HPAI – Producer Guidelines for Cleaning and Decontaminating

November 4, 2026

Dairy farms that have animals test positive for HPAI will still be eligible to ship milk from healthy animals for pasteurization, as pasteurization has been shown to kill the virus. Milk from clinically ill animals will be disposed of on the farm. Preventing materials that could be contaminated with HPAI from leaving an HPAI positive premise is essential, and cleaning and decontaminating (C&D) vehicles as they enter and exit the premise greatly reduces the risk.

Vehicles must be C&D'd upon entry to remove exterior debris and organic matter that could become contaminated with HPAI. This removal also makes it easier and more efficient to C&D the vehicle when it exits the premises.

Dairy service providers and other visitors should maintain the inside of their vehicles as a "clean zone" and prevent contaminated materials (ex. Boots, clothing, hands, equipment, vials) from entering the truck cab at any time. Contaminated materials pose a risk to the person's health, and the health of other farms they may visit. When possible, vehicles should be left outside the controlled access zone (CAZ) and dairy service providers should cross into the CAZ on foot. Any supplies brought onto the farm must be cleaned and disinfected before leaving the premise.

Cleaning and Decontaminating Steps

Cleaning – Purpose: remove visible dirt and organic material by pressure washing tires, wheel arches, mudguards, steps, footwells and other contact surfaces. Organic matter can reduce the effectiveness of disinfectants, so thorough removal is essential.

Decontaminating – Purpose: remove remaining nonvisible dirt and organic material using a detergent solution. Foam or soak the exterior surface of the vehicle in degreasing solution to help lift remaining dirt and other organic material. Thoroughly rinse after.

Disinfection – Purpose: deactivate or destroy pathogens by applying an approved disinfectant to the recently cleaned surface. Disinfectant should be applied to the tires, wheel arches, mudguards, steps, footwells and other contact surfaces.

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Setting up the Cleaning and Decontaminating Zone

C&D Zones should be set up directly outside each controlled access zone where vehicles and equipment will enter and/or exit the premise. The wash pad area must accommodate the largest vehicle and/or equipment plus room for people to work (estimated 8.5 feet wide and 70-80 feet long for semi-tractor and trailer). Premises that have limited driveway and/or yard space will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The C&D Zone wash pad should be level or sloped towards the Controlled Access Zone. It should be paved or well-drained gravel. A bucket equipped with a sump pump should be used to divert wastewater from the wash pad into the controlled access zone or collected to be disposed of in an appropriate area.

Please refer to the 'Guidelines for Setting Up a Temporary C&D Zones'.

Biosecurity Requirements on HPAI positive and suspected farms

For a farm to be eligible for milk pick-up, HPAI positive farms must meet biosecurity requirements set out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. These requirements include:

1) The farm must establish biosecurity zones on their farm which designate the **Controlled Access Zone (CAZ), Restricted Access Zone (RAZ), Cleaning and Decontamination Zone (C&D)** and **Transition Points (TP)**.
    a. The CAZ creates a functional zone with a distinguishable perimeter that includes business critical areas, including the milk house of the dairy operation within it.
    b. The CAZ perimeter must be visibly marked with proper signage and be visibly clear to those crossing it. All TPs into or out of the interior area should be secured.

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2) The CAZ access point(s) must contain C&D zones with the means to remove physical debris and then disinfect vehicles, equipment, and items needing to enter the CAZ.
    a. Vehicles, including milk trucks, must be cleaned and decontaminated upon entering the CAZ and leaving the CAZ.
        i. A pressurized water source must be used to remove debris and other contaminants from the vehicle's exterior surfaces
        ii. Additional cleaning with brushes etc., should be conducted as needed to remove contaminants from the undercarriage and tires
        iii. Disinfectant must be used to decontaminate the truck and trailer tires after they have been cleaned before the truck proceeds to the milk house
    b. The C&D zone must include a PPE area, trash bin for PPE disposal, hand sanitization/washing station (or provide disposable gloves), and visitor logbook.
    c. The C&D zone must be operated and maintained by the farm's Biosecurity Manager.

Special Provisions for Milk Truck Drivers (BTMGS)

1) Producers are responsible for conducting cleaning and decontaminating procedures on the milk truck. BTMGs are not authorized to exit their vehicles until they have entered the controlled access zone (CAZ) with their acquired personal protective equipment.
2) The CAZ access point utilized by the milk truck must provide the following list of PPE to the BTMG once the truck has been decontaminated:
    a. Disposable fluid-resistant coveralls

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b. Boot covers
c. Medical mask
d. Face shields or safety goggles
e. Disposable gloves

The BTMG will don PPE once they have arrived at the milk house and exited the milk truck. The BTMG is not authorized to re-enter the milk truck until milk transfer is complete. Please ensure they have everything required to proceed to the milk house.

