Preparing the Alberta Feedlot Sector for Disease Related Sector-Wide Emergencies



FEEDLOT GUIDELINES & TOOLS



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INTRODUCTION

This workbook was developed to assist feedlot owners, operators and staff in preparing for disease related, sector-wide emergencies, by the Alberta Cattle Feeders Association. It includes the following sections:

- Self-Assessment identifying potential areas where the feedlot could be better prepared.
- **Overview** describing from a feedlot operator's perspective: a major disease outbreak, the resulting sector-wide emergency and the expectations on feedlot operators.
- Guidelines For Anticipated Activities guidelines for activities that feedlot operators are expected to be involved in, such as recognizing the triggers announced by first response agencies, recognition and response actions for unusual animal health events on a feedlot, biosecurity for elevated and high risk situations, mass vaccination expectations and protocols, mass depopulation and disposal expectations and protocols, personal safety, and communications.
- **Tools For Getting Prepared** tools to train staff and for preparing the information for a specific feedlot that is needed for emergencies, including: feedlot objectives, a farm plan or schematic and inventory, contact lists, visitor controls, and more.
- **Recovery Considerations** describing the financial assistance and next steps for getting back to business after the disease is eradicated.

With this workbook kept available, complete and current, feedlot operators and their staff will be better able to respond to a disease related sector-wide emergency like FMD; resulting in reduced impacts on their operations and faster recovery for the industry as a whole.

How To Use This Manual



When you see BETTIE the cow below a form with an ORANGE dotted outline, it indicates that you should **customize the form to your operation,** and then remove or copy the page, laminate it, and post it prominently.

A fillable PDF document is available for dowload at the ACFA website: cattlefeeders.ca.

Why Disease Related Sector-Wide Emergencies?

The most recognized, feared and likely sector-wide emergency event in the feedlot sector is a Foreign Animal Disease outbreak (FAD), specifically Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD). Other causes of a disease related sector-wide emergency, include outbreaks of another Foreign Animal Disease or an Emerging Disease, or an outbreak of a Zoonosis – a disease affecting both humans and cattle -- or other health related events such as feed or water contamination that lead to border closure and likely a market failure that is itself a sector-wide emergency.

Sector-wide emergencies are those emergency events that impact the feedlot sector and the beef industry as a whole: certainly throughout the province, likely across the entire region of Western Canada, and quite possibly the country as a whole. A sector-wide emergency could have such a large and widespread impact on the market that a market failure would very likely result.

An analysis of all potential hazards and vulnerabilities identified the full range of emergencies potentially affecting the feedlot sector:

- Terrorism disease or water contamination
- Border closure resulting from disease in either the importing or exporting region
- Lost social license a change in consumer preferences of certain industry practices
- Earthquake potentially on a regional basis
- **Power loss** including widespread grid failure
- Grass or wild fire similar to those experienced in Australia or the West Kelowna fire, and
- Weather ice or severe hailstorms

However these are generally considered to be: less likely to cause sector-wide emergencies, and less recognized as a real risk to operations by feedlot operators.

By focussing upon the disease related, sector-wide emergencies that are of greatest concern to feedlot operators this workbook is relevant to feedlot operators. Also, it provides value by setting out guidelines and tools that can be used at feedlots to manage risk and be prepared. And, much of the material presented will also apply to emergencies triggered by other events.

Key Messages to Feedlot Operators

1. It's for real... Sector-wide emergencies can occur and have occurred

- Canada's cattle industry has experienced BSE, which restricted international markets for months, if not years, depending upon the class of cattle or resulting product. BSE cost roughly \$7 billion in total impact.
- Significantly larger emergencies could result from other diseases causing larger and broader impacts however. FMD has occurred in many other developed countries, and is the most widely recognized vulnerability for Canadian cattle feeders. FMD in Canada could potentially cost a minimum of \$6 Billion for a small and quickly contained outbreak, while a larger outbreak still smaller than that in the UK could cost as much as \$45 billion.
- Canada's swine industry suffered disease outbreaks with 40% mortality, three times in the past decade.
- 2. The cattle are your responsibility... Feedlot operators are ultimately responsible for the well-being of cattle under their control
 - Government may be able to assist feedlot operators, but their priorities are human health and life, public infrastructure and services, the economy and the environment.

3. You can prepare for emergencies, even FMD... and planning will help

- · Assess the level of preparedness at your feedlot
- Ensure staff understand disease related sector-wide emergencies and their potential impact, and feedlot objectives
- Prepare guidelines and post prominently
- Assemble the information needed during a sector-wide emergency.

4. Canada's feedlot sector and the cattle industry can and will recover, even from a sector wide outbreak of a disease like FMD... if feedlot operators play their part

- Ensure that you and your operation are prepared,
- Educate and train your staff, and
- Practise, by responding in lesser risk situations.

5. Applying these Guidelines and Tools within your feedlot will help...

- Minimize your losses
- Demonstrate your due diligence, and
- Enable a faster return to a normal state of business.

1. SELF-ASSESSMENT: IS THE FEEDLOT
PREPARED FOR A SECTOR-WIDE EMERGENCY?
Have you identified indicators for an Unusual Animal Health Event on your feedlot? Or the initial response actions required? >> See 'Feedlot Indicators' Page 20, and 'Initial Feedlot Response' on page 21.
Do you know the triggers a first response agency would use to signify an animal health related sector-wide emergency? > See 'Triggers' page 22.
Do you have a biosecurity protocol ready for immediate use and known to your staff, if a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) were suspected in the trading region (Amber – Elevated Risk)? Do you have a biosecurity protocol if a Foreign Animal Disease were confirmed in the trading region (Red – High Risk)? Could you carry out a Voluntary Cease Movement, if requested by industry leaders? >> See 'Biosecurity Guidelines' page 24.
 Do you and your staff know the expectations on feedlot personnel in the event mass vaccination is required? >> See 'Mass Vaccination Guidelines' page 30.
Do you know the expectations on personnel in the event mass depopulation and disposal are required?
 >> See 'Mass Depopulation & Disposal Guidelines' page 32. Are you aware of primary personal safety guidelines in an animal disease emergency? >> See 'Personal Safety' page 35.
Are the feedlot's objectives for responding to an animal health related sector-wide emergency, clearly identified, and communicated to staff? >> See 'Feedlot Objectives' page 38.
Is a feedlot plan in the form of a schematic or aerial photo immediately available, so that first responders can see the location of key emergency management items? > See 'Feedlot Plan' page 40.
 Is a feedlot inventory available for immediate provision to first responders, advising them of personnel, animals and assets to be safeguarded or removed, plus equipment and other items of potential use? >> See 'Feedlot Inventory' page 42.

Are the primary contacts and decision-makers within the business identified and listed, together with other staff, so first responders can immediately contact them? >> See 'Primary / Secondary Contacts & Staff' page 44.

Are key contacts outside the business such as key suppliers and service providers, identified and listed so others can contact them while primary decision-makers are occupied with emergency management decisions? >> See 'External Contact List' page 46.
Can you control visitor movements in an emergency, anyone other than staff and possibly family, e.g. access control, signage, logs or records, risk assessments? >> See 'Visitor Controls' page 48.
Do you have 'established relationships' and contact details for local and possibly provincial and federal government first response organizations? >> See 'Establish a Relationship' page 50.
Are you aware of the key recovery actions, such as short-term financial considerations that may be available to assist you? Cleaning and disinfecting requirements for restocking? Lifting of emergency considerations? >> See 'Recovery Considerations' page 51.
Do you and your staff have ready access to the signs and symptoms of the FADs most likely to be involved in an animal health related sector wide emergency? >> See Schedule 3. Key Foreign Animal Disease Symptoms page 60.



2. OVERVIEW: A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF AN ANIMAL HEALTH RELATED SECTOR-WIDE EMERGENCY

How Does This Look, to a Feedlot Operator?

The following few paragraphs briefly summarize, from a feedlot operator's perspective, a foreign animal disease event resulting in a sector-wide emergency in the beef cattle industry. Starting with a typical Alberta feedlot, 'ABC Feeders' operating at 15,000 head capacity near Strathmore; add what is arguably the most widely anticipated scenario – an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD); and consider the resulting scenario:

Today is Thursday... The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food just declared a Primary Control Zone after FMD was confirmed on an Alberta feedlot in the Strathmore area. This followed a Notice of Confirmation on Monday by Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer, that the disease was confirmed at the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease in Winnipeg. Rumours had been circulating since a Notice of Suspicion was made last Thursday, including unsubstantiated media reports from other countries. All Canadian exports of beef and live cattle are suspended, and similarly for pork and live pigs.

The Minister established a Primary Control Zone across all of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Several 'Infected Zones' have been declared around infected premises located near Strathmore and High River, and RCMP are enforcing a ban on all livestock-related movements and a license requirement for all feed-related movements. A larger 'Restricted Zone' extends 10 or more kilometers around each infected zone, where RCMP are enforcing license requirements for all livestock and feed-related movements within / to / from the zone. There are no movements into or out of the Security Zone that extends outwards from the Restricted Zone to the US, Ontario, and BC borders, and permits obtained online are required for any movement within the area.

ABC Feeders is a 15,000 head, single-site feedlot located within the Security Zone. Normally ABC Feeders would have roughly:

- Four 'super-B' feed trucks coming and going daily
 - these are all prohibited other than by permit and then only from licensed feed mills or premises that don't raise cattle
- Nine tri-axle liner loads of cattle, coming or going over every two-day period
 - these are all prohibited

- 12 full time staff come to work daily on the premise but live off the premise
 - Four staff who own cattle at home are no longer permitted to come to work
 - all remaining staff have been instructed to avoid other livestock premises and owners
- Three owners come and go daily, including 1 living on-farm with family, who also come and go daily
 - all owners and residents have been instructed to avoid other livestock premises and owners

All of the above vehicle movements have to be washed and disinfected on, and off, at a temporary washing station installed at the main entry. All except the feedlot personnel require a permit. An old shed was moved to the entry for a 24/7 security guard hired to enforce perimeter security, log all entry and exits, and oversee vehicle washing. Other than the main entry, all entry / exit points have been gated and locked.

Feed has become difficult to source. It must come from licensed feed mills only, rather than the grain farms it would normally be sourced from. As well, each movement must be permitted, washed and disinfected on and off, and drivers are required to remain in their cabs. The additional load on reduced manpower seems unsustainable after just a few days.

Delivery contracts for finished cattle to slaughter have all been suspended and one packer has declared 'force majeure.' ABC Feeders typically incurs operating costs of \$50,000 per week before debt servicing. Drawing down \$200,000 per month on ABC Feeders' line of credit, plus debt servicing, is unsustainable without revenue from the sale of cattle.

