

FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE (FAD) DECONTAMINATION

December 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE

This tab documents plans for decontaminating people, animals, vehicles, and equipment that have or may have been in contact with a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD).

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

1. Background. A major outbreak of FAD could cripple the State's agribusiness industry and those other businesses that depend on it. Export and production would decrease. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. And, if the disease spreads to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United States' ability to compete in the global marketplace.
2. Current. A FAD incident under investigation in North Carolina is classified by the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) State Veterinarian (SV) working with the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) as "High Suspicion" , "Intermediate Suspicion" or "Low Suspicion". Significant portions of the State's susceptible animal population can be threatened by diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. The SV will direct vehicles, equipment, materials, and some animals that have been in FAD infected areas to be decontaminated to help contain a disease outbreak.

B. ASSUMPTIONS

1. Owners of susceptible animals may have limited capability to decontaminate people, equipment, vehicles, materials, and non-susceptible animals that may have been in contact with a FAD on their premises.
2. The IMT Operations Section will be able to develop an effective and workable protocol for decontamination based on approved protocols from USDA.

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3. Local fire departments have limited decontamination capabilities, but may be able to provide assistance in a FAD incident.
4. When local resources are exhausted, the State will be able to provide decontamination assistance through the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) Logistics Section and the NC National Guard (NCNG). State resources for this activity are limited and may not be sufficient to handle a widespread outbreak.
5. The Federal Government will be able to provide decontamination assistance when local and state resources are exhausted. These Federal Government resources may be significantly challenged in multi-state FAD incidents.
6. Contracts with specialty contractors may be required to address decontamination activities for a widespread or long-term FAD incident.

III. MISSION

To decontaminate all persons, vehicles, equipment, material, and non-susceptible animals that have been in FAD infected areas such that biosecurity is maintained and the disease is prevented from spreading.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. ORGANIZATION

Decontamination will be accomplished on site under direction of the Biosecurity Officer according to general instruction from the IMT Operations Section. Decontamination teams may be from NCDA&CS, local fire departments, the NCNG, industry, contractor or a federal agency.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The SV is responsible for:
 - (a) Providing overall direction, identification of infected premises, containment, control, and remediation of North Carolina FAD incidents in coordination with USDA and the SERT Leader.

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- (b) Activating the Incident Management Team and Policy Group to manage a FAD outbreak event.
 - (c) Establishing effective FAD decontamination procedures and protocols in conjunction with IMT Operations.
 - (d) Supervising (through the Biosecurity Officer) decontamination activities on Infected Premises to ensure established procedures are followed.
2. The IMT will:
- (a) Coordinate the support activities by other State, Federal, and local agencies in support of the NCDA &CS's FAD response effort.
 - (b) Carry out the required regulatory management, procurement, finance, and documentation activities in support of the FAD response.
3. The Biosecurity Officer is responsible for directing decontamination activities and ensuring decontamination teams follow procedures to maintain bio-security and prevent the disease from spreading.
4. The IMT Operations Section is responsible for coordinating with local fire departments and emergency response organizations to arrange for decontamination teams. The Operations Section is also responsible for assigning decontamination teams to premises and providing decontamination protocols/guidelines.
5. Local fire departments are responsible to provide such manpower and equipment as resources allow serving as on-site decontamination teams.
6. The IMT Logistics Section is responsible for securing necessary equipment and personnel for decontamination efforts should the task be beyond local capabilities.
7. The animal production industry is expected to establish contingency contracts with their normal clean-up and decontamination contractors to be available to respond quickly in the event of a disease outbreak or other catastrophic event.

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V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

1. When ordered by the SV (or designees), the IMT Operations Section will coordinate with the designated Biosecurity Officers and Case Managers to provide resources to accomplish decontamination if the owner/operator cannot. If the owner/operator can provide decontamination, the Case Manager and Biosecurity Officer will work to develop a contract for such activities. Decontamination is to be accomplished according to instructions and protocols provided by the IMT, and under supervision of the Biosecurity Officer. Should the decontamination task exceed local capabilities, the SERT Logistics Section will arrange for additional decontamination teams. Should decontamination requirements exceed local and state capabilities, it will be necessary to request assistance from the federal government through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) or private decontamination contractors.
2. Decontamination will need to be performed in all zones to some degree. The degree of decontamination needed will depend on which zone the premises is located or if they have any know contacts with an infected premise. For example, close proximity to an infected premise may increase the risk of becoming infected and thus the need for more stringent decontamination protocols. The IMT Operations Section will establish protocols and procedures for each zone.

VI. References

- A. NC General Statute 166-A, North Carolina Emergency Management Act, as amended.
- B. NC General Statute 106 as amended, April 2001.