

# Farmgate biosecurity – vehicles

**Anything that is contaminated with even a tiny amount of PEDv-infected pig faeces can be a source of infection for other pigs.**

There are two aims:

1. To prevent PEDv from entering a unit
2. To prevent PEDv from leaving a unit where there is a confirmed breakdown.

## Vehicles

- Ideally no vehicle should enter the farm and there should be provision at the perimeter for:
  - Lairage and loading/unloading pigs
  - Feed bins or farm owned blower pipes
  - Deadstock storage and collection
  - Off-site deliveries eg semen, medicines, sundries, bedding
  - Signposted parking areas for staff and visitors (including vets and contractors)
- The areas outside the perimeter should be hard-surfaced and well-draining and regularly swept clean and disinfected
- All vehicles, even those left at the perimeter, should arrive clean of manure and organic material, including foot wells
- Clear signage should be displayed to instruct drivers, including a telephone contact number for the farm.

## Farm considerations for vehicles requiring access to the farm

- There may occasionally be vehicles which do require essential access to the farm eg slurry/muck collection, feed lorries, maintenance teams, etc
- Ideally there should be separate entrance and exit route away from the pigs and usual farm traffic
- There should be closed gates with clear signage at each entrance to prevent unwanted entry
- At (or near) the gate there should be:
  - A contact number for farm staff
  - Adequate fresh disinfectant (correctly diluted) along with a means of delivery (eg knapsack sprayer)
  - A fresh covered disinfectant foot dip and boot brush
  - A supply of clean, disinfected and suitable overalls (ideally wrapped disposable) and boots for visitors
  - The visitors' book.



### Vehicle considerations

- The vehicle should not arrive unannounced, plan for your visit with farm staff
- The vehicle and driver must not have had contact with PEDv-positive or ‘high risk’ pigs in the 48 hours before arrival
- The vehicle must arrive at the farm appropriately cleaned and disinfected (see **SOP 7**)
- This includes the cab of the vehicle, ensuring the floor, pedals, steering wheel, gear stick, door handles, etc have all been cleaned and disinfected using either disinfectant wipes, or a cloth with dilute disinfectant
- All equipment required eg blower pipes, maintenance kit, etc must be thoroughly cleaned, be free of any organic material and disinfected before entering the farm
- The driver should be equipped with:
  - Plentiful supply of disposable boot covers and gloves
  - Bin bags to dispose of used boot covers, gloves etc
  - Hand sanitiser
  - Disinfectant wipes
  - Adequate clean, disinfected protective clothing and boots (in case not supplied by farm)
  - Facilities to clean and disinfect protective clothing and boots and other equipment that might be used
- Mud acquired during the journey should be removed as best as possible once off the main road.

### On arrival at farm gate

- The driver must contact farm staff before entry so that they can be advised of:
  - The biosecurity protocol
  - The route they must follow
  - The line of separation (see **SOP 6**)
- Once staff are aware of the vehicle, the driver should wear disposable boot covers to get out and disinfect the wheels and wheel arches
- Farm staff should check (without entering the vehicle) that it is suitably clean. If not entirely satisfied they should refuse entry as it could pose a significant risk of infection to the site
- Farm staff who have passed outside the unit perimeter should remember to re-enter the farm again via the appropriate method, ideally the Danish/Bench Entry (see **SOP 4**) or at the very least cleaning and disinfecting boots and washing hands.

### Driver/operator (visitor)

- Ideally the driver should not exit the vehicle, but this is rarely possible
- They should be considered as visitors and must also respect the ‘pig freedom’ specification made by the farm (see **SOP 4**)
- They must sign the visitors book
- They must not cross the line of separation
- They must not have any contact with pigs.

### Steps to avoid contamination

#### Drivers of vehicles should try to prevent:

- Contamination of the farm by the vehicle
- Contamination of the vehicle by the farm.

1. At perimeter, put on disposable boot covers to leave vehicle
2. Change into clean and disinfected boots and overalls (ideally disposable) provided by the farm, taking care not to contaminate normal clothing and footwear
3. Wash hands or use hand sanitiser
4. Sign visitors book
5. New disposable boot covers should be worn on re-entering the vehicle to prevent contamination, and then drive as directed by farm staff
6. Once in position, remove boot covers as leaving cab, and place in bin bag in cab
7. Ensure that any equipment required eg blower pipes, maintenance kit, etc. is thoroughly clean, free of any organic material and disinfected before use
8. Once used, equipment should be cleaned and disinfected before returning to the vehicle
9. Once the task is completed, to prevent contamination of the cab, new disposable boot covers and gloves should be worn again to re-enter the vehicle and return to the perimeter. If overalls are soiled or have come into contact with any surfaces they should be removed before re-entering vehicle
10. At perimeter, remove gloves and boot covers when leaving the vehicle and place in bin bag in cab
11. Wash down wheels and arches and re-apply disinfectant
12. Brush and disinfect farm boots
13. Remove protective clothing and footwear supplied by farm and leave as directed
14. Sign out (as required)
15. Wash hands or use hand sanitiser
16. For the last time use boot covers to walk back to the vehicle, remove as entering, placing them in the bin bag in the cab and seal the bin bag with a knot for disposal later
17. Leave the farm
18. Ensure the vehicle is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected again before heading to another pig farm.

An alternative to boot covers would be disposable floor mats, but extra attention needs to be paid to cleaning and disinfecting the foot pedals.

As all farms are different it is important you work with your vet to establish a protocol which works for you. Although this document is written for PEDv, it highlights good biosecurity practise which is relevant for the control of all pig diseases.

For additional information please refer to:

<b>SOP 4</b>	Farmgate biosecurity – people (including visitors)
<b>SOP 6</b>	Line of separation and loading pigs
<b>SOP 7</b>	Cleaning and disinfection of vehicles
<b>SOP 10</b>	Controlled movements from infected sites
<b>SOP 12</b>	Manure management
<b>SOP 13</b>	Fallen stock