

# Farm Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) Plan Template

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Plan Adoption: \_\_\_\_\_

Most Recent Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Policy

[Company Name] is committed to preventing the transmission of infectious diseases to workers, and between animals and people on the farm. The purpose of the Infection Prevention and Control Plan (IPC Plan) is to develop and implement procedures for infection prevention for the health and well-being of our employees – it also can promote animal health as well. The IPC Plan will address issues of COVID-19 assessment and control as well as other diseases. The IPC plan is a supplement to any farm Biosecurity Plan, which focuses on reducing the risk of introduction of an infectious agent into the farm and the farm animals.

## Procedures

### 1. One Health Team

The following person will serve as the designated IPC Plan administrator and will be responsible for the administration and review of the IPC Plan.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

The following organizations and individuals will be designated members of the One Health Team and will be responsible for developing and implementing the IPC Plan under the leadership of the Plan Administrator.

One Health Team Role	Name	Contact information
IPC Plan Administrator (Team Leader)		
Farm Veterinarian		
Employee Health Clinic		
Farm Health and Safety Manager/Consultant		

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Farm Managers (include contract labor contacts)		
Other		

The following organizations are resources that may be consulted regarding the development and implementation of the IPC Plan and regarding any outbreaks that occur on the farm.

Resource	Name	Contact information
Agriculture Extension Service Professional		
CDC		
State Health Department		
Local Health Department		
State Department of Agriculture		
Local Emergency Planning Committee		
Regional Ag Safety & Health Center		
Regional NIOSH ERC		

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## 2. Hazard Assessment

The One Health Team will complete a hazard assessment to identify, infectious disease hazards to employees on the farm, assess the risk of employee exposure, and define the scope of the IPC Plan. The Hazard assessment will be conducted as follows:

1. Identify potential sources of infection on the farm (including COVID19).
2. Identify tasks that pose a risk of exposure to employees and complete a job hazard analysis for each task.
3. Document the hazards identified in the job hazard analyses, potential consequences of exposure and any controls that are in place in Appendix A.
4. Update the hazard assessment when work practices change or when new potential hazards are introduced or recognized.

## 3. Exposure Control Measures

### a. Engineering/Source Controls

In order to reduce the likelihood of transmission of Covid-19, masks shall be worn by all employees whenever they are working in indoor spaces or in outdoor spaces where 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained

Any animal(s) with a suspected or confirmed infectious disease will be isolated as soon as possible. The isolation area will be located [location]. It will be clearly marked and the following procedures will be followed.

- i. Only the equipment needed for care and treatment of the animal(s) will be kept in the area or enclosure.
- ii. Access will be limited to only those necessary for direct care of the isolated animal(s).
- iii. All persons (both employees and non-employees) entering the isolation area will sign a log documenting their time in the area.
- iv. Any required PPE will be donned prior to entry into the area and removed just prior to exiting the area.
- v. Disposable PPE and other trash generated in the isolation area will be discarded in a container with a sealable garbage bag in the area.
- vi. Reusable PPE will be stored in a [clean area adjacent to the isolation area].

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## b. Administrative Controls

- i. Areas where there may be exposure to infectious animals or animal waste are marked with signs warning of the potential hazard in accordance with the Biosecurity Plan.
- ii. Bathrooms, change rooms, and showers are available to employees [location] and are available for them to access throughout their shift as needed for sanitary working conditions. A adequate supply of soap and hand sanitizer will be maintained at all times.

**Person responsible:** \_\_\_\_\_

- iii. Hand Hygiene: All employees are required to wash hands with soap and water or alcohol based hand sanitizer on arrival at work, after using the restroom, before and after handling animals, before and after eating, and at the end of the shift. Soap and water must be used when hands are visibly soiled.

### Correct handwashing procedure:

1. Wet hands with running water
2. Place soap in palms
3. Rub hands together to make a lather
4. Scrub hands thoroughly for 20 seconds
5. Rinse soap off hands
6. Dry hands with disposable towel
7. Turn off faucet using the disposable towel to avoid hand contact

### Correct use of hand sanitizer:

1. Place alcohol-based hand sanitizer in palms
2. Apply to all surfaces of hands
3. Rub hands together until dry

- iv. Cleaning and Disinfecting: Animal pens, feeders, and waterers must be cleaned on a regular basis and whenever visibly soiled. Stalls are cleaned daily. Cleaner/detergent is used to remove organic matter and then a sanitizer or disinfectant is applied according to manufacturer's instructions.

**[Person responsible: \_\_\_\_\_]**

- i.
- v. Keep all clean items separate from dirty items.

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vi. The following procedures will be followed for injections, venipuncture, and aspiration procedures.

1. Wear gloves when performing soft tissue or body fluid aspirations and while contacting animals suspected of having an infectious disease.
2. Trained personnel should restrain animals to minimize needlestick injuries due to animal movement.
3. Do not bend needles, pass an uncapped needle to another person, or walk around with uncapped needles.
4. Do not remove an uncapped needle from the syringe by hand or place a needle cap in the mouth.
5. Do not recap needles – instead ensure that the sharps container is close by when using needles.
6. Dispose of all sharps in designated containers.

### c. Employee Training

All employees will be trained on the hazards of zoonotic diseases and on the details of this plan prior to starting work on the farm. Additional training will be provided when hazards or processes change or when the administrator determines that a refresher is necessary.