Cattle are not moving anywhere in Western Canada unless they are being moved by permit but not into or through the restricted or infected zones. Following the outbreak and resulting export ban, the processing plants 'stopped the line' and staff were immediately suspended for two weeks. All sales and auctions have been cancelled. Essentially the cattle market in Western Canada has completely crashed.

Depopulation of cattle on infected premises has already been ordered, with all cattle being slaughtered on site with the assistance of feedlot staff. Resulting carcasses will exceed the market's capacity for rendering, and carcasses will be moved to burial sites. Valuation teams sent to the infected premises have established a fair market value for each pen based on pre-outbreak prices. Compensation will be provided on cattle ordered depopulated, up to a maximum of \$2,500 per head for grade cattle, with payment expected 5 weeks after depopulation.

Mass vaccination has been ordered for certain uninfected premises, starting with those closest to infected premises. Feedlot staff will carry this out, working under the oversight of provincial or federal veterinarians or inspectors. A 'Welfare Slaughter' program – a buyout program – is already being discussed and is expected to be announced in time, providing an exit strategy for those who can no longer afford to feed their livestock.

In this bleak but realistic scenario it may take a year to manage the outbreak and eradicate the disease. As described loosely in the above scenario, each of the following steps needs to be worked through:

- Notification of suspicion or confirmed disease, and or infected premises
- Disease Control Plan including zoning plan
- Quarantine setting out the specific farms involved, and biosecurity practices required
- **Investigation & Tracing** full epidemiologic investigation to identify source and method of transfer, including trace outs and trace backs
- **Depopulation (Destruction & Disposal)** destruction of animals, followed by disposal of carcasses, and involving evaluation and compensation
- Cleaning & Decontamination rigorous cleaning and decontamination to CFIA standards, as a condition of restocking
- **Quarantine Removal** lifting of quarantine requirements on a farm-by-farm basis, subsequent to above steps being completed to CFIA's satisfaction

Negotiating and regaining international market access could take considerably longer.

While it is unlikely that feedlots will ever be fully prepared for such a scenario, the guidelines in the next section (Section 3) will help staff understand HOW to go about doing certain activities that feedlots are widely expected to be involved in.

Assembling the information required in an emergency, using tools provided in the subsequent section (Section 4), will better prepare feedlots for a sector-wide emergency.

What to Expect as a Disease Related Sector Wide Emergency Evolves

A **Foreign Animal Disease** or **FAD** outbreak is the most anticipated cause of major sector-wide emergencies, with Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) most feared among these. Accordingly, this is the focus of these guidelines.

The FADs in question are primarily Federally or Provincially Reportable Diseases. These are named in the Health of Animals Act or its provincial counterpart (see list to the right). **There is a legal requirement to report all suspected cases of these diseases.**

Some FADs have greater impacts than others. Some are better known than others. Some are not commonly considered in connection with Canada or North America, although changes in disease locales are possible with changing climates and globalized travel and trade. As well there are 'emerging diseases' not yet on a list, such as the Schmallenberg Virus that occurred in 2013-14 in the EU.

An outbreak of any one of these in Canada could result in a sector-wide emergency. Reporting these diseases is essential due to human health impacts or because an outbreak cannot be contained and eradicated without extensive resources and expert assistance. Significant market impact may result, with severe repercussions for producers, the industry, and the country as a whole.

Federally and Provincially Reportable Diseases

- Bluetongue
- Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)
- Bovine Tuberculosis (BTb)
- Brucellosis
- Chronic Wasting Disease
- Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia

- Cysticercosis
- Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)
- Lumpy Skin Disease
- Rift Valley Fever
- Vesicular Stomatitis

First response organizations in Alberta recognize five phases to a disease outbreak, some of which may overlap:

1. Alert Phase An FAD outbreak exists in close proximity, although distance will vary by disease	 Industry may be asked to adopt risk mitigation measures, e.g. movement border controls and biosecurity.
2. Suspicion Phase* An FAD outbreak is suspected in Western Canada	 Triggered by formal Notice of Suspicion from CFIA, AARD or other provincial government Industry may be asked to adopt voluntary controls, and May be referred to as the start of 'the gray period' when an outbreak is suspected but not confirmed and movement controls have not yet been implemented.
3. Confirmation Phase* An FAD outbreak is confirmed in Western Canada	 Triggered by formal Notice of Confirmation, declared by the Chief Veterinary Officer (Canada), or Chief Provincial Veterinarian, or either federal or provincial Minister Soon after, the Minister may declare a Primary Control Zone and / or Zoning Strategy (see Figure 1, above). This declaration will order that movements cease other than by license or permit for livestock, related materials and equipment on and off premises within the Primary Control Zone and between sub-zones.
4. Recovery Phase Period required to demonstrate of	disease freedom and regain / resume market access.
5. Prevention Phase	

When no outbreak is of concern to Alberta production, also referred to as 'Peace time'

* Loosely corresponds to the terminology 'Action Levels 1' and 'Action Level 2', used in other emergencies.

¹ APHIS Evaluation of Zoning for FAD Control in Canada, 2014, avma.org/Advocacy/National/Federal/Documents/ APHIS-2013-0097-0003.pdf

Figure 1. Primary Control Zone and Zoning Strategy for Animal Disease Control in Canada

- Infected Zone focus of control efforts; encompasses all known infected premises; outer perimeter at least 3 km beyond affected premise; and response vaccination contained within this zone.
- 2. Restricted Zone surrounds infected zone, has an outer perimeter at least 10 km from any known infected.



3. Security Zone – is between the outer perimeter of Restricted Zone and edge of Primary Control Zone, with no restrictions on size.

- **4. Primary Control Zone** as large as reasonably expected over duration of outbreak so that future changes only reduce its size (likely Alberta and possibly all of Western Canada, for FMD).
- 5. Free Zone area outside the Primary Control Zone.



Zoning 'In Practice'

First response organizations may establish an **Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)** on Suspicion, and very likely on Confirmation. This depends of course upon the disease and the information on hand while waiting for Confirmation, and on the potential impact to the industry and the country as a whole. If organizations from multiple levels of government are involved, they often establish a **Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC)**.

Operational responses to the emergency are directed from the EOC / JECO, by a team of individuals divided into four related Sections. Section Chiefs lead each Section, and they report to the Incident Commander. The Incident Commander is the overall leader for the EOC / JEOC (see Figure 2).

Everyone within the JEOC / EOC works together, using a well-defined management system called the **Incident Command System (ICS)**. ICS is used to manage emergencies of all types throughout North America, and most of the world. ICS ensures that the large number of trained people required to respond to an emergency can be accessed and effectively managed, regardless of their background or the type of emergency.

In a disease related sector wide emergency, these **first response organizations** are Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (AARD) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), supported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) and Public Safety Canada (PSC). Public health services will also be kept aware, and may also be involved if the disease affects humans, e.g. Alberta Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada. In other types emergencies AEMA or PSC would take the lead, with AARD, CFIA and AAFC addressing animal welfare.

After Confirmation for a disease that could potentially cause a sector-wide emergency, the following events might all occur:

- An **Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)** directs operations, formed individually or jointly (JEOC) by the CFIA and AARD
- **Industry Liaison** representatives are invited to the EOC, as support to the Incident Commander or within a specific Section
- A Government Executive Committee operating at the Deputy or Assistant Deputy Minister level, directs strategy and provides decision making authority on issues beyond the scope of the EOC
- An **Industry Executive Committee** provides direction to strategies developed by Government Executive and provides industry leadership, facilitated by CCA or ABP with representation from leaders of the affected sectors including ACFA
- A **Primary Control Zone** is declared by the Minister, containing smaller zones around the infected premises, and quite possibly following industry leaders' requests that producers adopt a voluntary cease movement
- Strict movement controls in the Primary Control Zone are managed by licenses or permits with police enforcement, to move livestock, people, feed, vehicles and equipment on and off premises or from one of the smaller zones to another
- **Vaccination** may be ordered on certain premises within the Primary Control Zone, based upon results of the epidemiological investigation
- **Epidemiological** investigation is undertaken to determine the means of introduction and spread
- **Depopulation** may be ordered by the Minister, with accompanying compensation
- Disposal of carcasses at industry expense, is ordered in a manner prescribed by government
- **Cleaning** and disinfecting of infected premises, to government satisfaction, is required before restocking
- **The Canadian Veterinary Reserve** public and private sector veterinarians with FAD training from across Canada and potentially internationally may be used to meet the huge demand for professional expertise
- Welfare slaughter may be ordered, if producers cannot maintain animal welfare

Throughout the emergency ACFA will provide **Communications** support to the feedlot sector, providing and collecting information through a range of means, e.g. Town Hall teleconferences, updates through email, web site, Twitter feeds, Facebook and other social media tools, etc.

ACFA will also communicate on behalf of the sector to other organizations like ABP and CCA, and to government. And ACFA will coordinate its activities and the actions of the sector, with all organizations including ABP, CCA, AARD, CFIA, AAFC and AEMA.





3. GUIDELINES FOR ANTICIPATED FEEDLOT ACTIVITIES

The guidelines described in the following pages will inform feedlot operators of their role, and expectations relative to specific situations that would quite likely arise in the event of a disease related sector-wide emergency. These guidelines include:

- Feedlot Indicators for Unusual Animal Health Events on Feedlots: precursor of FADS – initial indicators of an unusual animal health event at feedlots, and ensuring that staff knows key indicators of the FADs of primary concern.
- Initial Feedlot Response to an Unusual Animal Health Event: what to do first on learning that an unusual animal health event may be present on the feedlot, potentially causing major impact to the industry.
- **Triggers of Sector Wide Disease Related Emergencies:** triggers of a disease related, sector-wide emergencies, and what they mean for feedlots.
- Biosecurity Guidelines:

advanced biosecurity protocols to apply when a significant disease is: suspected in the trade area – AMBER Elevated Risk biosecurity and possibly a voluntary cease movement; or confirmed in the trade area – RED High Risk biosecurity and possibly a voluntary cease movement.

• Voluntary Cease Movement Guideline:

the expectations on feedlots if industry leaders recommend that the industry voluntarily cease livestock movements, while the legislated conditions are verified for the Minister to establish movement controls within a Primary Control Zone.

- Mass Vaccination Guidelines and Mass Depopulation and Disposal Guidelines: the expectations on feedlot staff if mass vaccination or depopulation and disposal are ordered.
- Compensation and Valuation Guidelines:

the conditions on which compensation may be awarded and the information requirements for the valuation process.

