

Large Animal Ambulatory Protocols

Arriving at the Farm Protocol

The following are the suggested general protocols upon arrival at the farm:

1. Know and respect your client's bio-security expectations. Train staff to inquire when appointment is booked.
2. Shower in - out if one is available and is the farmer's protocol.
3. Pens and other inexpensive equipment can be taken into and left on the farm.
4. On cattle farms they often do not have the equipment needed. (i.e. ropes, calving equipment). Try to keep them "clean".
5. Ensure equipment required at the farm is clean before leaving vehicle.
6. Inform the farmer of your arrival.

Entering the Barn Protocol

When entering the barn, follow these suggested protocols as well as the farm's biosecurity protocols:

1. Sign time and date producer's logbook if they have one.
2. Clean hands thoroughly with hand sanitizer or sanitizer soap.
3. Change into any boots, coveralls or gloves that the producer provides.
4. Hang raincoat or winter coat in non livestock area.
5. If a Foreign Animal Disease or serious endemic or zoonotic disease is suspected, consider using disposable gloves, Tyvek coveralls, hair-cover and a mask from your emergency kit.
6. Take only the required equipment, sampling kits, recording devices into the barn.
7. Consider protective coverings that are left on the farm for equipment that must be in the livestock area - e.g. ultrasound equipment.
8. Look for a clean, dry and elevated area to place medical equipment and cases.
9. If a return to the vehicle is necessary, do not enter the vehicle with your boots on and ensure that, when re-entering the animal facilities, your clothing and boots are clean.

Examining the Animals or Birds Protocol

- When possible, plan your examinations from youngest to oldest or healthiest to sickest.
- Isolate used equipment from the "clean" equipment.
- If ropes are required, use the farmer's ropes if they are suitable.

- ☑ Encourage producers to have their own equipment such as ropes, calf pullers, hog snares, etc.

Leaving the Barn and the Farm Protocol

When preparing to leave:

1. Knock off any visible debris from attire or equipment
2. Using the nearby water supply, clean attire and equipment
3. Wash and sanitize cleanable equipment and replace in vehicle
4. Place non-cleanable equipment in dirty area of vehicle
5. Clean non-washable equipment such as laptops, clipboards, blackberries, etc. with disinfectant wipes
6. Remove coveralls, gloves and any other PPE
7. Clean scrub brush in pail of water and spray with disinfectant or sanitizer soap
8. Clean and disinfect exterior of test kits. Place samples (vials, tissues) in a clean outer jacket
9. Obtain a pail of water for final cleaning of boots; remove boots before entering truck
10. Wash hands thoroughly in hand sanitizer
11. Keep the inside of the vehicle as a clean zone and the trunk or back as the dirty zone
12. Drive slowly and avoid visible debris
13. When returning to your veterinary facility, follow the Return to Clinic Protocol.