

11.1.2. Customer Quarantine/Biosecurity Measures

Standard

Are customer quarantine/biosecurity measures known and adhered to by the mill and drivers?

Purpose

Ensuring appropriate knowledge and awareness of mills and drivers in the event of an Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) outbreak or Plant/Pest Disease outbreak. Customers require a good biosecurity practice from the mill and drivers.

Reason

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, operators have a duty to conduct reasonable practices to prevent or minimise the risk of feed contamination – this includes Quarantine and Biosecurity Measures. However, in the event an EAD and Plant/Pest Disease outbreak, operators have a legal obligation to notify the relevant authority of any incursion or knowledge of suspected contaminated feed.

In the event of an outbreak, customers require all parties in the supply chain to be aware of the correct measures to take in order to prevent:

1. Further spreading of disease.
2. Unauthorised delivery vehicle movement.
3. Unauthorised machine movement or equipment sharing.
4. Movement of affected ingredients or bulk feeds.
5. Unauthorised quarantined feed movement.
6. Movement of personnel between farm/mill.

The operator shall ensure mill workers and drivers are regularly trained in Quarantine/Biosecurity measures. They are at the forefront of EAD and Plant/Pest Disease Management. Unaware mill workers may release affected ingredient/feed product to feed clients and diseases then enter the supply chain. Transport drivers can carry affected products and act as fomite transfer to other properties, not just on the wheels of the vehicle, but also on their clothing and shoes, or due to contamination entering the cab.

Contamination of stock feed products is not limited to Animal and Plant Diseases. Biosecurity management is also intended to regulate chemically affected feed. See:

1. Substances listed in schedule 4, Biosecurity Regulation 2017;
2. Substances listed in the Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) standard above prescribed limits; or
3. Other biosecurity risks resulting in the contamination of animals, stock feeds and animal food commodities.

What is Acceptable?

Training

Mill workers shall be regularly trained for preparation of an EAD or Plant/Pest Disease Outbreak. They shall be made aware of their responsibilities and the actions to be taken during an outbreak. This can be achieved by:

1. Scheduled training as part of ongoing improvement and awareness.
2. Utilise Government resources in addition to scheduled training ([Aus Gov](http://AusGov)).
3. Weekly toolbox talks - this is an opportunity to regularly update workers during an active outbreak.

Chemicals

Mill workers shall also be made aware of any chemicals or drugs onsite that fall under Schedule 4, Biosecurity Regulation or Maximum Residue Limits (MRL's). Additionally, the operator shall:

1. Conduct a risk assessment on all chemicals, including drugs used within the mill. Ensure to include incorrect use of ingredient in feed and potential acts of sabotage.
2. Keep an inventory of all chemicals and drugs and ensure an authorised person issues the ingredients into production.
3. Safe practice and storage (lockable) of drugs and cleaning chemicals.

Mock Biosecurity Runs

Preparation for an actual EAD or Plant/Pest Disease Outbreak should be considered. A mock run will involve:

1. Following Emergency Disease and Plant/Pest Action Plan.
2. Assigning responsibilities to personnel.
3. Communicating action plan requirements, including a time frame to complete.

SFMCA makes no representation about the information contained in this document. It is provided as is without express or implied warranty of any kind. SFMCA disclaims (to the full extent allowable by the Law) all warranties with regard to this information, including all implied warranties as to the accuracy of the information. SFMCA shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever including any special, indirect or consequential damages resulting from loss of profits, whether in an action in contract, negligence or otherwise arising out of or in connection with the information contained in this document. Neither SFMCA nor any of its employees or agents warrants that the information within this document is error-free.