3) The BTMG will be required to wash and disinfect their pump box and all their equipment once milk transfer is complete. To speed up this process, please ensure there is a source of disinfectant (ex. Chlorinated water) available at the milk house to be used for this purpose.
4) A PPE disposal station must be established outside the milk house for BTMGs to dispose of all their PPE after completing all milk pick-up related activities.
    a. Reusable PPE will be placed in the designated container provided by the producer if PPE is to be reused once it has been disinfected.
5) Once milk pick-up is complete and the BTMG has re-entered their truck, they will proceed to the C&D Zone to exit the premises. The milk truck must undergo complete C&D to remove any debris picked up while on the farm before being authorized to leave.

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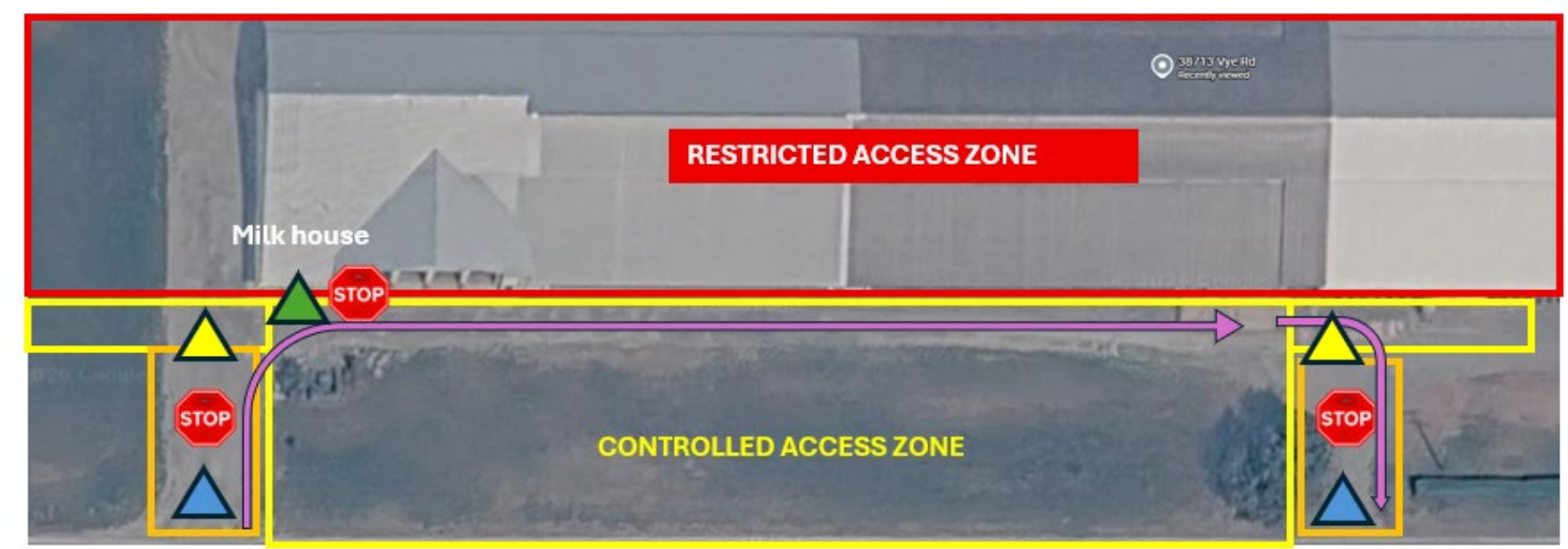
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Appendix A - Dairy Farm Biosecurity Zones and Milk Truck Route



Cleaning and Decontamining Zone / Station

STOP Required stop / checkpoint for milk truck

Controlled Access Zone Transition Point

BTMG PPE Disposal Station at the Milk House

Milk truck route

Cleaning and Decontaminating Zone

Restricted Access Zone

Controlled Access Zone

Appendix B – Farm with single Entry / Access Point and C&D Zone/Station located inside the CAZ



Appendix C – Farm with different entrance and exit transition points with multiple C&D Zones / Stations



Controlled Access Zone

Restricted Access Zone

Cleaning and decontaminating Zone

CAZ Transition Point

Clean and Disinfect Station (C&D) → BTMG PPE collected here

Milk house/ BTMG PPE Disposal Station