

# Dairy Farm Security Fact Sheet

The safety and security of the milk supply is of the utmost importance to America's dairy farmers and dairy foods companies. Since the events of Sept. 11, the dairy industry has been working closely with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other government departments to further safeguard the milk supply from a variety of possible threats.

On dairy farms, farmers closely monitor their herds to ensure each animal's health and well-being. Many have implemented the industry's recommended measures for security (physical protection of people, animals, equipment, and property) and biosecurity (protection of people and animals against the introduction and spread of disease and toxins). These measures include:

## **Milk**

- Sealing and locking milk storage tanks

## **Animal Health**

- Maintaining a healthy herd through proper feeding, housing and veterinary care
- Quarantining new animals before they are introduced or exposed to other animals in the herd
- Purchasing replacement animals from healthy herds or maintaining a "closed" herd (all cows are born and raised on the farm; no additional cows are purchased from outside)

## **Buildings and Grounds**

- Having a combined entrance and exit for the farm with the farm name and contact number posted
- Maintaining fences, gates, security lighting and alarms and posting "No Trespassing" signs
- Restricting access to areas where milk, feed, farm chemicals and animal health products are stored
- Requiring visitors to park on paved or hard-surfaced areas away from production and animal-handling sites
- Keeping records of visitors and deliveries

## **Human Resources**

- Carefully screening job applicants, including conducting background checks

## **Additional Precautions**

- Working with local law enforcement and employees to create a crisis response plan
- Banning visitors who have been outside the continental United States within the past two weeks.
- Providing disinfectant and appropriate disposable footwear for visitors.
- Requiring livestock haulers to clean and disinfect vehicles before hauling livestock or feed to and from the operations.

**For more information, contact National Milk Producers Federation ([www.nmpf.org](http://www.nmpf.org)) or Dairy Management, Inc. ([www.dairycheckoff.com](http://www.dairycheckoff.com)).**