



## Biosecurity

(See the Biosecurity, Purchasing and Barn Sanitation sections of the Producer Manual.)

Biosecurity refers to the measures you take to reduce the risk of spreading disease from one area to another. It is important to recognize there are external and internal measures to be taken. External measures are designed to keep pigs, birds, rodents and humans from introducing disease-carrying organisms into the herd. Internal measures are designed to keep disease from being carried from one area to another within your operation.

**26. Do you have a written protocol that describes entry of:**

**a) People?**

Yes  No

**b) Animals?**

Yes  No

**c) Equipment?**

Yes  No

All three of these things can introduce pathogens into your barn that may be of concern from a food safety perspective. They may also transfer other disease causing organisms that could have a negative impact on your herd.

**27. Are boots used in the barn ever used outside the barn as well?**

Yes  No

Boots are a primary method of transfer of organisms from one place to another. When you wear your boots outside of the barn as well as inside, you risk picking up microorganisms that may be deposited in your pig barn. Keep this in mind even if you never wear your boots off the farm. Who has come into the yard? Do you have other livestock commodities that may be carriers of organisms that are not found in your pig barn? The Barn Sanitation and Biosecurity sections of the Producer Manual discuss this issue further.



**28b) Is your rodent control program effective?**Yes  No **29. Are dogs or cats allowed in the production unit?**Yes  No 

Dogs and cats can be important vectors for microorganisms. Both can carry *Salmonella*. Cats are well known hosts to *Toxoplasma*, especially nursing mothers and kittens. If you allow cats in your barn, try to keep them out of the production area, cover feed carts and bins, provide litter pans and have all cats neutered. The best course of action, of course, is to keep cats and dogs out of the barn altogether.

**30. Excluding outbreak situations, where it may be impractical, are severely ill, injured or dead pigs quickly removed and kept separate from other pigs?**Yes  No 

Sick and injured animals will shed infectious organisms. If possible, remove them to a sick pen. Remove dead animals as soon after death as possible, to minimize transmission of microorganisms to other animals in the pen.

**31. Do people who work in your barn wash and disinfect their hands and boots after handling sick or dead animals?**Yes  No 

It is important for your staff to wash their hands and boots after handling sick or dead animals, to minimize the risk of transmission of microorganisms to other animals. You might also consider the use of disposable gloves when handling sick and dead animals.