Personal Safety:

reminders to maintain an acceptable level of risk for staff and family members, while treating diseased or at risk animals.

Communication to Owners for Custom Operators:

updating owners as to events and the resulting actions taken by the feedlot, is due diligence and good business.

a. Feedlot Indicators for Unusual Animal Health Events

Initial recognition of an FAD usually starts with feedlot staff sensing that something is not right. Customize the following guidelines in consultation with your veterinarian and staff, to the specific needs of your feedlot. Then use them to guide staff in identifying indicators specific to your operation that may signify an unusual animal health event. When these indicators are observed in the feedlot, notify your veterinarian and take their direction.

Basic signs and other indicators for FADs of primary concern in feedlots are set out in Schedule 3. These are provided to improve awareness as to what these events are and how they may be identified on the feedlot.

Ensure that staff:

- 1. Have access to this information
- 2. Are aware of the Initial Feedlot Response Guideline
- 3. Know these primary FADs and their basic symptoms, and
- 4. Are instructed to immediately contact the feedlot veterinarian if any of these are suspected.

eedlot Name:	PID #:
eterinarian:	Cell:
f any of the following indicators are observed, then the	feedlot veterinarian will be contacted immediately to
Death Loss exceeds normal acceptable level of this many heads per week:	
Sick exceeds normal acceptable level of this many heads per week:	
Animals / pens 'backed off' feed	
Disease or symptoms not previously encountered	
Typical disease or symptoms with abnormal severity or	non-responsive to treatment
Reportable / notifiable disease suspected on feedlot	
Other event, as determined with your veterinarian:	

b. Initial Feedlot Response for Unusual Animal Health Events

The initial response for Unusual Animal Health Events can limit the possible spread of disease, lessen the risks to staff and family members, contain the incident, and reduce the impact on your business and the industry as a whole. Therefore it is critically important that these initial responses are appropriate to your particular feedlot, and are carried out quickly.

Customize the following guidelines in consultation with your veterinarian and staff, according to the specific needs of your feedlot. Then use them to guide staff in carrying out the appropriate response to an Unusual Animal Health Event on your feedlot. When these indicators are observed in the feedlot, notify your veterinarian and take their direction.

Feedlot Name:	PID #:
1. Call Feedlot Veterinarian & Act On Advice	, for example
Isolate sick animals	Submit samples for diagnosis
Stop other movements on / off (e.g. manure spreading etc.)	Stop stock movements on / off
Other	
2. Notify Staff & Family Members	
An Unusual Animal Health Event exists or	the feedlot
Review and strictly follow biosecurity pro with feedlot veterinarian	tocols currently in place, or as established by management in consultation
Minimize / avoid contact with other livest	ock, particularly cattle and ruminants
3. External Notifications, may be made afte	r consultation with the feedlot veterinarian
Feedlot veterinarian to notify regulatory a	uthority as / if appropriate
CFIA District Veterinarian called (sus	spect reportable disease)
Provincial Chief Veterinarian / Chief	Veterinary Officer
Notify neighbouring livestock producers (depending on suspected disease)
 Neighbouring livestock producers 	
Alberta Cattle Feeders Association (Bryan Walton, CEO @ 403-250-2509)
Alberta Beet Producers (Rich Smith,	ED @ 403-275-4400)
Notify suppliers	
 Feed suppliers 	
 Livestock transporters 	



c. Triggers Indicating the Presence of a Disease Related, Sector-Wide Emergency

Recognizing an event, and triggering the appropriate actions, is critical to effective emergency management. For the purposes of these guidelines, triggers for a major disease related sector-wide emergency are:

1. Notice of Suspicion - a FAD outbreak is suspected in Western Canada

- Triggered by formal Notice of Suspicion for a FAD, from CFIA, AARD or other provincial government
- Industry may be asked to adopt voluntary controls, and
- May be referred to as 'the gray period' when an outbreak is suspected but not confirmed and movement controls have not been announced.

2. Notice of Confirmation – a FAD outbreak is confirmed in Western Canada

- Triggered by the Chief Veterinary Officer (Canada) providing a formal Notice of Confirmation, for a FAD identified at the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease which is Canada's 'Level 4' laboratory
- Likely followed soon after by the Minister's declaration of a Primary Control Zone (see Figure 1) and orders to cease movements other than by permit or license for all livestock, related materials and equipment moving on and off premises, in to or within the Primary Control Zone and between sub-zones.

These triggers and the appropriate feedlot response are noted on the following page, together with the ACFA response.

TRIGGERS OF SECTOR WIDE DISEASE RELATED EMERGENCY

TRIGGER	ASSOCIATION RESPONSE	FEEDLOT RESPONSE
 'Notification of Suspicion' for a premise within the trading area (W Canada)*, or declaration of an infected premise*** 	 Notify ACFA Board of potential shift to Emergency Board Notify feedlots of suspicion and potential risk Post biosecurity protocols to website, e.g. AMBER Elevated Risk and RED High Risk and Voluntary Cease Movement Consider Voluntary Cease Movement, in conjunction with industry and government leaders 	 Implement AMBER Elevated Risk biosecurity protocols, visitor manuals, etc. Ensure staff awareness of RED High Risk biosecurity protocols and Voluntary Cease Movement Adopt Voluntary Cease Movement, if recommended by government and industry leaders Seek additional guidance specific to the situation from veterinarian Monitor CFIA, AARD, ACFA and CCA web-sites and other media for updates
2. 'Notification of Confirmation' for a premise within trading area (W Canada)**	 Notify ACFA board of shift to Emergency Board for governance Notify sector of confirmation and initial response requirements by CFIA Deploy liaison representatives to EOC / JEOC Consider Voluntary Cease Movement, in conjunction with industry and government leaders 	 Implement RED High Risk protocol Adopt voluntary cease movement, if recommended by government and industry leaders Seek additional guidance specific to the situation from veterinarian Monitor CFIA, AARD, ACFA and CCA web-sites and other media for updates

* Triggers based upon suspicion / confirmation anywhere in the trading area of Alberta feedlots, e.g. Western Canada, whereas those defined for AARD are based upon suspicion or confirmation in Alberta only

** Veterinary authority may subsequently announce a Primary Control Zone with additional or different requirements

*** Additional or different requirements for 'infected premises,' as announced by veterinary authorities

d. Elevated & High Risk Biosecurity Protocols

Biosecurity is critical to managing disease risk on all feedlots, and other livestock operations as well. There are three objectives:

- 1. Stop diseases from entering the feedlot (introduction);
- 2. Stop diseases from spreading within the feedlot (amplification), and
- 3. Stop diseases from leaving the feedlot, and potentially going to another feedlot (spread).

Knowing the appropriate biosecurity protocol to adopt, and doing so quickly and effectively, are critically important to feedlot operators if a significant disease risk is present. Every feedlot should have biosecurity protocols, corresponding to the three different levels of risk to be managed:

GREEN Normal

Practices that are implemented on an ongoing and daily basis

AMBER Elevated Risk

Implemented at Notice of Suspicion within the trading area, e.g. Western Canada RED High Risk

Implemented at Notice of Confirmation within the trading area, e.g. Western Canada

GREEN Normal biosecurity protocol should be established in collaboration with the feedlot veterinarian. The Canadian Beef Cattle On-Farm Biosecurity Standard and Implementation Manual should be taken into consideration as a starting point. Sample **AMBER Elevated Risk** and **RED High Risk** biosecurity protocols are provided on the following page.

Rumours often precede the announcemens that trigger these protocols. Accurate or not, these are useful opportunities for staff training, e.g.

- Ensure **GREEN** Normal protocol is being followed;
- Review and re-familiarize with AMBER Elevated Risk and RED High Risk protocols.

When an FAD is confirmed on the feedlot, or the feedlot is implicated with a confirmed case, provincial or federal veterinary authorities will provide strict and comprehensive biosecurity requirements. Therefore these scenarios are not addressed here.

or copy, laminate and post prominently AMBER ELEVATED RISK BIOSECURITY PROTOCOL Use of this AMBER Elevated Risk biosecurity protocol should be considered when triggered by a Notice of Suspicion for an FAD on a premise anywhere in Western Canada. It may be appropriate to adopt on other occasions also. Review AMBER Elevated Risk protocol with staff at Incoming livestock outset, to ensure their understanding and ability Segregate, held separate and monitor for to implement 14 days Ensure RED High Risk protocol is known by staff, and No fence line contact with other feedlot available for immediate implementation if required animals Remove Document herd of origin, beyond the auction or Ensure Voluntary Cease Movement protocol is available dealer if an intermediary is involved for immediate implementation if recommended Sick animals Ensure visitor logs and risk assessment tools are in place and used at entry / exit points, see Schedule 4 Isolate to the extent possible Minimize fence line contact with healthy ٠ Post biosecurity signage at access points, e.g. animals / pens 'Biosecurity in place,' 'Report to Office' Dedicated clothing, equipment, pens, feed and Feedlot Access water stations Restrict to primary access points where feedlot Designated staff to handle with offices or personnel are present to monitor access no contact of other animals, or treating Visitor logs used in accordance with risk sick animals last after assessment tool healthy animals Bar or otherwise prevent access through all · change of outerwear / footwear secondary access points where the feedlot does not have an ongoing presence wash hands before and after treatment Production area, e.g. pens, processing unit, feed mill Dead stock No visitors Review / revise procedures No external animals, vehicles or personnel beyond Designated staff to handle and remove animals main office / delivery area from pens Staff to wash hands and clothing after handling Staff • dead stock Review biosecurity protocol in place, AMBER Ensure separation from other feedlot practices Elevated Risk for equipment Remind as to Feedlot Indicators & Immediate Responses, for Unusual Animal Health Events Feed deliveries: drivers to remain in truck Those owning livestock to have dedicated clothing Monitor key websites for information and and footwear for the feedlot, and change clothing recommendations, / footwear when entering or leaving the feedlot e.g. ACFA, ABP, NCFA, CCA, AARD, CFIA & AAFC premise Adopt Voluntary Cease Movement if recommended All staff to wash hands on entering or leaving the feedlot



