

Keeping Diseases off your Farm

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Movements of people, vehicles and equipment among farms are common. These activities can spread diseases from farm to farm unknowingly. If you wish to maintain a healthy herd of goats, cattle, or a flock of sheep you may wish to consider implementing a biosecurity protocol on your farm. The following can serve as a basis for a biosecurity protocol:

- ❖ Control traffic on and off your farm by discouraging unnecessary visitors.
- ❖ Purchase healthy livestock from trusted or reputable suppliers.
- ❖ Isolate the animals you purchased for a minimum of two (2) weeks.
- ❖ Buy quality feeds.
- ❖ If an animal becomes sick, separate it from the healthy animals.
- ❖ Dead stock should be removed immediately from other animals and disposed properly. Consider sending the dead animal to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory to confirm cause of death, if you suspect a reportable disease i.e., economically feasible
- ❖ Keep all equipment, buildings, and the surrounding areas clean.
- ❖ Use disinfectants and detergents on equipment when required.
- ❖ Control or eliminate vermin.
- ❖ Make a concerted effort to protect your feed and water supplies from fecal contamination, especially by wildlife.