

Risk Assessment Tool for 4-H Project Animals

Risk Factors	Low Risk	✓	Moderate Risk	✓	High Risk	✓
ANIMAL						
Contact with other species (wild and domesticated)	Never or Seldom		Occasionally		Frequent	
Quarantine procedures for introduction of new animals	Quarantine procedures always used		Quarantine procedures sometimes used		Quarantine procedures never used	
Vaccinations	All recommended vaccinations		Some recommended vaccinations		No recommended vaccinations	
Vaccination Status	All current		Some current		None	
HUMAN						
Non-Owner Human Contact	Never or Seldom		Occasionally		Frequent	
Clothing	Protective clothing; only worn in barn; cleaned after each use		Protective clothing; only worn in the barn		No specific clothing when working with animals	
Footwear	Footwear only worn in barn; disinfected after each use		Footwear worn only in barn; cleaned after each use		No specific footwear; footwear not cleaned after each use	
Hand Washing	Always was hands before and after contact with animals		Occasionally wash hands before or after contact with animals		Rarely wash hands before or after contact with animals	
HOUSING & TOOLS						
Housing (same species)	Animal housed individually		Animal housed in small group		Animal housed in large group	
Bedding	Clean and dry		Soiled and/or damp		Foul and/or wet	
Vermin and Vector Control	No visible signs of vector or vermin		Some visible signs of vector and vermin		Many visible signs of vector and vermin	
Climate (heat, cold, moisture)	Minimal exposure to extremes		Sometimes exposed to extremes		Frequently exposed to extremes	
Air Flow	Adequate ventilation		Some ventilation		No ventilation	
Tools, Equipment, Vehicles	Cleaned & sanitized after each use		Cleaned sometimes		Rarely or never cleaned	
FOOD AND WATER						
Food Quality	Food is clean and fresh		Food is clean; not fresh		Food is moldy, dirty or spoiled	
Water Quality	Clean water; circulated		Clean water; standing		Dirty water	
Food and Water Access	Individual food and water		Shared food and water		Group food and water; many animals	
TRANSPORTATION						
Transportation Frequency	Rarely or never transported		Transported sometimes		Transported frequently	
Transportation with animals	Always transported alone		Only transported with animals from same farm		Transported with animals from different farms	

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Smith, et al. (2009). Understanding and Applying Bio-Security in 4-H Animal Science.

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