



Practical Biosecurity Programs
Standard Biosecurity Protocol (SBP)
SBP 12

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Potable Water

1. **Purpose:** To prevent pathogen introduction and transmission through the water source
2. **Responsibility:** Farm Manager/Owner
3. **Frequency:** Annually
4. **Biosecurity Protocols**
 - 4.1 Water must be free of coliform bacteria and E coli contamination as per the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for Livestock
 - 4.2 Water mineral levels should be within acceptable range as outlined in the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for Livestock
 - 4.3 Each water source that supplies the farm site animal facilities must be sampled annually, checking for mineral content and bacteria



Picture 12.1, Oderkirk, 2010



Picture 12.2, Oderkirk, 2010

- 4.4 Water must be sampled as close to the water source as possible (after pump, etc.). Sampling, under food safety protocols, stipulates water samples are taken from point of use to ensure distribution lines are included
- 4.5 For facilities where water is treated, the water should be tested before and after the treatment equipment
- 4.6 Water treated for bacteria should be checked for contamination regularly to ensure water stays free of bacteria and recorded on a **SBF 4: Water Treatment Chart**

- 4.7 Where chlorine is used to treat water, check chlorine levels regularly (daily, weekly)
- 4.8 Where water medications are used, the water lines need to be flushed regularly and when the poultry/livestock have been shipped
- 4.9 Where mineral content of the water (iron, manganese, etc.) is above normal, flush the lines regularly to prevent build-up of material. This build-up of material could promote bacterial growth in the water lines

5. Biosecurity Deviation Protocols

- 5.1 If surface water, like ponds, lakes, etc. are the water source, water treatment equipment must be used to treat the water. Check water at the source and the water after it has been treated for bacteria levels. Treated water should not have any bacteria
- 5.2 If bacteria are present, the water source needs to be sampled again to confirm bacterial presence in the water. If the retest shows bacteria, treat the well with chlorine and if bacteria still persists after treating, a water treatment system should be installed

6. Records

- 6.1 SBF 4: Water Treatment Chart
- 6.2 Laboratory Water Analysis Reports