

FMD Biosecurity Reminder *For Livestock Producers*

BOVINE
ISSUES
WORKING
GROUP

1. For those traveling to Japan and Korea, do not visit farms or ranches until the outbreak is over. Travelers are being asked to avoid contact with livestock or wildlife for five days prior to and after returning home from these regions.
2. Know the source of incoming animals and do the required testing before the animals reach your ranch, feedlot or dairy. If possible, isolate newly purchased animals from resident animals for at least a week, and preferably two weeks. Feed and care for those animals after you have cared for all your other animals first. Do not allow common watering and feeding areas. Follow these procedures if you are showing livestock at fairs.
3. Monitor those who enter your operation. Get to know employees and service personnel. Learn about outside activities relating to the health of your animals. (Do they keep animals of their own, or do close family members work for other animal operations?) Keep a visitor log and inquire if visitors have been in a disease outbreak area within the previous two weeks. Politely refuse admittance to your ranch, feedlot or dairy if you are not satisfied with their answers. Consider disposable footwear for visitors or disinfecting shoe mats.
4. Don't allow rendering transport vehicles into feeding or housing areas. Consider having a designated, easily disinfected, pickup spot away from other animals.
5. Monitor your livestock closely for early signs of disease.

Report all possible reportable conditions to the State Veterinarian's office IMMEDIATELY at any of the following phone numbers

360.902.1878

360.902.1881

360.902.1835.

Early response is critical to containing the spread of FMD. For symptom photos, visit wabeef.org ("Producers Only" Sidebar)

For more information about FMD visit www.fmdinfo.org



Washington
Cattle Feeders
Association



Washington
Dairy Products
Commission



Washington
Cattlemen's
Association



Washington
Dairy
Federation



Washington
State Beef
Commission



Washington
State University



Washington State
Department of
Agriculture



Cattle Producers of
Washington



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North America is one of just three continents in the world currently free from the devastating impact of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), but that could change quickly if producers don't remain vigilant in their biosecurity measures. The current outbreak in Japan has already resulted in the euthanization of more than 35,000 cattle and pigs. This number is expected to rise into the hundreds of thousands.

FMD is an animal disease that affects cloven-hoofed animals like cattle, swine, goats and sheep. *It does not impact humans.* The virus however, can be easily transmitted through clothing and shoes and can live for days in both animal and human nasal tissues.

Unsuspecting travelers can transport the disease quickly to non-infected animals. Washington's close proximity to the Pacific Rim and the considerable agriculture commerce between our state and Japan compelled us to remind producers to review on-farm biosecurity measures with employees, salespeople and service personnel.

