

TIPS & GUIDELINES

for Feedlot Operations in the Face of COVID -19

We have compiled a number of tips and guidelines being implemented successfully by members and Directors for others to utilize to ensure safety during this pandemic, and into the future if necessary.

GENERAL HR POLICIES

Ensure your staff is aware of their responsibility to properly notify you if they are feeling unwell or of any risk of exposure to COVID-19 they may have encountered prior

If staff are symptomatic, they are to go home immediately and follow the guidance provided by their local health authority <https://albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx>

Do not provide information regarding the name, date of birth, or other identifiers of any workers diagnosed with the COVID-19 virus. Your workers are entitled to privacy under Canadian privacy legislation. The local health authorities will be advised and an investigation will be initiated by them

Update sick leave policies. If you do not have a sick leave policy please use the attached [HR Tool Kit](#); and use COVID-19 for full access

Ensure staff have access to information about proper hygiene protocol (i.e. hand washing) to limit transmission. Fact sheets can be found here:

[Handwashing Poster - Public Health Agency of Canada](#)

[About Coronavirus Fact Sheet - Public Health Agency of Canada](#)

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO MITIGATE RISKS ON FARM WORK SITES

- » Triage responsibilities and activities so critical roles are always filled examples: animals fed, essential products ordered, manure managed, etc.
- » Ensure you have an up-to-date risk mitigation and management plan
Include operations, communications, and [HR Tool Kit](#); and use COVID-19 for full access
- » Where possible, have employees work from home / potentially close farm offices
- » Staff should avoid contact with each other where possible, if contact is required they should maintain a distance of 6 feet from each other
- » Create designated teams or pods who only interact with each other and still, only when necessary, these pods must adhere to social distancing requirements
- » Where possible, move to shift work
- » Limit equipment to single worker(s); or specific team/pods of workers
- » In cases of high-risk personnel (immunodeficient; pregnant, etc.) provide work isolation practices
Example: limit equipment or job to 1 person where possible

- » Clean frequently used surfaces with disinfectant (1 part bleach/9 parts water)
Fuel pumps, door handles, truck cabs, heavy equipment interiors, squeeze equipment, tools, computers, phones, tables and shared bathrooms, etc.
- » Print and post all farm protocols on every entrance way and all communal areas
Example: The safety of our supplies and staff is one of our top priorities and we are committed to: cleaning regularly, especially high traffic areas
- » Provide personal hand sanitizers and encourage staff to use often throughout the day and have sanitizer stations readily available and disinfectant in all equipment and traffic areas
- » All staff must adhere to Alberta Health Services recommendation to practice social distancing while at work and at home

LUNCH ROOM PRACTICES

- » Avoid as much as possible multiple people touching or handling containers, water jugs, coffee pots, utensils, etc.
- » Sanitize common touch points after each use
- » Ensure people eat with the minimum 2-metre distance recommendation between each other
- » Encourage staff to eat in shifts or with their designated team and disinfect between shifts
- » Restrict the use of lunch room area to the absolute minimum time required for eating
- » Remind staff they **MUST** wash hands with soap and water **OR** clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub before **AND AFTER** eating

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESSENTIAL VISITORS ON FARM

- » Limit or restrict visitors to the business operation
- » Request all visitors, customers and individuals delivering or picking up feed, fuel, animal health supplies, commodities and cattle remain in their vehicles and have staff available to load and unload deliveries.
- » Visitors should have no physical contact with staff
- » Establish operational leniencies to encourage further social distancing
Example: allowing truckers to roll back tarps and then return to their truck

For the latest COVID-19 information as it relates to cattle feeders, farms, and agribusiness, follow our dedicated web page (updated in real time):

<https://cattlefeeders.ca/covid-19/>

This document is not to be considered official health regulations. It was compiled based on suggestions from peers in the cattle feeder industry, for official health care and legal policies, please visit your local healthcare website for resources