BIOSECURITY SA
PIRSA

What is biosecurity?

Biosecurity is a set of measures designed to prevent the entry, establishment and spread of pests and diseases that could negatively impact the economy, the community or the environment.

Biosecurity is a shared responsibility that requires collaboration between governments, industries, communities and producers. Everyone has a part to play. Good biosecurity supports the economies of the rural communities that rely on livestock production.

In South Australia, Biosecurity SA, a division of Primary Industries and Regions SA, is responsible for making sure that the state has systems in place to monitor, detect, respond to and control pest and disease outbreaks, and food safety issues. These systems underpin South Australia's status in export markets which in turn helps to protect our economy.

But these systems need of an active partnership with, and participation from, primary industries producers and their allied industries.

What is farm biosecurity?

Farm biosecurity is the application of specific management practices on-farm to protect a property from the entry and spread of pests and diseases, and the livelihood of those who rely on it. Having a strong and effective on-farm biosecurity system is essential for protecting your status as a premium livestock producer, and for maintaining and increasing access to international markets.

What is your role in farm biosecurity?

Farm biosecurity is your responsibility, and that of every person working on or visiting your property.

Good biosecurity - essential practices

Most disease problems can be avoided through implementing basic biosecurity practices. The following recommendations are essential to ensure the risk of disease introduction, establishment and spread is minimised.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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Don't bring disease onto your property

- Assess the potential risk of introducing disease with introduced livestock.
  - Check the Sheep Health Declaration for relevant disease information **before** introduction of livestock.
  - Source breeding stock from accredited flocks.
  - Don't be afraid to ask questions about the livestock before purchase.
- Isolate and observe new arrivals for signs of illness.

Stop disease establishing or spreading

- Monitor stock regularly and seek veterinary advice if any unusual disease or illness is noticed.
- Ensure good records are kept; this includes all stock movements (introductions and sale), treatments, purchased feed and any illness/deaths.

Keep disease out

- Maintain stock-proof boundary fences and inspect regularly.
- Don't allow ruminants access to restricted animal material (RAM).
- Manage feral/pest animals and weeds.

One Biosecurity (1B) – Animal Health

One Biosecurity is a new state-wide approach to managing, protecting, and promoting strong biosecurity across South Australia's livestock industry.

Cattle and sheep producers will be able to assess and declare their farm biosecurity practices online, develop a biosecurity plan and access further biosecurity planning tools for specific diseases.

For more information and to pre-register: http://pir.sa.gov.au/1biosecurity

Contacts

Biosecurity SA's Animal Health Officers are available to offer advice and practical information on how producers can improve their farm biosecurity practices. Find your local Biosecurity SA Animal Health Office at pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/animal_health/contact_us

If you suspect any form of exotic disease in your animals contact the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888, a Biosecurity SA Animal Health Officer or your vet.

Additional resources

For additional information on farm biosecurity, tools and templates, please visit
www.farmbiosecurity.com.au