RED HIGH RISK BIOSECURITY PROTOCOL

Use of this RED High Risk biosecurity protocol should be considered when triggered by a Notice of Confirmation for an FAD on a premise anywhere in Western Canada. It may be appropriate to adopt on other occasions also.
Implement the following underlined components, in addition to the AMBER Elevated Risk protocol that should already be fully implemented
Review RED High Risk protocol with staff at outset, to ensure their understanding and ability to implement
Ensure Voluntary Cease Movement protocol is available, for immediate implementation if recommended
Ensure visitor logs and risk assessment tools are in place and used at entry / exit points
Post biosecurity signage at access points, e.g. 'Biosecurity in place,' 'Report to Office'
Feedlot Access
 Restrict to primary access points where feedlot offices or personnel are present to monitor access
 Visitor logs used in accordance with risk assessment tool
 Bar or otherwise prevent access through all secondary access points where the feedlot does not have an ongoing presence
Production area, e.g. pens, processing unit, feed mill
No visitors,
 No external animals, vehicles or personnel beyond main office / delivery area
Staff
Review biosecurity protocol in place, RED High Risk
 Remind as to Feedlot Indicators & Immediate Responses, for Unusual Animal Health Events
 Staff to make alternate arrangements for care of personal livestock, or be moved into a position having no contact with feedlot cattle
 Dedicated clothing and footwear for all staff entering the feedlot, and change clothing / footwear when entering or leaving the feedlot premise
 All staff to wash hands on entering or leaving the feedlot
 All staff to wash hands again, and boots, when entering production area for the purposes of working with cattle or entering pens, processing unit or hospital unit
Incoming livestock
No incoming livestock
 Postpone arrivals pending more information on outbreak and conditions under which animals may be moved
Resume inbound shipments in consultation with Feedlot Veterinarian

Continued on next page >>

>> CONTINUED

Sick animals

- · Isolate to the extent possible
- · Minimize fence line contact with healthy animals / pens
- Dedicated clothing, equipment, pens, feed and water stations
- Designated staff to handle, and
 - no contact with other animals, or treat sick animals last after healthy animals
 - change of outerwear / footwear after treating
 - wash hands before and after treating

Dead stock

- Review / revise procedures
- · Designated staff to handle and remove animals from pens
- Staff to wash hands and clothing after handling deadstock
- Ensure complete separation from other feedlot practices for equipment, including tractor, bucket, chains, etc.
- Deadstock holding area relocated outside the production area
- Ensure deadstock removal services do not enter production area

Delivery area free of mud and organic matter, scrape and use fresh gravel around feed mill, scales and parking lots

Feed deliveries: drivers to remain in truck; vehicles washed & disinfected, on and off premise.

Monitor key websites for information and recommendations, e.g. ACFA, ABP, NCFA, CCA, AARD, CFIA & AAFC

Adopt Voluntary Cease Movement if recommended

Additional actions as recommended by feedlot veterinarian, and / or provincial or federal veterinarians.



e. Voluntary Cease Movement

Industry and government leaders may recommend a Voluntary Cease Movement (VCM) at some point during the period from the time the **Notice of Suspicion** or **Notice of Confirmation** is declared, until the Minister is able to declare a Primary Control Zone with movement restrictions.

A VCM could effectively minimize the spread of a disease, in the several days that may elapse before the legislated conditions are met and the federal or provincial Minister can implement and enforce movement controls. Early control of movements in this manner could significantly

- reduce the size of outbreak;
- reduce the length of market interruption; and
- reduce the time taken to recover.

VOLUNTARY CEASE MOVEMENT PROTOCOL FOR ALBERTA FEEDLOTS

A Voluntary Cease Movement (VCM) may be recommended by industry leaders from: the Alberta Cattle Feeders Association and Alberta Beef Producers, and the National Cattle Feeders Association and the Canadian Cattlemen's Association.

Who does the VCM apply to:

- All feedlot operators, cow-calf producers, auctions and sale yards, slaughter facilities etc., within that province
- All cloven-hooved animals, including cattle (beef and dairy), bison, sheep, goats, pigs and cervids, and the operations where these animals are located
- What does a VCM mean:
 - Essentially a standstill on all livestock
 movements
 - All cattle will remain on their current operation when a VCM is ordered
 - Cattle will not be brought onto or off from the feedlot, whether to slaughter or other

Why is a VCM recommended by industry leaders:

 In the early stages of a potentially major disease outbreak, reduced movements are critical to the industry's longterm well-being by ensuring effective response, rapid recovery and reduced time out of the market

How is the VCM applied:

- Participation is voluntary
- Initially for three days, unless extended or rescinded by industry leadership

In general, the following will apply:

- For cattle in transit within Alberta:
 - if not co-mingled subsequent to departure then return to point of origin
 - if comingled or reloaded subsequent to departure, then continue to destination and hold segregated on arrival
- For cattle in transit to Alberta from another Canadian province:
 - Return to point of origin for load
- For cattle in transit from Alberta to another Canadian province:
 - Return to point of origin
- For cattle in transit from Alberta and in the U.S.:
 - Report to the nearest state veterinary authority

For feed deliveries:

- · drivers to remain in cab
- vehicles clean and ideally washed prior to coming on feedlot
- vehicles not to enter the production area
- · feedlot to consider use of a 'transfer station'

Deadstock pickup suspended for duration of VCM

Whoever is in possession / oversight of the animals will be responsible for their well-being, for the duration of the VCM.



f. Mass Vaccination

Provincial or federal authorities may order mass vaccination in response to a major disease event. If ordered, compliance is required under the Health of Animals Act and its related regulations, or similar provincial legislation.

The purpose of vaccination is to slow the spread of disease, strengthening the buffer area around infected premises and protecting animals on other premises and the rest of the industry. Vaccinated animals will be identified and their individual animal ID recorded. Depending upon the disease, vaccinated animals may need to be slaughtered and even diverted from the food chain.

If vaccination is ordered, a vaccination strategy will be discussed with and accepted by industry leaders. The strategy would set out the type of premises, species and even class of animals to be vaccinated, and their whereabouts within the Primary Control Zone, as well as record keeping requirements and subsequent use restrictions for vaccinated animals. For example, and considering FMD, vaccination may be ordered at all feedlots within the 'infected zone' of a Primary Control Zone, for all bovines regardless of their sex or class.

Feedlots may be required to carry out the vaccination themselves, using feedlot personnel. This would enable qualified / trained government and emergency staff to focus on other necessary control measures. If this is the case, a Site Supervisor will be designated by CFIA or AARD to ensure compliance with required protocols.

The CFIA or AARD will state the necessary protocol at the time of the mass vaccination program. A sample vaccination protocol is provided below, so that feedlot operators can be aware of the requirements of such a program ahead of time.

Strict compliance with the protocol set out at the time by CFIA or AARD, will be essential.

CFIA and / or AARD will need to state with certainty that the protocol has been carried in strict compliance with the conditions that international animal and public health authorities require, for Canada to regain domestic and international market access.

Remove or copy, laminate and post prominently.

SAMPLE MASS VACCINATION PROTOCOL FOR APPLICATION BY FEEDLOT PERSONNEL

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Feedlot owner / manager to review and accept the vaccination protocol with Regulator's Designate, a Site Supervisor appointed by AARD or CFIA, setting out all requirements including: species / class to be vaccinated, method, dosage, record-keeping requirements, oversight and other control factors, booster requirements, end use, etc. All personnel to acknowledge their acceptance of regulatory oversight whether provided by AARD or CFIA, and agreement to apply protocol as directed by AARD or CFIA site supervisor Feedlot staff will: Document / record receipt of vaccine doses and ensure oversight of vaccine as directed Vaccinate all animals, as set out in the vaccination protocol and directed by the Site Supervisor Document / record individual animal identification of each vaccinate, at time of vaccination, together with date • and place and members of vaccination crew and vaccination oversight personnel Identify vaccinates, as required by regulatory authority: this may be a temporary or permanent identifier, e.g. Ketchum metal tag or brand Document / record unused vaccine doses and return to regulatory authority if required Provide AARD or CFIA site supervisor with record of animal identification for all animals vaccinated Apply 2nd or booster vaccination if directed, using similar protocol, in the time frame required



g. Mass Depopulation & Disposal

Provincial or federal authorities may order mass depopulation, and disposal of the related carcases in response to a major disease event. This will involve 'destruction orders' issued for each of the designated premises. If ordered, compliance is required under the Health of Animals Act and its related regulations, or similar provincial legislation. Regulatory oversight will be provided by a Site Supervisor appointed by AARD or CFIA reporting to the EOC / JEOC.

The purpose of any ordered depopulation and disposal strategy is to prevent the spread of disease. The strategy will be discussed with and accepted by industry leaders. This will involve a detailed evaluation of the risks to human and animal health, and economic and environmental considerations. The means and methods to be used will be prescribed in a strict protocol, after consideration of the various alternatives, and the conditions at hand, e.g. numbers of animals, location, facilities, soil types, water table, etc.

A range of methods are possible for both depopulation and disposal, although significant issues are associated with all. Perhaps the most likely method of depopulation involves use of a slaughter facility, rented / owned by government for the purpose, and some form of on-farm, high volume slaughter at feedlots. Likely disposal methods involve central burial sites and secondary landfill sites approved at that time for these purposes, or conceivably processing for food.

Feedlot personnel will likely be involved in both depopulation and disposal operations, working under the oversight of the AARD or CFIA appointed Site Supervisor. Successful depopulation will require personnel with cattle handling skills, and familiarity with handling equipment. Their involvement will free up qualified / trained government and professional staff to work on other control measures.

Strict compliance with the necessary protocols set out by CFIA or AARD will be essential.

CFIA and / or AARD will need to state with certainty that these depopulation and disposal protocols have been carried out in strict compliance with the conditions that international animal and public health, and environment authorities require for Canada to regain domestic and international market access.

The CFIA or AARD will state the necessary protocol at the time of the mass depopulation and disposal program. A sample depopulation and disposal protocol is provided on the following page, so that feedlot operators can be aware of the requirements of such a program ahead of time.

