



TIPS FOR IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL FARM SITE CROSS CONTAMINATION AREAS

Identifying areas that have the potential for cross-contamination or transmission of infection can be very useful in preventing them or deciding the most important areas to address.

Here are a few tips for identifying potential cross-contamination areas on your farm.

- **Draw a diagram of the farm site to assist with visualization**
- **Identify areas that traffic, people and product flow**
 - » Vehicle traffic would include delivery and shipping vehicles (feed, bedding, nursery stock, etc.), equipment and implements
 - » People traffic would include staff, service personnel, vehicle drivers, and visitors
 - » Vehicle drivers would not enter buildings but would remain by their vehicles
 - » Product flow would include the movement of plants or animals throughout the production system (ex. calf hutches – heifer barn – calving pen – milking herd or field – cooler – packing area – shipping)
 - » Product flow should be in one direction, with little or no backtracking
- **Identify crossover areas where different streams of traffic pass through the same area, leading to the potential for contamination**
 - » Develop control or alternatives for crossover areas (rerouting, regular cleaning, etc.)
- **Inspect vehicles, equipment, and implements before entering or leaving farm site**
- **On land not directly attached to the farm site, be aware of shared traffic-ways (i.e. laneways to crop land used by multiple farms, entries to community pastures, etc.)**
 - » Discuss best practices with neighbours and other farmers sharing the same space

BIOSECURITYNOVASCOTIA.COM