

On-Farm Biosecurity Guidelines



Biosecurity is the planned, methodical approach to securing facilities as safe and disease-free environments. The term 'biosecurity' is used to encompass the wide range of measures relating to isolation, structural interventions, sanitation and day-to-day procedures; which collectively reduce the potential for introduction and transmission of disease agents. All personnel are responsible for the security of the farm and the health of the turkeys.

1. Both the security of the farm and the health of the turkeys are the responsibility of farm managers and farm owners.
2. Anyone entering the turkey barns that is not a farm labourer or farm management should wear clean protective coveralls, boots, and a hair net. A dust mask may also be required in certain conditions.
3. Anyone entering the turkey barns should sanitize their boots in the dip pan provided at each entry door.
 - All dip pans should contain a clean residual disinfectant solution that is changed daily.
 - An alternative is to use a dry, chlorine-based disinfectant material that can be changed as needed.
4. Farm personnel should not own, visit, or associate with other poultry, waterfowl or domestic birds. Inadvertent contact with these species should be followed up with a shower and a change of clothing before returning to the turkey barns.
5. No visitors will be allowed to enter the turkey barns without the approval of farm management.
6. Mortality Disposal:
 - All mortality should be disposed of on the farm (done in accordance with Local, State, or Provincial and Country laws).
7. Domestic pets such as dogs and cats, should not enter the work room, entry area, or turkey barn at any time.
8. Doors should be locked at all times.
9. Equipment and/or tools should not be shared between farms unless absolutely necessary. All equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to entering and exiting the farm.
10. All used poultry litter should be stored (and covered) in accordance with farm conservation and nutrient management practices. It should be a minimum 100' (30 m) away from turkey barns. It is more beneficial to remove it from the farm completely.
11. Weed Control:
 - Maintain grass at a maximum height of 3" (8 cm) within 30' (10 m) of all turkey barns and composters at all times.
 - A weed/grass-free area should be maintained with 24" (60 cm) of all barns. Approved herbicides may be necessary.

12. Fly Control:

- Flies can be controlled in the barn with dry litter. Any wet litter must be removed.
- Between flocks, a beetle control program can help with flies. Fly insecticides should be used (follow local regulations).
- Commercial fly baits and fly tapes are also available.

13. All predator and scavenger wild animals should be kept away from the premises.

14. On-Farm Traffic Control:

- Human traffic must be controlled on “multiple-age” facilities.
- Do not enter the brooder facility after the finisher barn without taking precautions. Ideally, clean clothing, footwear, and headwear should always be worn in the brooder barn. At minimum, a clean pair of coveralls, boots, and hair net should be designated for people working in the brooder facility. This separation should begin once the brooder barn has been cleaned and disinfected.

15. Other Biosecurity Practices:

Rodent bait stations need to be checked and the bait refreshed weekly. Stations should be placed every 50' (15 m) around the perimeter of the barn. Rodent bait products should be rotated on a quarterly basis.

- All barns should be bird-proofed.
- Any repair/service personnel must wear hair nets, clean coveralls, hair nets, and clean boots.
- Do not travel to locations (such as auctions) where live birds are bought or sold.
- Water fowl are common carriers of poultry diseases. Limit contact around fields and ponds that are frequented by water fowl.
- All grazing animals need to be at least 50' (15 m) away from turkey barns and driveways.
- Do not, in any manner, work on any other poultry farm or operation.

- Keep all junk, trash, and unnecessary items away from the turkey barns.
- Wild fowl hunting activities should be separated from activities around the turkey operation. Wild fowl are common carriers of domestic poultry diseases.

16. “No Admittance” signs should be posted on the entrance door of each barn.

Bait Station Maintenance

- Mount stations $\frac{3}{4}$ " (2 cm) off the ground.
- Check stations once a week. Remove bait and clean with a stiff bristle paint brush.
- Place stations at the ends of the barns and every 50' (15 m) along the sides of barns.

Rodent Bait Rotation Example:

- December—May: Difenacoum
- June—August: Bromadiolone
- September—November: Brodifacoum
- Cleanout time: Bromethalin