



Managing the entry of people

In managing the risk of people bringing disease-causing micro-organisms on to your farm, first and foremost let me make some obvious points:

- Only let people on to your farm whose presence is essential.
- Only let people have physical contact with your poultry if it is essential.
- Maximise time between poultry contacts.

The procedure for letting people on to your farm will vary depending on what you have at risk. For example, a small unit with a poor disease history will have different requirements than a large breeder unit high up the breeding pyramid.

For a visitor to the latter, the stages would include the following:

- Gain head office approval for named individuals to enter the farm.
- On arrival get a visitor to sign a declaration form. This must include the statement that they have not been on a farm or with poultry for three or five days and must include details of the last farm(s) visited. This form should also include a health declaration that states they are free from diarrhoea and/or vomiting.
- Enter external changing room and remove clothes. Proceed to shower and ensure they can take nothing with them.
- Take shower and follow instructions that highlight key points, such as paying special attention to hair and under the fingernails.
- Leave shower, dry off and go to an internal changing room. Here, company-provided clothing should be put on.
- Put alcohol gel or hand sanitiser on to hands.
- Put on boots and exit the facility.

Notes:

- Make showering a pleasant experience so the visitor wants to shower and not try to go through as quickly as possible. Keep the facility at a sensible temperature – nobody enjoys showering in a freezing environment.
- Keep the facility clean and dry.
- Have plenty of hot water and clean towels.
- Shower in during the company's time and shower out in their own time.

Obviously, a similar procedure will also apply to staff.

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