SAMPLE MASS DEPOPULATION AND DISPOSAL PROTOCOLS FOR FEEDLOT PERSONNEL WORKING IN SUPPORT OF REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

The role of feedlot personnel for depopulation and / or disposal in support of 'destruction orders', are detailed below:

- Review and accept the overall depopulation and / or disposal strategies required by Regulatory Authority (AAFC or CFIA) with Regulator's Designate (site supervisor) who is responsible for regulatory oversight and feedlot personnel addressing: species / class involved, depopulation and / or disposal protocols (method and means), record-keeping requirements, oversight and other control factors, etc. (feedlot owner / manager)
- Agree to accept regulatory oversight and direction from the site supervisor, to apply protocol as directed, and to ensure welfare of animals involved (all personnel)
- Assist with the assembly, movement, restraint and processing of animals, whether depopulation takes place at the feedlot or elsewhere (all personnel)
- Prepare and provide records of animals depopulated and / or disposed of, as set out in the protocol, e.g. dates, premise identification (feedlot, depopulation and disposal), animal identification, method (depopulation and disposal), vehicle identification, soil and water table information, etc. (all personnel)
- Apply animal biosecurity practices as prescribed (all personnel)
- Follow personal biosecurity requirements as prescribed, and which may include any / all of the following and other requirements (all personnel)
 - Shower before and after each shift
 - Hand washing before putting on and after removal of PPE
 - Wearing of PPE

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- Take any vaccine or prophylactic medication, if any is recommended by public health officials
- Self monitor for any signs of personal sickness, and seek medical care for signs of same
- No contact with other livestock for a prescribed period of time after these operations, e.g. three days

Report any spillage of material (urine, manure, hide, other) that might potentially contain contaminant (virus, bacteria, other), outside the prescribed area for disposal (all personnel)



h. Compensation & Valuation

The Minister may order **COMPENSATION** when a 'destruction order' is issued for particular animals. Compensation is paid in accordance with the Health of Animals Act (Canada) or provincial legislation.

Compensation under the Health of Animals Act has limits and is not intended as insurance or full recompense. It covers:

- the fair market value of animals ordered destroyed, to a maximum of \$2,500 for grade cattle;
- other things that may be ordered destroyed such as contaminated feed or animal products; and
- disposal costs.

Some items are not covered by compensation, such as cleaning and disinfecting or decontaminating the premises and equipment. And compensation is reduced by any salvage value derived from the carcasses.

Fair and accurate **VALUATION** of the animals is a necessary step in determining the compensation due to the owners of the animals ordered destroyed. The valuation process involves two evaluators, one selected by the feedlot operator and the other selected by the CFIA. Feedlot operators can select an evaluator of their choosing, or from a list made available by the Alberta Cattle Feeders. Industry associations may also assist in the administration of the valuation process, particularly if multiple premises are involved.

Evaluators will base their findings upon the animals and relevant records, as presented by the feedlot operator. Their valuation is presented to the CFIA Veterinarian responsible for the valuation process, within the EOC / JEOC.

Many issues can arise in establishing value on cattle during a disease related sector-wide emergency, such as:

- Will value be based upon pre-outbreak prices or current prices?
 - Valuations are historically based upon prices in effect just prior to the outbreak.
- How is value determined?
 - Replacement values are used, typically based on either: factors such as age, weight, class, etc.; or the animals' point in the production / life cycle at time of destruction.
- · How long does payment take?
 - In recent outbreaks compensation has been provided in approximately 6 weeks, however this will vary depending upon the situation.

Other issues may arise however. Typically these are addressed in discussion between the Industry and Government Executive. The CFIA will work with the industry to ensure that the compensation process runs as smoothly as possible.

Information Protocol For Valuation / Compensation

When Compensation is awarded feedlot personnel will be asked to assist the valuation process by providing the following information on all animals being valued, e.g.

- Date animals received
- Description, e.g. number of head, class, sex, species
- Individual ID if available, or other (group) identifiers
- Owner details, e.g. name and contact information
- Premise ID (feedlot)
- Date depopulated

- Depopulation method
- Conveyance information, e.g. license plate
- Premise ID
 (depopulation location, if different)
- Disposal method
- Premise ID (disposal location, if different)
- Salvage value received, if any (payment received for animal / carcass)

i. Personal Safety

Personal safety comes first. While this is well accepted, it is easily forgotten or overlooked in a moment of crisis.

Feedlot owners are responsible for the safety of personnel and residents, relative to risks that are within their capacity to control or mitigate. This responsibility takes precedence over the care and needs of cattle and other livestock that may be on the feedlot.

Accordingly, it is critically important for feedlot ownership and management to ensure that they:

- · Are aware of the evolving emergency events
- Understand the risks that these events represent to human safety, and
- Take the steps necessary to ensure the safety of feedlot personnel and residents who may be living on the premise, including the delivery of training relative to these risks.

To put this in context, a feedlot owner may choose to remain on the premise after an evacuation order has been issued, or may choose not to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in working with an animal disease event. However the same feedlot owner cannot instruct or ask staff to disregard an evacuation order, nor can staff be asked to work without the necessary or appropriate PPE.

Farm family members warrant special mention in view of the significant role they play on many operations. This is particularly important for children. Notwithstanding their role in the feedlot operation, family members who are children cannot remain on a premise after an evacuation order has been given.

j. Communications to Owners, for Custom Feedlot Operators

Owners of cattle in custom feedlots should be advised of any state of emergency that affects or presents a risk to their cattle. This is an important activity for custom feedlot operators, and may be a requirement of their contract.

Most contracts provide the feedlot operator with the authority and even the responsibility to make decisions on behalf of the owner, in the event of an emergency. Nonetheless the owners should be advised.

Advice to owners could be provided by phone or in person, but should be documented for legal purposes. **Advisory letters should set out the following:**

- Contract number
- Description of animals affected
- Nature of emergency or risk
- Reference to the specific contract section, giving the feedlot operator the authority to make decisions for the well-being of the cattle in question
- Providing contact information in the event further detail is required.

4. TOOLS FOR GETTING PREPARED

Is your feedlot prepared for a disease related, sector-wide emergency? Many of the things and information that are required in an emergency can be anticipated and prepared in advance. Information that you and your staff will need to know and be in agreement on beforehand, and also to have available for others in an emergency, include:

- Feedlot objectives in an emergency
- A feedlot plan a schematic of important points on the operation
- A feedlot inventory listing personnel, equipment, and other resources available or to be considered in an emergency
- **Primary / Secondary contacts & staff** setting out the primary and secondary contacts for emergency responders to go to, and other staff
- External contact list
- Visitor controls
- Establishing relationships with first response agencies

Being prepared for a disease related sector-wide emergency is necessary due diligence for feedlot operators. The points in this section should be addressed using the tools provided – prior to an emergency – and reviewed on a regular basis – say annually with renewal of insurances. Having this information maintained, current and available, and regularly communicated to staff and management will ensure a degree of preparedness for your business in the event of a sector-wide emergency event.

Using the Tools set out in the following pages will allow you to assemble the information required for the immediate response to a disease related, sector-wide emergency, and for emergencies in general. Using these Tools now, before an event occurs, will save valuable time during an emergency when time is at a premium. As well, the ability to access this information in a crisis demonstrates due diligence in taking the reasonably expected steps to prepare the feedlot.

Much of the information prepared in this section will also be of interest to **local first responders and other emergency management professionals**. Provided in advance, it will help them prepare for an emergency involving your operation. It also makes an excellent package to provide them upon entry in the event of an emergency, assisting them to better respond to the event. Finally, sharing this information with first responders will facilitate development of an effective relationship between first response agencies and your organization that in turn will help to ensure the most effective response possible during an emergency.

Complete the Tools in the following sections and keep the information on file. Share the information with your staff and emergency management professionals in local government to assist them in preparing to assist your operation. Much of it will have value to emergencies in general, as well as disease related sector-wide emergencies.

a. Feedlot Objectives

You need to know, and communicate to your staff, the business objectives that you want to achieve in the event of a disease related sector-wide emergency.

It helps to know the objectives of others, when establishing your own objectives. The primary objectives of first response agencies are as follows. They are not responsible for the personal property involved, such as animals and feedlots.

IN ALL EMERGENCIES

- 1. Save lives and minimize the impact on people, including first responders, survivors and others indirectly impacted
- 2. Protect property, commencing with critical infrastructure
- 3. Protect the environment, and subsequently to restore and enhance its quality
- 4. Protect the economy, reducing disruption to lessen the impact

IN ANIMAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

- 5. Control the spread of disease
- 6. Eliminate the disease

Looking at the responsibilities and objectives at the feedlot then, **in an emergency the first responsibility of your business is to minimize the risk to humans directly involved**. However first response agencies will lead this in the course of assisting the general public, which is their primary responsibility in such an event. First response agencies may assist or provide direction relative to animals such as cattle on feed, or private property such as feedlots. However feedlot operators are ultimately responsible for the well-being of these animals in their control or possession, and for the feedlot itself and feedlot equipment. With this background then your business objective is to maintain human safety, maintain the health and safety of the animals in your care, and resume normal business operations as soon as possible.

Objectives may appear clear-cut while planning but during an emergency there may be conflict between different organizations. First responders address human life and public property first; animals or private property are a significant lower priority. **Feedlot owners are ultimately responsible for animals in their control and the feedlot itself.**

There will be conflicts however, and recognizing both the objectives of your organization and those of other organizations, is critical in an emergency.

FEEDLOT OBJECTIVES IN A DISEASE RELATED **SECTOR-WIDE EMERGENCY**

SECTOR-WIDE EIVIERGENGY	
Feedlot Name:	PID #:
In a sector-wide emergency, real or perceived, the principal obj	ectives are to:
1. Keep personnel safe	
 Including staff, management, owners, and their fami 	lies, and residents on the feedlot
2. Minimize animal losses	
Avoid or minimize animal loss within the feedlot	
 Avoid or limit impacts of the event spreading from the 	e feedlot
3. Minimize animal health and welfare impacts	
Avoid or minimize introduction of disease into the feature	edlot
• Avoid or minimize the spread of disease within the fe	eedlot
• Avoid or minimize the spread of disease from the fee	dlot
Avoid / minimize animal stress within the feedlot	
4. Resume normal business activities as quickly and as sa	fely as possible
• Regain normal operations at the feedlot, as soon as	practical and safe for staff and residents; and
Regain normal trade patterns for the broader livestop	k industry as soon as possible
5. Other:	



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b. Feedlot Plan

First responders need to know where key items are located. This helps to ensure their own safety, and it enables them to effectively address the event on your operation. They will be significantly more effective, with less risk to life, if they can consult a feedlot plan while planning their approach to the emergency on your feedlot.

A feedlot plan can be created from a one-page aerial photo or a hand-drawn schematic. Mark out the boundaries, and add key items critical to effective emergency management. Preparing the feedlot plan may help to identify additional risks. You may already have prepared this for your Environmental Farm Plan.

An example is shown below, and a grid is provided on the following page for preparation of a handdrawn schematic, as an alternative to an aerial photo. Use the symbols in the legend as they are widely recognized by emergency management professionals. Prepare your feedlot plan including:

- Scale
- Buildings

- Hazardous materials
- Access routes / barriers
- Potential contaminants

- Recognized symbols
- North arrowMeeting place



Complete the table on the following page, laminate and make a copy of it and place it in your emergency management file, or on the back of your office door.

