

Processor: Secure Milk Supply (SMS) Plan Permitting Guidance for Managed Movement of Raw Milk

Target Audience: Milk Processor

Background:

Controlling movements is critical to prevent the spread of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) from infected premises to non-infected premises. Movement control is accomplished through a permitting process, which allows products to move without creating an unacceptable risk of disease spread. It is the role of the responsible regulatory officials to determine what an acceptable level of risk is and what conditions are required to allow permitting. For dairy premises located within the Control Area during an FMD outbreak, permits may be required to move raw milk from operations meeting the monitored premises criteria to processing plants.

Although not directly permitted, dairy processing plants have a unique role in preventing and controlling spread of an infectious livestock disease such as FMD. Vehicles, people and equipment are able to carry and spread disease between locations. Due to the large amount of vehicle and people traffic from different farms, processing plants could represent a significant risk for spreading disease between premises unless biosecurity protocols are in place.

Objective: This guidance document is designed to help dairy processing facilities prepare to comply with permitting guidelines for the movement of raw milk from dairy premises within a Control Area during an FMD outbreak.

Abbreviations:

- BPS = Biosecurity Performance Standards
- C&D = Cleaning and Disinfection
- SOP= Standard Operating Procedure
- Susceptible animals include= cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, deer, buffalo, etc

Milk Processing Plant Components:

- Federal Premises ID (PIN)
- Facility
 - Traffic patterns on plant premises are followed, including records of all vehicle and personnel movements into and out of facility
 - Controlled access to facility unloading bay
 - C&D station(s) in place with waste water management (if necessary)
- Personnel follow procedures to prevent spread of possibly contaminated materials (eg mud, manure or raw milk) from susceptible species
- Vehicles (raw milk tankers)
 - Personnel inspect tanker for leakage upon entry & approve off-loading prior to hauler/driver exiting cab
 - All milk leakage is addressed immediately & the source is resolved prior to additional milk pickups
 - Prevent raw milk spillage on outside of the tanker when sampling (collection bucket should be available)
 - Avoid residual milk leaks from tanker after off-loading upon exiting processing plant
 - All milk spills during off-loading of milk are addressed immediately
 - C&D process in place to ensure that tankers leave processing plant with clean exterior
- Processor follows Grade A standards for processing milk or any additional guidelines put in place by the responsible regulatory officials

Processor: Secure Milk Supply (SMS) Plan Permitting Guidance for Managed Movement of Raw Milk

Processing Plant to Create:

- SOPs for personnel that contact susceptible species to avoid transporting any contaminated material (mud, manure, etc) to /from plant grounds on their vehicles or clothing
- SOPs to prevent raw milk on clothing and footwear of plant personnel from leaving the designated raw milk handling areas of the plant
- SOPs for controlled access for the unloading bay
- SOPs for milk tanker C&D with wastewater plan (if necessary)
- SOPs for milk tanker inspection upon arrival to processing plant for leakage
- SOPs for handling any milk leakage or spillage during milk unloading & avoid cross-contamination of other vehicles, people, or equipment
- SOPs to ensure no residual milk in tanker and hose leaks upon tanker exit after off-loading milk
- The ability to communicate with milk haulers, dairy premises and responsible regulatory officials
 - Agreement/documentation to dairy producers that plant procedures and biosecurity in place and acceptable to responsible regulatory officials

The above may need SOPs, additional training or education plans to fully implement. The processing facility should also consider how to monitor that procedures are correctly followed.

This document is 1 of 4 guidance documents developed for managed milk movement. The other three include: Regulatory Permit Guidance, Dairy Producer Guidance, and Milk Hauler Guidance. These guidance documents are meant to be utilized together to allow for response planning, education and outreach and to provide stakeholders clear direction on steps to allow permitting under the national Secure Milk Supply plan.

For more detailed information on Risk Assessments and Biosecurity Performance Standards users of this permitting guidance should refer to the SMS website at www.securemilksupply.org

Acknowledgements

This “Secure Milk Supply (SMS) Plan Permitting Guidance for Managed Milk Movement” documents are an outcome of a proactive risk assessment process that includes input State Animal Health Officials, USDA APHIS, academic partners, and representatives from the dairy industry, and was developed by the University of Minnesota (UMN) College of Veterinary Medicine. Funding was provided by USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Services, National Preparedness Incident Coordination Center.

Comments

Please send comments or suggested edits for improvement to: umnsecurefood@umn.edu