

Q Fever Herd Management Plan

The purpose of this herd plan is to outline appropriate actions and management practices to protect public health by reducing exposure to Coxiella burnetii (the bacteria that causes Q fever), to educate potentially exposed persons regarding Q fever transmission, to limit the spread of Coxiella burnetii in the herd owner's livestock, and to detect suspect animals as soon as possible. This herd plan is voluntary, is subject to review and revision, and is not intended to represent a legal contract. These management practices are necessary to protect public health and animal health, and it is the responsibility of the herd owner to comply with these standards.

Ranch Name (if applicable):
Owner Name:
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Mailing address:
Phone:
Email:
Other Information:

Herd owner agrees to:

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

➤ The highest risk for human illness is due to contact with contaminated birth products (e.g., placentas, fetuses, amniotic fluids). Birth products and soiled bedding materials should be immediately removed while using gloves, placed in a sealed, double-bagged trash bag, and disposed of by incinerating or burying. If composted, keep in an area well away from people and animals for several weeks followed by turning the exposed surface inward and allowing it to heat up for several more weeks. After stacking and composting for as long as possible, it may be spread on land used for livestock and crops.

- Manure should be composted as described above. Do not sell manure to the public or use in garden areas.
- The birthing area should be immediately cleaned using a 1:10 dilution of household bleach plus detergent, a 5% solution of hydrogen peroxide, or a 1:100 dilution of Lysol. A 30 minute contact time is recommended for all disinfection agents.
- Avoid cleaning out buildings and moving soiled bedding on windy days. If using a high pressure hose after mucking out, dampen down first using a low pressure spray to decrease production of fine aerosols.
- Practice good rodent control; keep dogs and cats away from birth products.
- Control ticks on livestock.
- Limit visitors' access into the livestock holding areas or barns unless necessary.
- Visitors at high risk for severe Q fever illness (e.g., pregnant women, immunosuppressed persons, and persons with heart valve or vascular defects) should not be allowed access into the livestock holding areas or barns.
- Pregnant animals or animals that have given birth within 2 weeks should not be moved off of the farm.
- Consumption of only pasteurized dairy products is recommended.
- Hands and arms should be washed thoroughly after animal contact.
- Clothing worn in livestock holding areas or barns should be removed immediately after leaving the areas and washed in hot water using any commercial laundry product. Boots should be cleaned and disinfected or disposable boot covers should be used.

ANIMAL RECORDS

- Maintain a detailed registry which should record all livestock on the premises and history of adverse pregnancy events. An adverse pregnancy event is defined as an abortion, stillbirth, or birth of a weak newborn. This registry should be updated whenever an animal is bought or sold. Sales records of individuals who purchase or lease livestock from you, including names, addresses, date of transaction and animal sold should also be maintained.

ANIMAL MOVEMENTS

- Adhere to animal health regulations when buying, selling, importing, and exporting sheep or goats. If animals are obtained from out of state, this shall include obtaining a health certificate and import permit and meeting any additional requirements specific to the species being imported.
- Learn the health history of newly purchased animals, particularly any history of recent adverse pregnancy events.

LIST SPECIES and BREED	NUMBER	ANIMAL USE-COMMENTS	NUMBER OF BREEDING FEMALES	TIME OF YEAR BREEDING FEMALES BIRTH (eg, spring, March-May, year round)

Initials: _____
 Owner State Veterinarian
 or designee