Ensure all staff review this with other completed material that constitutes your plan.

FEEDLOT PLAN		
eedlot Name:		PID #:
egal Land Description:	Address: _	
One Time Capacity:	Normal Operating Capacity:	
	N North	(P) Pesticide
Date Prepared:	V Visitor Parking	H Water Source for Fire Hydrant
Approximate Scale:	S Staff Parking	(G) Main Gas Shutoff (E) Main Electrical Shutoff
Contact Name	Gates	FT Above Ground Fuel Tank
שיוומטו ואמוווס.	G Compressed Gas	(FA) First Aid
Phone Number 1:	Oxidizing Materials	MP Meeting Place
Phone Number 2:	Poisonous Material	s Septic System (label location) Manure System (label location)
	F Fertilizer	

c. Feedlot Inventory

Knowing the equipment and personnel resources available at your operation, and the general livestock inventory, allows first responders and other emergency management professionals to be more effective in managing an emergency on the feedlot.

Set out the key information about your feedlot that emergency management professionals may need, so as to help them help you. Whether you provide this at the time of an emergency, or earlier for them to hold on file, is your choice. Advance provision however, certainly offers a greater opportunity for planning.



FEEDLOT INVENTORY OF PEOPLE & EQUIPMENT

Feedlot Name:		PID #:
	PEOPLE	
	Number of people living here:	Number of people employed:
	Number of disabled persons:	Nature of disability:

 Number of disabled persons:
 Nature of disability:

 Number of heavy-duty equipment operators:
 Number of stockmen (excl. owner/operator):

PEN SUMMARY

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Pen / Building	Capacity

Pen / Building	Capacity

EQUIPMENT & RESOURCES ON HAND (Description, Number & Location)

Buildozers / Scrapers / Skidder:
Front-End Loaders:
Backhoes:
Vacuum Tanker:
Portable Water Pumps:
Portable Generators:
Fire Extinguishers:
Absorbent Material (Shavings, straw, etc.)
Sand Bags:
First Aid:
Personal Protection Equipment:
Other:
Other:
Sand Bags: First Aid: Personal Protection Equipment: Other: Other:



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d. Primary / Secondary Contacts & Staff

Who are the primary contacts for major decisions at the feedlot? Are there other key players within the feedlot's business organization that are key to the operation and whom first responders will also need to be able to contact about specific areas of the operation? Who are all other personnel on the feedlot that first responders may need to contact?

During an emergency of any kind, all feedlots need to designate a primary contact: someone who can make quick decisions on behalf of the operation, and is authorized to do so. These are likely the owners or senior manager, who are available in an emergency, and can make decisions or direct the issue to the decision maker. Since this individual may be unavailable, a secondary contact should also be designated. This information needs to be maintained and current, for first responders to be effective.

Feedlot Name: PID #:			
I CASE OF EMERGENCY			
Primary Contact:			
Farm Name:			
and Phone:	Cell Phone:		
egal Land Location:			
Nunicipality:	911 Code (if available):		
Directions to this location:			
Secondary Contact #1:			
and Phone:	Cell Phone:		
Secondary Contact #2:			
and Phone:	Cell Phone:		
Dut of Province Contact:			
and Phone:	Cell Phone:		
Notes:			

STAFF CONTACT LIST

ame	Title	Contact Phone	Contact Email	Lives on Farm (Y / N)	Owns Cattle (Y / N)	HD Equip. Operator (Y / N)

Customize to your operation, remove or copy, laminate and post prominently.

e. External Contact List: **Primary Suppliers of Goods and Services**

Can you identify your key contacts off the feedlot, that you might need to contact or whose services you might need in the event of an emergency?

The ability to contact key external organizations or individuals for assistance in an emergency, or for notification purposes, is critical for an effective response. Most of us now carry these numbers in our cell phone. Setting them down on paper can be helpful however, as it enables others to make calls on behalf of owners or key decision makers, and it allows gaps to be identified and addressed.

Customize to your operation, remove or copy, laminate and post prominently **EXTERNAL CONTACT LIST** PID #: . Feedlot Name: **PRIMARY CONTACT PHONE & CELL** EMAIL WHO **Primary Emergency Organizations** Police / RCMP Fire Ambulance Veterinarian **County Emergency Management** Alberta Cattle Feeders Association 403-250-2509 Alberta Beef Producers 403-275-4400 Canadian Cattle Identification Agency 403-275-2083 Natural Resource Conservation Board 1-866-383-6722 24 hour / Toll Free Livestock Identification Services 1-877-909-2333 Toll Free Utilities **Electricity Supplier** Irrigation District Internet Provider **Telephone Service** Natural Gas

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Government Offices		
CFIA Emergency Line	1-877-814-2342	
Chief Provincial Veterinarian	780-427-3448	
AARD Laboratory Service		
AARD (local office)		
Crop Insurance		
NRCB (local office)		
Emergency Management Alberta		
County Office		
Service Providers		
Fuel		
nsurance Broker		
Grain 1		
Grain 2		
Grain 3		
ivestock Transporter		
ivestock Transporter		
Electrician		
Plumber		
enders		
Cattle Owners		



f. Visitor Controls

Can you control the access of visitors onto, and within the feedlot during an emergency? Do you control their access at other times, to a lesser extent, so that this would be a 'step up' of existing practices rather than something completely new?

'Visitors' are off-farm people and their vehicles or equipment, including professional services such as veterinarians, inspectors and utility providers. Staff, owners and managers, or farm residents are not included. Visitors significantly amplify the spread of disease both within the feedlot, and beyond to the industry at large.

Controlling visitor access and movement is critical during a disease outbreak. This is particularly true of the production area, the area where the animals are held and areas related to this, such as where the animals are held and areas related to this, such as those where feed and medications are held. If visitors are permitted they must demonstrate compliance with strict control measures.

Feedlots need to assess the actual risk of each movement. A risk assessment tool is provided for this purpose, in Schedule 4. Visitor control at feedlots can be achieved as set out below.

Customize to your operation, remove or copy, laminate and post prominently.

VISITOR CONTROL

Feedlot Name:	PID #:
Establish	control at recognizable access points on / off the feedlot, with a lockable gate or some form of moveable
barrier th	nat is readily available if required. Identify each on-farm plan.
Establish	control at access points to the pens, and also at areas where feed and medications are held.
Post sign	age prominently at all access points to the feedlot. Signage at primary access points should direct entrants
to the off	ice. Signage at other points should discourage access, and direct entrants to primary access points.
Signage a	at all access points should indicate that biosecurity is in effect.
Post sign should pr	age at access points to pens and other production areas where feed and medications are held. Signage rohibit unauthorized entry, indicating that biosecurity is in effect.
Record al	Il visitor access. A Visitor Log similar to the one provided in Schedule 4, captures the information needed
to quickly	y identify potentially exposed premises and animals if your premise is suspected of having
a disease	e.
Assess a the feedle the rever	nd manage the different potential risks associated with the range of visitors, equipment or vehicles entering ot on a daily basis. A simple Biosecurity Risk Assessment, like that provided in Schedule 4 and attached to se side of each page in the Visitor Log, can be referenced to manage different risks appropriately.
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g. Establish a Relationship with First Response Agencies

Have you established relationships with the various first response organizations likely to be involved in, or directing an emergency regarding your feedlot? Do you know who these organizations, and possibly individuals, are? Do they know who you are and the nature of your business? Have you shared with them some of the information that could assist them if they were called onto your operation, e.g. Farm Plan, Farm Inventory, Contact Lists, etc.

First responders will be more effective in their actions, if they have an understanding of the premise they are going onto, the way in which it conducts their business, and its objectives in an emergency. Often there are critical safety factors that could affect their personal safety and that should be contained to limit the impact of the event. In a very pragmatic sense, they may work first with operations that they know and understand before putting themselves at an unknown and potentially dangerous level of risk to go onto a premise they know nothing about.

- Get acquainted with members of your local government first response agencies, e.g. county or municipal
 - The fire department is a good place to start
- Know the organizations that are initially responsible for different sector-wide emergencies
 - Disease related emergencies: AARD and Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian; CFIA regional offices; CFIA Chief Veterinary Officer
 - Other emergencies: Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA), with field offices in most cities e.g. Lethbridge, Calgary, Red Deer, and Edmonton
- Share or offer to share your plans with local government first response agencies
 - Of particular interest will be your Farm Plan, Farm Inventory, and Internal Contact Lists
 - They may be able to keep it on file, or stored digitally for access before and en route to an event

5. RECOVERY CONSIDERATIONS

Recovery will occur. After some of the more severe emergencies in history, livestock businesses have returned to operation. Four elements of a return to operation are:

- 1. Short term financial considerations
- 2. Cleaning and disinfection prior to restocking
- 3. Lifting of emergency conditions
- 4. Review and renewal of preparation activities and response guidelines

a. Short-Term Financial Considerations

Producers should be aware that financial aid or support may be available, but is limited for many sector-wide emergencies. Producers may be eligible for the following financial assistance:

- Insurance coverage for specific perils identified in your policy
- Compensation for animals ordered depopulated by the Minister
- Disaster funding if available, is generally not intended for business coverage
- Federal / provincial risk management programming –may be available but is not generally designed for sector-wide emergencies

Each of these is detailed in the following sub-sections.

INSURANCE

Commercial insurance provided in the private sector may be available for the risks specified in the policy. Feedlot operators should review their coverage with an experienced broker annually, with consideration for the potential events identified elsewhere in this manual.

If coverage is available, some losses to consider are those related to: mortality, disease, livestock relocation, infrastructure losses, flood, weather such as hail or fire, and business interruption.

Feedlot operators should know the specifics of what perils or events are covered by their insurance, and what costs are addressed.

A checklist to consider is provided below:

- Have you checked to ensure your coverage is current?
- Have you reviewed your operation with your insurance broker, with specific consideration for coverage of potential perils or events?
- Do you have records of the individual animals' identifiers that are within your possession (CCIA RFID)?

Have you assessed the risks associated with actions you might take in response to certain perils, and the coverage available should you do so? For instance moving animals off premise, from a flood zone or fire path?

Do you have business interruption coverage in the event of a sustained border closure or market collapse?

Have you documented your various protocols, including your emergency management protocols, so that if necessary, you can demonstrate due diligence to the insurer?

COMPENSATION (HAA)

The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food may order compensation for animals ordered destroyed under the Health of Animals Act (federal). Similar compensation may be ordered for animals ordered destroyed under the provincial Animal Health Act (Alberta), and under certain other legislation.

