

## Secure Milk and Secure Beef Supply Plans- Role of the Veterinarian

### A.S. Leaflet R3237

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Veterinarians have a tremendous responsibility— and opportunity— to help their clients prepare for a potential foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak. While eradication of FMD, should it occur in the U.S., is the ultimate goal, the old approach to FMD response— massive depopulation— is no longer workable except in a small outbreak. The size, structure, efficiency and extensive movement in cattle production will likely require alternative response options to manage disease spread, such as vaccination and allowing animals to recover.

In an FMD outbreak, beef and dairy operations- regardless of their infection status- are likely to be subject to movement controls. Producers should be prepared to manage potential disruptions in animal and product movement.

The **Secure Milk Supply (SMS)** and **Secure Beef Supply (SBS)** Plans were established to help producers, and their veterinarians, prepare for and ultimately survive an FMD outbreak by providing guidance for cattle operations, even those with no evidence of FMD infection, to maintain animal and product movement. SMS and SBS are science- and risk-based business

continuity plans funded by the USDA and developed in collaboration with industry, including many AABP members, government officials, and veterinarians at Iowa State University, Kansas State University, University of Minnesota, and University of California-Davis. Poultry specific business continuity plans provided a valuable resource and mechanism for mitigating negative impacts to the poultry industry during the 2014-15 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza outbreaks. **The voluntary SMS and SBS Plans give veterinarians the tools they need to help their clients implement key business continuity strategies.** Using the resources provided in the SMS and SBS Plans, veterinarians can teach on-farm observers to recognize abnormal production parameters or clinical signs that may indicate early FMD infection and encourage them to promptly report concerns. Herd veterinarians are also a critical resource in educating on-farm biosecurity managers, helping them to determine their Line of Separation, or “LOS”, to keep disease off the operation, and developing whole-farm enhanced biosecurity plans based on the known exposure routes for FMD. To learn more about this important responsibility, and the opportunities available to assist your clients with business continuity planning, and for more information about the SMS and SBS Plans, and to find resources, visit [securemilksupply.org](http://securemilksupply.org) and [securebeef.org](http://securebeef.org).

“The planned response to an FMD outbreak is not what it used to be.”

## Secure Milk Supply Plan In the Event of a Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak



### What is the Secure Milk Supply (SMS) Plan?

- Provides a workable business continuity plan for dairies that are under movement restrictions but *not infected* with foot and mouth disease (FMD)
- Offers movement guidance for producers, haulers, processing plants, and officials managing the outbreak
- Provides biosecurity and surveillance tools for producers

Business Continuity

Biosecurity

### How will the U.S. respond to a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak?

- Response will focus on stopping the spread of this animal disease
- Control Areas will be set up around FMD infected and surrounding farms
- Movement restrictions will be put in place for animals and animal products (milk!) in Control Areas

Movement Guidance

Surveillance

### Why is the Secure Milk Supply Plan needed?

- Help dairies in Control Areas whose cattle have no signs of FMD continue to move milk
- Limit milk disposal problems and lost income for dairies, haulers, processors, and grocers
- Maintain the supply of milk and milk products to consumers because FMD is not a public health or food safety concern

### How can you voluntarily participate in the Secure Milk Supply Plan?

- Contact your State Animal Health Official to request a Premises Identification Number (PIN)
- Visit the Secure Milk Supply website [securemilksupply.org](http://securemilksupply.org)
- Develop your dairy's SMS Plan using the materials available in English and Spanish

