Active Observational Surveillance (AOS) for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)

Examination Checklist

If one or more animals has abnormal findings, they should be looked at more closely by the producer and/or the herd veterinarian. Some of the clinical signs observed with FMD are expected to occur with a certain frequency in a dairy operation due to a variety of causes other than FMD. However, early recognition of an FMD concern is important to the health of the cattle on your dairy and neighboring operations.

- **Temperature** – check for fever (103 – 106°F)
- **Eyes** – look for dullness, sunken
- **Nose** – look for discharge
- **Mouth** – look for drooling or dropping food or lack of eating or drinking
  - If seen, examine the tongue and cheeks for vesicles or erosions; smacking of lips and teeth grinding
- **Feet** – look for signs of lameness
  - If seen, look between toes, around coronary band for changes (pale white, redness, or vesicles/blisters)
- **Abdomen** – look for gut fill (not eating)
- **Udder** – look for decreased udder fill (decreased production) or signs of mastitis
  - If seen, look for vesicles/blisters on the teats