



MYCOPLASMA BOVIS & BIOSECURITY

For Area Managers, Sustainable Dairying Advisors, Technical Sales Reps, and other on-farm teams

KEY POINTS

- 1. Respect our farmers**, their properties and their herds by following all biosecurity rules. It's not only important that we follow our biosecurity rules but that our farmers know we are doing what we can to protect their farm.
- 2. Clean on, clean off** – this is our guiding principle. We follow our standard biosecurity practices, and we meet any additional farm requests asked of us.
- 3. It's our responsibility** to know the biosecurity protocols. If you have any questions, ask.

WHEN MAKING A FARM VISIT

- Wherever possible, arrange your visit in advance and do not arrive unannounced.
- If you do arrive unannounced, stay in your vehicle and call the farmer upon arrival.
- Do not enter the farm property beyond the main farm track without permission.
- Your vehicle should remain on the main farm track, tanker track or house access tracks if possible.
- If you must travel onto pasture/where cattle go regularly, agree with the farmer how you should do this, e.g. travel in a farm vehicle or use your own. Remember! Your health and safety is the number one priority.
- If your vehicle is taken onto pasture or areas where cattle go regularly, spray the vehicle down as a precaution before leaving the farm. If this is not possible, spray it down before going onto another farm. Although it's believed that vehicles pose a negligible biosecurity risk, take these actions to reduce the risk as much as possible.
- Do not enter the cow shed without permission.
- Have clean boots, clothing, and equipment.
- Many farms will have a cleaning and disinfection station set up for visitors; use this on arrival and departure.
- Some farms may have personal protective equipment that they will ask you to use on their farm, rather than your own.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

If the farm you are visiting does not have a cleaning and disinfection station, have a bucket, boot brush, cleaner and disinfectant in your vehicle so that you can do the job yourself.

- Remember that disinfection will only work on CLEAN surfaces.
- 0.2% citric acid (1 tsp per 1 Litre of water) is a suitable disinfectant.
- If you don't have disinfectant on hand, contact your manager to get these products.

3 WAYS WE CAN HELP PROTECT OUR FARMERS

SEPARATE

Does it need to come on farm with me? If not, keep it off.

Limit the number of staff and consolidate visits when possible.

Do not bring used equipment unless it's been cleaned and disinfected.

Boots, overalls, clothing must be clean.

Use bins provided for dirty gloves, disposable overalls and other rubbish.

CLEAN

Things need to be clean before they can be disinfected – disinfectants don't work through dirt.

Wash boots and other equipment using cleaning stations provided by the farmer or self-provided.

If you have entered the shed, or anywhere there is spilt cow milk, animal effluent, or mud – wash hands, boots and clothing after being on a farm.

Stay on the tanker track and out of the paddocks and refrain from handling animals.

Wash equipment, clothing and boots before leaving a farm, but if this is not practical, wash before entering another farm.

DISINFECT

Disinfect to destroy or inactivate the "bugs".

Use ready to use disinfectant.

This can be:

- 1% Virkon – 50g in 5 litres water
- 0.2% Citric acid – 1 teaspoon in 1 litre water
- Trigene
- Any other approved disinfectant used according to label instructions.

Change disinfectant regularly.



FAST FACTS

1. Our tanker operators and fleet have made changes to prevent the spread of M.bovis.

Fonterra's tanker collection process for either Infected Properties or farms under Restricted Property Notice have changed and are as follows:

- The property must be scheduled as last pick up on the run. Surrounding farms in close proximity will also be placed last on a run as an extra precaution.
- The tanker must unload on a site with a hoop wash.
- Tankers must go through the hoop wash and cleaned in place with a hot acid or caustic wash before their next run.
- If the load is rejected for any reason, this milk must not go to calf rearers or piggeries. Other approved disposal routes can be used.

2. It is safe for trucks to move to and from infected farms.

Vehicle movement presents a negligible biosecurity risk. Nevertheless, vehicles coming on and off farm should be confined to the tanker track or main access track, if possible. As an extra precaution, our teams are asked to spray any vehicle that has been in a paddock.

3. Mycoplasma bovis is mainly spread between cattle in close contact.

M.bovis is mainly spread animal to animal after repeated close interaction. It can be transmitted to calves fed with infected unpasteurised milk. It is not an airborne disease and urine and faeces are not regarded as significant transmitters.

4. We do not send milk from cows with M.bovis to calf rearers.

To reduce the risk of transferring milk from infected cows to calves, Fonterra does not send waste milk from properties with M.bovis to calf rearers.

5. Farm Source stores can help farmers and field teams with their biosecurity needs.

Farm Source has products for disinfecting, as well as access to vendors to assist farmers with any biosecurity solutions they may want.