This compensation is not intended to compensate the owner for lost profit or business interruption but only for the value of the asset, as described in the guideline section.

Are you aware of the requirements for such compensation?

Do you know what information you would need to provide, to obtain such compensation?

DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM (AEMA) & DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS (PSC)

In response to certain disasters or emergencies, the federal and provincial governments may make funds available for individuals and in some cases business operators. These funds are in addition to those made available for compensation.



Are you aware of the types of financial assistance that may be available through this program?

Are you aware of the approximate levels of financial assistance that your operation might be eligible for, relative to total losses, through this program?

These programs are typically provided to the recipient, through provincial authorities, in this case the Disaster Recovery Program. A brief overview of what these funds may cover and the eligibility requirements are set out in Schedule 2.

FEDERAL / PROVINCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Federal and provincial governments have partnered to develop and deliver a suite of cost-shared risk management programs. These programs are not intended to address a sector-wide emergency, however they may provide limited coverage. These programs are:

- AgriStability covers losses associated with increased feed costs or reduced revenue from sale of livestock
- AgriRecovery disaster relief on a case-by-case basis
- Agrilnvest provides a 'savings account' for producers that may cover small income declines

b. Cleaning & Disinfection Prior to Restocking

In the event that an FAD is reported on your feedlot, you will be required to clean and disinfect the premise after the disease is eradicated.

Cleaning and disinfection actions and costs are the responsibility of the owner of the premise in question.

Your premise will continue to be designated an 'Infected Premise' until cleaning and disinfection are complete to the satisfaction of the Regulatory Authority. After that time, restocking can begin to take place.

Advice and guidance can and will be provided by the Regulatory Authority, whether CFIA or AARD. The standard of cleanliness and disinfection will be established by the Regulatory Authority, in discussion with industry, upon consideration of the disease event in question. The requirements and expectations for cleaning and disinfection will differ considerably between diseases, for example between Bovine Tuberculosis and FMD.

c. Lifting of Emergency Conditions

The state of emergency can be lifted by the Regulatory Authority, when conditions have stabilized and the risk has receded. This decision will be made after discussion with industry leaders. A statement will be released by the Regulatory Authority indicating that the state of emergency is over, and this will be communicated by public media.

The ACFA will communicate the lifting of the state of emergency, and any other change of emergency status, to its members and others within the feedlot sector using email, the website, and quite possibly 'town hall' style teleconferences open to feedlot operators from across the province.

d. Review & Renewal

You will be better prepared for a sector-wide emergency if you've worked your way through this manual. Like any other good works however, the preparations and guidelines you have made here are only of use if they are kept current and shared with staff.

Commit to reviewing your plan annually.

Diarize a date for this. A good time is in conjunction with the review and renewal of your insurance policies.

Ensure that information collected here is available to feedlot personnel.

It should form a part of their training material. Many of the elements are designed to be: copied; laminated and posted prominently; and/or inserted into training material.

Use the information collected here as the basis for establishing a relationship with first responders in your local area government.

They may request copies of some of the information you have prepared, to best prepare for an emergency on your feedlot. Discuss outstanding industry issues with your industry association.

SCHEDULE 1. GLOSSARY & DEFINITIONS

Glossary

AARD	Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
ADM	Assistant Deputy Minister
AEMA	Alberta Emergency Management Agency
AEOC	Area Emergency Operations Centre
AERT	Area Emergency Response Team
AESRD	Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
AHS	Alberta Health Services
AJSG	Alberta Justice and Solicitor General
AVMA	Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CBSA	Canadian Border Services Agency
CCVO	Canadian Council of Veterinary Officers
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CPV	Chief Provincial Veterinarian
EIS	Enforcement and Investigation Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre, modified by (J) Joint, (G) Government, (N) National or (R) Regional
FAD	Foreign Animal Disease
FADES Plan	Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan
FCC	Federal Coordination Centre
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FSAHD	Food Safety and Animal Health Division
GIS	Geographical Information System
JIC	Joint Information Centre
NCIAP	National Critical Infrastructure Assurance Program
NERT	National Emergency Response Team
NCFAD	National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease
OCPV	Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian
OIE	Office International des Epizooties
POC	Provincial Operations Centre
PSC	Public Safety Canada
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Definitions

Animal health emergency	An outbreak or epizootic of a FAD requiring immediate action to contain, control and eradicate the disease, including: animal movement controls, slaughtering of animals known to be or suspected of being infected, disposal of carcasses or infected products, cleaning and disinfecting of infected premises and transport, application of measures aimed at limiting the spread of the disease and tracing the origin of the disease, etc.						
Area Emergency Operations Centre (AEOC) - CFIA	Means the management centre for the entire Western area where the Area Emergency Response Team (AERT) and the liaisons for provincial and federal Departments and Agencies, as well as industry, will be located during control and eradication operations of a FAD.						
Area Emergency Response Team (AERT)	CFIA Emergency Response Team located at the AEOC.						
Commander of Field Operations Centre	Means the person named as Commander of Field Operations by the CFIA's Executive Director – Western Operations or its designate, and is responsible for the management of eradication operations in the Control area.						
Confirmed Case	 Confirmation of disease by National Centre for FAD, on samples obtained at the farm by CFIA staff, by virus isolation, antigen identified from animals showing clinical signs or linked to confirmed outbreak, or antibodies from other than vaccination with clinical signs. 						
Control area	Means the area described as a control area in accordance with subsection 27.(1) of the federal Health of Animals Act and incorporates all Infected places and zones within the Control area.						
Field Operations Centre (FOC) - CFIA	CFIA centre established to house the Director of Field Operations and the AERT operational units under his supervision, usually in or near the CFIA district office. Liaison officers of the partner organizations may also be assigned to this centre, if necessary.						
Foreign animal disease (FAD)	Means a Reportable Disease as described in Schedule 2 of the Reportable Diseases Regulations, S.C. 1990, c.21, that does not exist in Canada or any other disease which after due consideration is designated as such by the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (subject to knowing where the authority is for this designation by the Minister)						
Infected place	Means a place declared infected pursuant to the federal Health of Animals Act						

Local Authority	 Means: the council of a city, town, village, county or municipal district, in the case of an improvement district or special area, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the settlement council of a settlement council under the Métis Settlements Act, the park superintendent of a national park or his delegate where an agreement is entered into with the Government of Canada under Section 61(b) (of the Emergency Management Act) in which it is agreed that the park superintendent is a local authority for the purposes of this act, or the band council of an Indian Band where an agreement is entered into with the Government of Canada under Section 6(b) (of the Emergency Management Act) in which it is agreed that the band council is a local authority for the purposes of this act.
National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC): (Government Operations Centre)	CFIA national operations centre, located in Ottawa, which is responsible for national direction of eradication operations.
Presumptive case	 Clinical signs or post-mortem lesions confirmed to be consistent with FMD have been investigated by a CFIA diagnostician or a veterinarian in charge (VIC) or a district veterinarian (DV), and determined as high risk in collaboration with the Area FAD program officer; and There is an epidemiological link to other confirmed cases of FMD; or CAHSN laboratory reports to NCFAD the determination of a "non-negative" FMD result; or antibodies to structural or non-structural proteins of FMDV that are not a consequence of vaccination have been identified by NCFAD.1
Provincial Operations Centre (POC)	The provincial emergency operations centre established to coordinate Alberta's response to emergencies.
Regional Emergency Operations Centre (REOC): (Federal Coordination Centre)	The management centre where the CFIA Regional Team as well as liaisons for provincial and federal Departments and Agencies, as well as industry, will be located during control or eradication operations.
Regional Emergency Response Team	CFIA Emergency Response Team located at the REOC
Special premises	Premises such as an abattoir, artificial insemination centre, feedlot, sales yard, zoo, game farm, shipping yard or any other premises where animals are kept or assembled.
Suspect Case	The presence of clinical signs or post-mortem lesions in susceptible animals consistent with FMD reported by a private practitioner, an owner, a provincial laboratory, or a veterinarian in charge (VIC) or district veterinarian (DV), and determined as high risk in collaboration with the Area FAD program officer (samples sent to the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease, or NCFAD); or all susceptible animals epidemiologically determined to have been exposed by direct or indirect contact to FMD virus.

SCHEDULE 2. DISASTER ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

Disaster Recovery Program, AEMA:

http://www.aema.alberta.ca/images/Disaster_Assistance_Guidelines.pdf

Alberta Guidelines for Disaster Recovery Programs

CATASTROPHIC LOSS AND DAMAGE

Conditions for Eligibility

- a) **Individuals and Families** property is damaged to the point that it is not repairable or recoverable, and the individuals' or families' essential needs for daily living are no longer available.
- b) Farming Operations and Businesses loss or damage to the operation that is beyond the control of management and has significantly reduced the production capability by damage to buildings, machinery and equipment or production livestock.

Eligible Assistance for Individuals and Families May Include

- a) A **Re-establishment Assistance Grant** \$3,000 for each adult; \$750 for each child under the age of sixteen years, up to a family maximum of \$7,500;
- b) Financial assistance of uninsured costs for the replacement of, or repairs to, destroyed or severely damaged homes to pre-disaster functional condition; and
- c) Financial assistance for the replacement of uninsured items essential for everyday living, including the cost of clean up.

Eligible Assistance for Farming Operations and Small Businesses May Include

- a) A Re-establishment Assistance Grant of \$15,000;
- b) Clean up assistance up to \$40,000;
- c) For farming operations eligibility for participation in the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation's Disaster Loan Program; or for small businesses, facilitation of a loan with their usual private sector lender with up to 100 per cent forgiveness of insurance shortfalls and reimbursement of interest, on proof of performance;
- d) An allowance per acre towards input costs for full crop losses caused by flooding, which could not have been covered by insurance;
- e) An allowance per acre for seeded pasture drowned out by flooding; and
- f) Assistance with the repair, restoration and reclamation of field erosion damage and silt deposit.

