Core Fundamentals for Poultry Biosecurity

A few reminders to consider*:

**Limit Traffic** –

- Only approved people cleared for entry to farm (log visitors).
- Limit contact with birds at other locations. This includes direct or indirect contact with live bird markets.
- Secure entry points to housing (locks if necessary).
- Ensure vermin controls are in place and maintained. Make houses bird-proof.
- Stay in houses only as long as needed to carry out the task at hand to reduce exposure.
- Limit accessibility to the farm location (a gate away from the farm buildings).

**Maintain Proper Sanitation**–

- Use all-in all out flock movement (if possible).
- Use footbaths and change / replenish them daily to reduce organic matter.
- Full suit-up for all visitors to poultry farms. At very minimum wear appropriate foot covers
- Wash-down / disinfect vehicles or equipment entering the facilities.
- Clean and disinfect entire house upon depopulation.
- Use “downtime” as a sanitizer for housing.
- Use appropriate sanitizer compound for conditions and material to be sanitized.
- Shower / clean clothes after visit to other poultry facility or meeting prior to entering a poultry house.
- Properly and promptly dispose of mortality.
- Properly handle manure. Consider your neighbor’s flocks’ biosecurity when spreading / handling manure.

**Maintain Bird Health Surveillance**–

- Vaccinate for protection of known viral diseases in the area.
- Necropsy a sample of bird mortality for signs of disease.
- Maintain blood sampling program for viral profiling of appropriate diseases.
- Send proper samples of birds and tissues to a nearby diagnostic laboratory at the onset of significant disease signs.

*Adapted from “Biosecurity for Poultry: Penn State Extension Circular #350”. Compiled by Dr. Gregory P. Martin, Capital Region Poultry Extension Agent  gpm10@psu.edu http://www.personal.psu.edu/gpm10/