### d. PPE

[List PPE]\_\_\_\_\_ will be made available to all employees working on the farm. In addition, employees performing tasks with potential for exposure to infectious zoonotic diseases will be provided with appropriate PPE as described in the controls section of the hazard analysis in Appendix A.

## 4. Occupational Medicine/Employee Health

### a. Designated Medical Provider for Employee Health

The following health care professional/clinical facility will serve as the designated occupational medicine provider for the farm.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

This provider will maintain confidential employee medical records and perform the following functions for employees potentially exposed to infectious diseases:

Baseline health screenings  
Periodic health monitoring

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Post-exposure evaluations  
Diagnosis and treatment of occupational illness/injury  
Respirator medical clearance (details provided in the Respiratory Protection Program)  
Return to work evaluations as needed  
Vaccinations  
[Other: \_\_\_\_\_]

## b. Employee Health Screenings

Post job offer, but before starting work, new farm employees will have a health screening evaluation with the occupational medicine provider/employee health clinic.

This evaluation will include determining risk factors for infectious diseases due to farm exposures (such as immunocompromising conditions, and pregnancy), assessment of the need for vaccinations, and other services as necessary.

The occupational medicine provider will keep such information confidential, but will counsel the employee regarding occupational infection risks. With permission from the employee, the provider will also notify farm management if there is a need for any workplace restrictions or accommodations to allow the employee to work safely.

## c. Employee Vaccinations

Employees will be offered the following vaccinations at their pre-employment screening. Employees may refuse vaccination, but may also opt in at any time during their employment.

**Tetanus vaccination:** Tetanus immunizations help protect against cuts and scrapes acquired through on-farm exposures.

**Influenza vaccination:** Farm personnel are encouraged to receive the current seasonal influenza vaccine. The CDC website and healthcare consultation will be used for guidance ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)). Employees will be advised that flu vaccines will be available at \_\_\_\_\_ (indicate if there will be any farm outreach for flu vaccination)

[Other vaccination: \_\_\_\_\_]

## d. Employee Health Monitoring

[Insert any regular monitoring for COVID (temperature screening, testing, symptom attestation, etc.) : \_\_\_\_\_]

The health care provider will send a short survey to the employees on a yearly basis, inquiring about health events in the past year.

The health care provider may contact employees complaining about ongoing health problems to arrange for a follow-up evaluation.

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### e. Diagnosis and Treatment of Injury/Illness

Injuries and illnesses occurring on the farm will be managed according to the farm health and safety plan.

The following symptoms in an employee could indicate a work-related infection regardless of whether the symptom onset occurs on the farm:

Fever  
Cough  
Skin infection, including a rash, pustule, or lesion.  
Diarrhea, vomiting  
Pus or drainage from a wound

Employees with any of these symptoms have a suspected occupational illness and should be referred to the farm occupational medicine provider or their own healthcare provider for evaluation and treatment

#### Sick leave policy:

Workers who are contagious for an infectious disease may be able to infect other workers, the animals on the farm, and members of the community as a whole.

Workers with the following symptoms will be encouraged to stay home with sick leave:

- Flu-like or respiratory illness
- Diarrhea
- Open wounds
- **[Isolation and quarantine policies for COVID: insert here: \_\_\_\_\_]**
- **[Return to work policies: insert here: \_\_\_\_\_]**
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### f. Post-exposure Follow-up

Any time an employee has exposure to an infectious disease, whether COVID 19, a zoonotic disease, or another condition, all employees who had contact with the ill employee or animal will be evaluated by the designated medical provider.

Employees who become infected due to a workplace exposure will be followed by the designated medical provider or their personal physician and their illness will be recorded as a workplace illness on the farm's OSHA 300 log.

Animals with infectious zoonotic diseases will be isolated according to the source control procedures in this plan.

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## g. Worker Well-being

[Insert policies here regarding work stress, etc. here: \_\_\_\_\_]

## 5. Recordkeeping:

The occupational medicine provider will maintain medical records and vaccination records. This private health information will be kept confidential according to HIPAA and will not be shared with the farm management other than to inform the employer whether an employee is able to enter a restricted area or to report a work-related illness. These records will be kept for each employee for the duration of employment plus 30 years in accordance with the OSHA Recordkeeping Rule.

The Plan Administrator will maintain documentation of any exposure events and follow-up activities.

A current copy of this plan and the following list of resources will be maintained by the Plan Administrator, who will make it available to employees, members of the One Health Team, and emergency responders upon request.

Resource list:

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered disinfectants
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations
- CDC Guidelines
- Animal waste disposal and biohazard regulations
- Animal control regulations
- Reportable or notifiable veterinary diseases and where to report
- State Department of Agriculture or Board of Animal Health regulations

## 6. Special considerations for housing and infection control

[insert special policies here: \_\_\_\_\_]

## 7. Special considerations for shared transportation and infection control

[insert special policies here: \_\_\_\_\_]

## 8. Special considerations for children on farm and infection control

[insert special policies here: \_\_\_\_\_]

## Appendix A: Hazard Assessment

Task/Activity	Hazard/Source	Potential Consequence of Exposure	Controls in Place
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# Farm Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) Plan Template


*End of Model Infection Prevention & Control Plan for the Farm*

This example plan is based on the Model Infection Control Plan for Veterinary Practices 2015: National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) and the CAL/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Disease-Zoonotic Standard, 8 CCR 5199.1.

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