Biosecurity Protocol for Approval and Operation of an Approved Finishing Unit (Enhanced) with Grazing in England

Important information

Operators of Approved Finishing Units (Enhanced) with grazing (AFUEs) must have a written biosecurity protocol in place developed with their Private Veterinary Surgeon (PVS) and approved by APHA.

When developing the biosecurity protocol, the operator must seek bespoke advice in the form of an advisory visit from one of the following:

- the TB Advisory Service [http://www.tbas.org.uk/](http://www.tbas.org.uk/)
- an independent advisor specialising in on-farm biosecurity
- their PVS

The advisor must present their bespoke biosecurity advice and recommendations to the operator in writing, for example in the form of a report, and this must be made available to APHA. The operator must implement the recommendations before the AFUE can be approved by APHA. This is in addition to satisfying the terms and conditions for operation of the unit.

Once the biosecurity protocol is approved by APHA, it should be reviewed annually by the operator as a minimum and will be discussed at the annual unannounced inspection visit by APHA and at any other time on request.

Section 1 - Details of the Unit

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<tr>
<th>Name of Operator</th>
<th>CPH (leave blank if unknown at the application stage)</th>
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<td>Name and address of unit</td>
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<td>Postcode</td>
<td>Contact telephone no.</td>
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Section 2 - Bespoke Biosecurity Advice and Recommendations

Please attach a copy of the written advice and recommendations from the biosecurity advisory visit (this can be an electronic copy if the application is submitted via email).

Please list the bespoke recommendations from the biosecurity advisory visit and describe the actions taken to implement them.

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<th>Recommendation</th>
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Section 3 - Bespoke Biosecurity Protocol

Please attach a plan of the unit showing specifically as annotations:
• boundaries of the unit including grazing
• entry and exit points for vehicles
• movements of cattle
• biosecurity points for cleaning and disinfection of vehicles/equipment etc.
• drainage of effluent and waste water
• cattle handling facilities for TB testing (mobile facilities are acceptable)
• cattle accommodation
• isolation facility for reactors/inconclusive reactors
• forage store e.g. silage clamp
• feed store
• manure and slurry storage

Please complete the sections below describing the controls in place for reducing the risk of disease transmission both within the unit and to other cattle herds and wildlife outside of the unit.

**Movements of Personnel, Equipment and Vehicles Entering and Leaving the Unit**

1. Defra approved disinfectant used and dilution rate*

2. Is any machinery or equipment shared with other holdings?  
   Yes ☐ No ☐

3. If you answered ‘yes’ to Q2, list the items of shared machinery and/or equipment and describe how cross contamination is minimised.

4. Are personnel dedicated to the unit?  
   Yes ☐ No ☐

5. If you answered ‘no’ to Q4, describe how cross contamination is minimised.

* A Defra approved disinfectant for TB must be used at the correct dilution rate. The approved disinfectant list is continuously updated, with products being added and removed. Always check the disinfectant you use is still approved before use [http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI](http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI)

**Drainage of Effluent and Washings from the Unit**

6. Describe the drainage system for effluent and wash offs on the unit.

7. If applicable, describe how drainage of effluent/wash offs from the unit into areas where TB susceptible stock* and/or wildlife have access is prevented

*TB susceptible stock are defined as sheep, pigs, goats, camelids and farmed or park deer

**Management of Manure and Slurry**

8. Describe the collection and handling system for manure and slurry on the unit

9. If manure is stacked, describe how access by TB susceptible stock and wildlife is prevented

10. Is manure and/or slurry produced by cattle in the unit spread on land within the unit?  
    Yes ☐ No ☐

11. If you answered ‘yes’ to Q10, please indicate whether the manure and/or slurry is spread on pasture grazed by cattle or pasture grazed by cattle

   Pasture grazed by cattle ☐

   Arable land ☐
arable land, or both

12. If you answered ‘yes’ to Q10, how long is slurry and/or manure stored prior to spreading on land grazed by cattle?

Manure should be stacked for a minimum of three weeks on the unit. Slurry should be stored for as long as possible before spreading on pasture (at least six months is recommended). Cattle should not be allowed to graze land for at least two months following spreading.

Protection of Feed Stores against Access by Wildlife

13. Describe how concentrates are stored and protected from access by wildlife (leave blank if not applicable)

*Stored feed, mineral and energy supplements must not be accessible to wildlife.*

14. Describe how forage is stored and protected from access by wildlife.

*Access by wildlife to stored forage and bedding such as grass silage, haylage, hay and straw must be prevented wherever possible.*

Wildlife Proofing of Cattle Housing

15. Describe how cattle housing on the unit is wildlife-proof.

*Individual buildings and cattle yards must be wildlife-proof or alternatively a wildlife-proof perimeter must be in place around the cattle housing and yards. Wildlife-proof in this context refers to species of wild mammals that can act as reservoirs of M. bovis (e.g. badgers and potentially wild deer). Refer to the terms and conditions for operation of an AFUE for examples of how wildlife proofing can be achieved. Further information is also available on the TB hub website [https://tbhub.co.uk/](https://tbhub.co.uk/)*

16. Describe the biosecurity measures in place to minimise access by wildlife to cattle feed and water troughs at housing

Minimising Direct and Indirect Contact between Cattle and Wildlife at Grazing

17. Describe the biosecurity measures in place to minimise direct and indirect contact between cattle and badgers at grazing.

*e.g. protection of water troughs, prevention of access by cattle to badger latrines/setts, restricting access by cattle to ‘high risk’ areas of grazing*

Signature of Operator __________________________ Date __________________________

Signature of Private Veterinary Surgeon __________________________ Date __________________________

DATA PROTECTION
For information on how we handle personal data please go to [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and search Animal and Plant Health Agency Personal Information Charter.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.