site. As an added precaution, if disinfectant is provided you must soak the soles of the shoes/boots for the instructed time.
- Wash your hands in soap and water immediately after any site visit, both as part of good biosecurity and for the health and safety of you and others.
- Minimise the use of equipment when visiting properties with animals. Discard or disinfect any equipment used. Instruments that cannot be soaked in disinfectants (e.g. cameras) should be cleaned thoroughly and dried.
- Biosecurity requirements associated with infectious diseases, for example, foot and mouth disease (FMD) may also include a mandatory stand down period before you visit other sites. You must always check whether this is the case before visiting a country.

You must also be aware of and comply with any additional requirements set by a specific farm, operating entity or government agencies of the country you are visiting.

## On leaving a country

The following practices must be carried out in addition to the practices outlined above when leaving a country for another (including returning to your home country):

- Before you leave the country, any clothing worn on the farm should preferably be discarded; or either washed in a washing machine on warm wash cycle after a soak in disinfectant or dry cleaned. If this is not practical the clothes must be disinfected and bagged and washed on arrival in the next country.
- The measures outlined below are used for FMD control as well as many other diseases. Stand down means avoiding any direct contact with farmed animals for a specified period. Information on diseases of concern can be found on the OIE website<sup>1</sup>.

	Destination FMD endemic country	Destination FMD free country
Origin FMD free country	No stand down required	No stand down required
Origin FMD endemic country (no direct contact)	No stand down required	Stand down required (No contact with farmed animals or farm visits allowed for 3 days)
Origin FMD endemic country (direct physical contact)	Yes (No visit allowed for 3 days)	Stand down required (No contact with farmed animals or farm visits allowed for 8 days)

**Contact** is defined as coming in to contact with farmed animals, farming operations or livestock handling facilities (e.g. markets, abattoir etc)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/oie-listed-diseases-2014/>