

What's at Stake?

The health and well-being of Washington state's livestock and Washington state's economy are at stake! In 2009:

- ◆ Livestock value of production totaled \$1.3 billion.
- ◆ Washington's No. 2 agricultural commodity was dairy products, which generated \$684 million—the tenth highest value ranking in the nation for these products.
- ◆ Washington had 1.1 million head of cattle and calves, worth an estimated \$1.1 billion. Their value of production was \$473 million, making them Washington's No. 5 ranking agricultural commodity.
- ◆ Washington's poultry industry generated \$168 million, counting fryers and egg layers.
- ◆ Washington export sales of livestock commodities generated several hundred million dollars in revenue.

Disease or pest outbreaks could bring Washington's livestock industry to a halt. States and countries will prohibit or restrict the movement of animals and animal products. Millions of dollars can be lost overnight from livestock losses, costs of fighting the disease, and restricted trade opportunities.

Meeting the challenge of preventing and/or eliminating foreign animal disease outbreaks requires the unified effort of WSDA, USDA-Veterinary Services, and industry professionals, as well as people in livestock allied industries. Everyone plays a role in protecting livestock health!

Strategically Located to Serve Eastern and Western Washington

Animal Health field offices and laboratories are strategically located throughout the state to serve the livestock and poultry industries of Washington. WADDL has laboratories in Pullman and Puyallup. WSDA has a laboratory in Tumwater. Access to laboratory services can be obtained by contacting your local veterinarian or animal health official.

To learn more contact:

**Emergency Disease Planning
Washington State Department of Agriculture
Animal Health Program
1111 Washington Street, 2nd Floor
PO Box 42577
Olympia WA 98504-2577
(360) 902-1878
<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/ahealth@agr.wa.gov>**

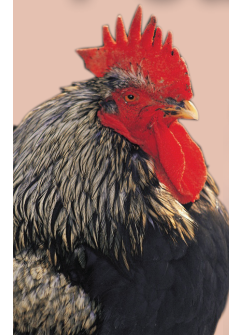


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Do you need this publication in an alternate format? Contact the WSDA receptionist at (360) 902-1976 or TTY Relay (800) 833-6388.

WSDA thanks the Texas Animal Health Commission and the California Department of Food and Agriculture for ideas used in the design of this publication.

Protecting the **Health** of Washington **Poultry** & **Livestock**



Watching for outward symptoms is an important step in maintaining disease-free herds and flocks. Foot-and-mouth disease may begin with subtle signs of excessive salivation. During the 1920s foot-and-mouth disease outbreaks, 953 cattle herds totaling 113,446 animals were lost to this devastating disease...

Will Washington be prepared to recognize and respond to another foreign animal disease outbreak?

**Washington State Department of Agriculture
Animal Services Division
Animal Health Program
Emergency Disease Planning**

Is Washington State Ready for a Livestock Foreign Animal Disease or Pest Outbreak?

Yes! With YOUR help.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are preparing **in advance** to prevent and respond to the introduction of a foreign animal disease, or the invasion of a dangerous tick or other pest. District-based teams of veterinarians, livestock inspectors, and animal health technicians are ready and capable of responding to an outbreak. These teams depend on **you** to watch for and report potential signs of diseases and pests in livestock.

Your help is needed to protect Washington from a foreign animal disease outbreak. As a producer, private veterinary practitioner, livestock market or feedlot operator, or animal owner, **you** are the front-line defense for spotting and reporting possible signs of disease or pests! **You** are the most important component in Washington's Emergency Disease Surveillance program.

The keys to protecting Washington's livestock industry are:

 **Prevention**

 **Recognition**

 **Reporting**

 **Response**

Prevention

The U.S. and Washington state programs closely monitor and regulate the movement of livestock across its borders. Despite these efforts to prevent the introduction of disease and pests and to ensure the importation of only healthy livestock, the risk is always present. More than 45 million people travel internationally each year, with more than two million entering Washington. Viruses, bacteria, and pests do not respect borders and are capable of "hitching a ride" into Washington on imported animals and travelers' clothing, bodies, and possessions. The illegal smuggling of animal food products also poses serious risk to Washington animal agriculture.

Recognition

Early recognition of foreign animal disease is the key to containing an outbreak.

Potential Signs of Foreign Animal Disease

1. Sudden, unexplained death loss in the herd or flock.
2. Severe illness affecting a high percentage of the animals in a herd, flock, or region.
3. Blistering around an animal's mouth, nose, teats, or hooves.
4. Unusual ticks or maggots.
5. Staggering, falling, or other central nervous system disorders.

Reporting

If you recognize signs of foreign animal disease, report them immediately!

1. **Call your veterinarian first.**
2. **Call the WSDA Animal Health Program:**
Headquarters(360) 902-1878
Dr. Jeff Howlett - NW WA(360) 966-3091
Dr. Jerry Pospisil - SW WA...(360) 725-5655
Dr. Ben Smith - E WA.....(509) 350-0081
Dr. Dana Dobbs - C WA(509) 607-4974
Dr. Lyndon Badcoe - Avian...(360) 507-6219
3. **Call the USDA Veterinary Services at: (360) 753-9430**

If you learn that illegal animals or animal food products are being smuggled into the state, report it to animal health officials (you may remain anonymous). By reporting, you help protect Washington livestock from the threat of animal disease.

Response

- Immediate response is crucial. The first 24 hours are the most important in stopping the spread of a disease or pest.
- Animal Health officials may waive laboratory fees for services needed to investigate possible foreign animal diseases or pests, so there is no cost to the producer. Specimens and samples will be shipped to the WSDA or federal laboratories.