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FARMING OPERATION LIMITATIONS

- Clean up or repairs by farmer or a family member at 120 per cent of provincial minimum wage per hour. Applicant must maintain an hourly record of all manpower time and may be subject to a maximum limit. If the applicant uses own equipment for clean up or repair, rates will be based on the current Alberta Road Builders and Heavy Construction Equipment (ARCHA) rental rate at 50 per cent plus operator time. Applicant must maintain an hourly record of all equipment and manpower time and may be subject to a maximum limit. For farm equipment not included in the reference to current heavy equipment rates, the rates listed in the current Alberta Agriculture Farm Operations Cost Guide for farm machinery costs will be used, at the same 50 per cent rate plus operator costs.
- Contracted clean up or repairs to items essential for the day to day operation of the farm reimbursable to the maximum evaluated amount with corresponding receipts. May require prior approval from the program.
- Crops harvested and in storage / eligible provided they are stored as per usual method of storage.
- Dug-outs, dams, crossings, spillways, bridges, dikes, berms and culverts, roads used currently in the farming operation. Repairs within waterways require permits and may require an engineer's report.
- Farm machinery (repair or replacement) is not eligible as insurance is readily and reasonably available.
- Fences repair or replacement of essential fences at appraised rates or reasonable costs.
- Fixed equipment (repair or replacement) at appraised value. Limited to fixed equipment that is in use as part of farming operation.
 Electrical panels and switchgear are eligible if they are permanently fixed. In some instances these items are insurable and therefore ineligible (insurance company must confirm

whether insurance is available before an item is deemed eligible).

- Fuel tanks used in farming operation (including stand, spout and hoses but excluding fuel).
 Based on receipts for replacement.
- Harvested hay (bales or stacked) value per ton as recommended by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development at the time of the event and adjusted to percentage loss as evaluated.
- **Honey operations** insurance is not generally available, but some beekeepers may carry insurance for flood damage.
- Pumping costs to protect non-land assets Reasonable pumping costs are reimbursable with receipts and will be covered without receipts, provided a detailed record of manhours and equipment is provided. Labour calculated at the rate of 120 per cent of the provincial minimum wage per hour and equipment reimbursed using ARCHA rates or reasonable invoices.
- Reseeding tame pasture and hay / payment for reseeding costs requires verification foraging sources have been killed / acreage must be cultivated before payment can be made / assistance based on market conditions as determined by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development.
- Saddles and tack must be used in farming operation and are eligible to the appraised value.
- Shelterbelts are not eligible
- Small tools / must be used in farming operation. Maximum \$500 based on receipts for replacement.
- Water wells (cleaning or replacement) well must be for agricultural purposes and costs will be prorated based on a 30-year lifecycle

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SCHEDULE 3. KEY FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE SYMPTOMS

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)

DESCRIPTION & SYMPTOMS

A viral disease causing fever and vesicles, which are similar to blisters, that quickly pop and cause erosions in the mouth or on the feet, resulting in excessive salivation or lameness. Because they pop quickly, these blisters are not always easy to see.

These signs may appear in affected animals during an FMD outbreak:

- Cattle backed off feed and eating less, or not eating, because of painful tongue and mouth blisters
- Vesicles that rupture and discharge clear or cloudy fluid, leaving raw, eroded areas surrounded by ragged fragments of loose tissue
- Sticky, foamy, stringy saliva
- Lameness with reluctance to move
- Great increase in body temperature for two to three days
- Other indicators include: Abortions, low milk production in dairy cows, and heart disease and death in newborn animals
- It will take many months for animals to regain weight lost during the illness, and recovered animals suffer lower milk production, conception rates and rates of gain.



Teat lesion



Tongue Lesions

HOW IS FMD SPREAD?

FMD is an infectious and highly contagious viral disease that is spread by aerosol, sometimes at a distance of several miles. The virus can also exist for several days on metal, cloth or other surfaces or in organic matter including manure. FMD is commonly introduced through the movement of infected livestock or manure, or contaminated equipment / vehicles / clothing.

HOW IS FMD CONTROLLED OR ERADICATED?

FMD is difficult to control or eradicate, other than by slaughter of the affected and exposed animals. Vaccines may be used to slow the spread, but vaccinated animals are ineligible for export.

WHY IS FMD A CONCERN?

FMD is not a disease of concern to humans.

Although animals may recover from FMD, international borders are closed to countries that are not free of FMD. Were FMD to occur in Canada, the loss of international markets would result in a significant market interruption resulting in a sector-wide emergency for several years.

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)

DESCRIPTION & SYMPTOMS

A slow developing prion disease. Cattle with BSE may not show any signs of the disease for up to three to six years after they have been exposed to BSE prions. Since the average time between an animal's infection with the prion and the onset of clinical signs normally ranges from four to five years, clinical signs of BSE are found in adult animals. Symptoms may last for a period of two to six months before the animal dies.

Animals with BSE may demonstrate some of the following symptoms:

- nervous or aggressive behavior;
- depression;
- hypersensitive to sound and touch, twitching, tremors;
- abnormal posture;
- lack of co-ordination and difficulty in rising from a lying position;
- weight loss, or decreased milk production.

HOW IS BSE SPREAD?

BSE is not a contagious disease and is slow moving. It is spread through consumption of feed that is contaminated with infectious material.

HOW IS BSE CONTROLLED / ERADICATED?

BSE typically exists in live animals for a long period, before it is evident. There is no test for the disease in live animals. Accordingly it is difficult to control or eradicate, other than by slaughter of the affected animals and cohorts that also consumed infected feed.

WHY IS BSE A CONCERN?

BSE is a human health concern, although the disease itself is not found in humans.

The disease results in the death of affected animals, and depopulation or slaughter of any / all animals thought to have consumed infected feed. International borders are closed to countries that do not demonstrate adequate controls relative to BSE.



Struggling to stand

Bovine Tuberculosis (BTb)

DESCRIPTION & SYMPTOMS

BTb usually has a prolonged course, and symptoms take months or years to appear. The usual clinical signs include:

- weakness
- loss of appetite
- weight-loss
- fluctuating fever
- intermittent hacking cough
- diarrhea
- large prominent lymph nodes

However, the bacteria can also lie dormant in the host without causing disease.

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

The disease is typically spread by aerosol from diseased animals to other comingled animals. Alternately it may also be spread from diseased animals to others who subsequently share their bedding and feed grounds.

HOW IS BTB CONTROLLED / ERADICATED?

BTb is a persistent disease that is difficult to control or eradicate from any herd. As well, it can exist in a latent state for months or years, making eradication difficult.

Canada has employed a 'test and slaughter' approach to BTb confirmation in domestic cattle. Confirmation of BTb in any herd would likely result in extensive testing for several years with all animals being slaughtered.

WHY IS BTB A CONCERN?

BTb is different from the disease in humans, however it is still a human health concern.

Canada has neared the disease-free status for BTb in domestic cattle. However the disease exists at a very low level in a very few and isolated wildlife populations, e.g. Riding Mountain National Park (elk) and Wood Buffalo National Park (buffalo). Occasional interaction results in a very occasional and very limited number of cases in domestic cattle that have to date been at a level recognized by our trading partners as disease-free.



Lung lesions

Additional cases and the potential loss of disease-free status for BTb in cattle, would result in significant and costly testing requirements for international trade and for the population at risk.

Rift Valley Fever (RFV)

Given recent rapid spread of African Swine Fever across Asia, Rift Valley Fever has been mentioned as a disease whose locale could shift, much as has been observed with the shift of some other diseases such as Bluetongue Virus northward into various parts of Europe.

DESCRIPTION & SYMPTOMS

RFV is a virus, evident in young calves that develop a fever, become weak and die very suddenly. The mortality rate in young animals is very high, and higher than in adults. Adult cattle may have nasal discharge, excess salivation, and loss of appetite, weakness, or diarrhea.

Adults (moderately susceptible):

- may be low-grade or acute infection
- fever lasting 24–96 hours
- dry and/or dull coat
- lachrymation, nasal discharge and excessive salivation
- anorexia
- weakness
- bloody / fetid diarrhea
- fall in milk yield
- abortion rate may reach 85% in the herd

HOW IS RFV SPREAD?

RFV is spread by infected midges, similar to other diseases such as Bluetongue

WHY IS RFV A CONCERN?

Migration of other diseases northward with changing climates, has resulted in speculation that the presence of RFV might at some time be confirmed off the continent. Confirmation in Canada, would initially result in border closures from the international community and the U.S.

Calves (highly susceptible)

- fever (40–41°C)
- inappetence
- weakness and depression
- bloody or fetid diarrhea
- more icterus than in lambs

SCHEDULE 4. VISITOR LOG & RISK ASSESSMENT

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ool tours	Animal Contact? (Y / N)					
ORDED onals, sch	Entered Production Area? (Y / N)					
ARE RECC and professi ly, etc.)	Previous livestock/farm contact? (Y / N)					
Rentries /	Comments					
/ISITOR he operati n, e.g. ser ner/opera	License Plate No.					
ES, ALL vof entering the permission ersonnel (ow	Contact Number					
SECURITY PURPOSES rded at the earliest point of e de all people entering with p visitors, etc. Excludes perso	Company					
	Name					
FOR BIOS Entry is reco Visitors inclu international	Date					

Biosecurity Risk Assessment Guide

Feedlot Name: _____ PID #: _____

RISK	CRITERIA	DESCIPTION & COMMENTS	BIOSECURITY REQUIREMENTS
Low	 Within the past 14 days has: No livestock contact; One or no visits to livestock operations 	 Come from urban areas and/or do not contact livestock These visitors represent a very low risk of introducing disease 	None, other than to record visits
Moderate	 Neighbouring (fence-line) livestock operator; or within the past 14 days has: had livestock contact at one operation, or has visited more than one livestock operation 	 Travel from or are transported from farm to farm, but do not enter the Production Area or come into direct contact with livestock or manure These visitors represent a moderate risk or introducing disease Example: Rig service personnel, although they may be entering the Production Area, are rarely coming into contact with livestock manure 	 Minimize access to Production Area Prevent all but essential contact to cattle Before access is permitted, ensure clean footwear/ clothing/tires/surfaces, all visibly clean of organic matter
High	 Other livestock operator (including employee); or Within the past 14 days has livestock contacts at multiple operations; or Persons from other Countries where reportable diseases are a concern; or Handles sick or segregation animals at this or other operations 	 Travel from or are transported from farm to farm, entering the Production Area and having direct contact with livestock or manure. Producers must apply biosecurity practices relative to these visitors These visitors represent a high risk of introducing a disease Example 1: Veterinary and Livestock Inspection professionals who enter the Production Area and generally come into direct contact with livestock manure Example 2: Custom manure cleaning operators and equipment that may transport manure from one Production Area to another Example 3: Personnel who work with livestock at their own or another operation Example 4: Personnel working with animals in the Segregation or Sick facility 	 Prevent all but essential access to the Production Area or contact with cattle Before access or contact is permitted, ensure: tires/surfaces are visibly clean of organic matter; preferably, the person wears clothing & footwear dedicated to the operation, or wears fresh coveralls or clean clothing and disinfects footwear; disinfects off-farm equipment or tools contacting livestock, or provide site specific tools.



