



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



## CDQAP Biosecurity Recommendations for Domestic Visitors to a Dairy

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Visitors to dairies can broadly be divided into those having recently been in a foreign country and those that have not. Foreign visitors carry a much higher risk of catastrophic disease introduction. Producers dealing with such visitors are referred to CDFA's [fact sheet on foreign animal disease biosecurity](#) and a [brochure specifically addressing foreign visitors](#).

Domestic visitors can also introduce local disease agents onto a dairy. Such visitors might include service providers such as veterinarians or machine technicians, regulatory inspectors, processor customers or school children. Below are some general recommendations, but each dairy will determine its own visitor entry policies.

- Use a logbook to track visitation and movements of the visitors, including a signature, printed name, date, country of origin, and time of sign-in and sign-out. Iowa State has produced a useful [Questionnaire](#).
- Visitors that have been on foreign animal facilities within the last five days should reschedule to a later date.
- Visitors that own their own livestock at home should be evaluated for risk of disease transmission.
- Ideally, visitor vehicles should remain in a parking lot removed from the animal housing areas. If possible use farm-specific vehicles (trucks or utility vehicles) to transport visitors and their equipment.
- Clothing:
  - At a bare minimum, visitors should confirm that they are wearing freshly laundered clothing or coveralls that have not been on a different animal facility since their last cleaning.
  - If necessary dairy management should supply freshly laundered coveralls or Tyvek suits.
- Footwear:
  - Ideally, visitors should be provided with freshly disinfected rubber boots belonging to the dairy and which never leave the dairy premises.
  - Visitors might provide their own rubber boots, but they should be cleaned and disinfected at a dairy footbath at 'check-in'.



- As a last resort (for footwear that cannot be adequately cleaned and disinfected like shoes) plastic disposable booties can be provided.
- Before going onto the dairy, the visitors should be encouraged to wash their hands (this could take place at the initial check-in point).
- If tours of multiple dairies are to be conducted, use of a closed bus or van with a 'tour guide' should be considered.
- Discourage the visitors from having direct animal, feed, or water contact. Consider appropriate animal viewing locations that minimize risk of disease transmission.

For more information on how to create an emergency animal disease response plan for your dairy visit [Farm Enhanced Biosecurity Plan-Builder Website](#).

For more information on how USDA is working with States to prepare and response to a Foreign Animal Disease event visit the departments [National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program](#).

For specific questions on how to prevent disease entry onto your dairy contact please Dr. Michael Payne at [mpayne@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mpayne@ucdavis.edu) or 530-304-9306.