



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry

# Biosecurity



protect your animals and produce from pests and disease

## Biosecurity for Small Farm Owners

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Biosecurity is about protecting your stock from pests and diseases to look after the economic return, ensure the safety of you and your family and the environment.

Biosecurity is important for small farm owners because during disease outbreaks the disease will affect small farms just as much as it affects large farms. All animals can become affected and to get the best returns from your stock and to look after your health and the health of the environment you need healthy, well looked after stock. They are your best protection for both financial returns and health.

There are several things that small land holders can do to promote good biosecurity on their property. They should make sure machinery is cleaned before it comes onto the property and also make sure it's clean when it leaves. They should keep their stock well fenced, quarantine new stock on arrival, and make sure gates are working and they should check their stock on a regular basis. They should secure feed bins and also make sure that boots and clothing are cleaned. They should also look towards washing their hands or even disinfecting hands when necessary.

There are several things small farm owners should be doing during a pest or disease outbreak. Most importantly they should be listening for all announcements and following any directions given, they should be checking their stock regularly and if having any problems either ring up the disease hotline or contact their local state agricultural or primary industries department. They should go on to the websites and check for any new announcements there as well.

If a landholder does see something unusual they should contact the disease control hotlines. In the case of animals that's 1800 675 888 or if it's a plant pest or disease 1800 084 881.

To get more information on biosecurity, there's a couple of good websites

[www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity](http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity) or [www.farmbiosecurity.com.au](http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au)