

# The Poultry Post

A P R I L 2 0 0 9

F A R M B I O S E C U R I T Y

Farm biosecurity means doing everything possible to protect your poultry and livestock. The goal is to reduce the chances of infectious disease being brought onto your farm and also moved off your farm. Diseases can be carried onto your farm by people, animals, insects, vehicles, or farm equipment.

Recent events in avian flu and swine flu should prompt all farmers to review and enhance their biosecurity practices. An outbreak of one of these diseases would not only damage your economic situation but could impact the United States domestic poultry and livestock industries.

Some of the greatest risks to your farm are non-commercial birds, farm visitors, and unsanitary farm equipment or manure. There are six common sense biosecurity measures that USDA Animal and Plant Inspection Service recommends all growers can follow to prevent or minimize the likelihood of an outbreak:

1. **Keep your distance**-restrict access in and out of your farm
2. **Keep it Clean**-wear clean clothes, scrub shoes, and wash hands before entrance to poultry houses
3. **Don't Haul Disease Home**-wash vehicles and clothing after visiting feed stores, restaurants ect, or friends with birds
4. **Don't Borrow Disease**-don't share farm equipment!
5. **Know the Warning Signs**-increase in mortality, sneezing, coughing, poor appetite, drop in egg production, swelling around the eyes, neck, and head, discoloration of wattles, or tremors
6. **Report Sick Birds Immediately** –to company personnel or local State Veterinarian

## Farm Biosecurity Tips

- Keep all household pets out of poultry houses
- Monitor rodent control programs regularly
- Disinfect all equipment going in and out of houses
- Designate one pair of shoes to wear in the poultry houses
- Shower and change clothes and shoes before going to public places
- Properly dispose of dead birds
- Avoid contact with wild birds, waterfowl, backyard flocks and live bird markets
- Keep a log of all vehicles in and out of farm



### THE POULTRY POST

Second Quarter

April 2009

Contact: Johnnie Whitmire  
Assistant Extension Agent—  
Poultry Research Project Leader  
Hill Farm Research Station  
11959 Hwy 9  
Homer, LA 71040

Phone: 318-927-2578

Fax: 318-927-4139

E-mail: [jwhitmire@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:jwhitmire@agcenter.lsu.edu)

VISIT OUR WEB SITE  
[WWW.LSUAGCENTER.COM](http://WWW.LSUAGCENTER.COM)

Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  
William B. Richardson, Chancellor  
Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station  
David Boethel, Vice Chancellor and Director  
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service  
Paul D. Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director  
Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work,  
Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the  
United States Department of Agriculture.

The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service provides equal  
opportunities in programs and employment.