

SOP 13 – Preventing the Introduction of Infectious Diseases When Introducing New Animals into Your Herd

Purpose: Introducing new cattle into the herd is potentially a high-risk activity. Cattle brought onto the farm may be infected and may or may not show signs of clinical disease. They can therefore be a source of new diseases that can be transmitted to the rest of the herd.

- Be conscious of the introduction of disease, source animals from known health status herds if possible.

- Request the following information on all cattle prior to purchase and movement:

- Obtain a letter of guarantee for springing heifers and lactating animals **OR** ensure to test milk for residues and record results prior to shipping milk. **(Circle which method you intend to use)**
- Ensure new animal(s) are transported in a farm-owned vehicle/trailer **OR** transporter is hired that will use a clean vehicle/trailer.
 - If farm vehicle is unavailable call: _____ for transport.
 - ***Make sure to record the following information:*** Date of movement, ID of animals moved (15 digits), premise ID of departure location, and license plate of trailer animal(s) are transported in.

- Once new animal(s) have arrived at the farm unload and house them in _____ pen away from main herd.

- Test all incoming cattle for _____. If pregnancy is not previously confirmed have vet check the animal(s) to determine reproductive status. Vaccinate if previous records do not indicate if vaccines have been given.

- Record all vaccinations & treatments in livestock treatment records.
- Any personnel handling these cattle must wash their hands, change their clothing and clean or change their footwear before working with other animals.
- Ensure management adjustments are made to minimize the risk of introducing disease (i.e. housing separately or changing the order of milking).

- _____



- Observe and examine new addition(s) frequently. Monitor new animals for a minimum of [redacted] days to allow sufficient time for any signs of infections to appear.

- _____
_____.

- Staff will be trained to monitor new animals according to the monitoring protocol established for the farm. Staff to be trained by: [redacted] (i.e. Farm manager)

- Respond to any abnormalities accordingly.

- _____

