

JOB ROLE – ANIMAL HEALTH WORKER

Sector – Agriculture

(Qualification Pack Code: AGR/Q4804)

Class IX



PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education
Shyamla Hills, Bhopal – 462 013 , Madhya Pradesh, India

www.psscive.ac.in

UNIT 4: IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVENTIVE ANIMAL HEALTH CARE

Session 4: Bio-Security and Disposal of Farm Animals

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Session Objectives

The student will be able to :

- Explain Bio-security, culling and disposal of Farm Animals.

Introduction

Bio-security means the protection of farm animals against diseases and includes measures designed to protect the animal population against harmful biological or biochemical substances.

Bio-Security

Bio-security refers to various measures that are undertaken to stop the spread or introduction of harmful organisms to animals, human and plant life.

Bio-security measures to be followed in animal farms are:

- (i) Restricted access to livestock farm
- (ii) Provision of footbath
- (iii) Use of personal protective equipment (PPEs)

Bio-Security (contd...)

(i) *Restricted access to livestock farm:* A livestock farm is secured by fences or walls to avoid the unauthorized entry of any person. By providing fences and walls, entry of wild animals can also be checked.



Bio-Security (contd...)

(ii) *Provision of footbath*: A footbath of disinfectant like solution of phenol or slaked lime or solution of copper sulphate is kept at the entry and exit points of a farm gate to prevent the spread of pathogens in animals.



Bio-Security (contd...)

iii) *Use of personal protective equipment (PPEs)*: Animal health workers wear apron, gloves, mask, head mask and gumboots for their safety and security while handling the animals. They need to wash their hands with soap and sanitisers frequently.

Cleanliness Measures in an Animal Farm

- (i) Remove used bedding and waste materials regularly.
- (ii) Dry scrubbing and thorough cleaning of the floors and walls.
- (iii) Wet down the surfaces with detergent and water.
- (iv) Scrub and clean the area with fresh water.
- (v) Spray disinfectant (like phenol or bleaching powder) on the surface.

Cleanliness Measures in an Animal Farm (contd...)

- (vi) Clean the equipment, feed tubs and buckets with detergent and fresh water.
- (vii) In case of a disease outbreak, fumigate animal farm with formalin and potassium permanganate in the ratio of 2:1.
- (viii) Dispose waste like manure, feeds, debris, etc., either by burial or burning.

Culling and Disposal of Farm Animals

Culling:

Removal of undesirable animals from the herd.

Culling is an effective means of disease control in chronically diseased animals.

Some of the animals become undesirable due to various reasons like:

- (a) Poor production,
- (b) Poor reproductive ability or sterility,
- (c) Stunted growth,
- (d) Incurable illness,
- (e) Diseases like Tuberculosis, Johne's disease, Brucellosis, and
- (f) One or more quarters of the udder being non-functional due to chronic Mastitis.

Disposal of Animal Carcass

The dead body of an animal is called carcass.

An animal carcass is a source of infections, therefore its proper disposal is a regulatory requirement.

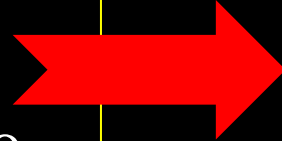


Fig. 1: Calf carcass after some moments of death

Disposal of Animal Carcass (contd...)

(a)Precautions for carcass disposal:

- (i) Wear personal protective equipment while handling the animal carcass.
- (ii) Avoid direct contact with the dead animal's blood, urine, faeces, etc.
- (iii) Avoid contact with the dead animal's parasites like lice, ticks, mites, etc.
- (iv) If a carcass for disposal is required to be transported then place it in a plastic body bag and seal it immediately.

Disposal of Animal Carcass (contd...)

Carcass disposal methods:

The following disposal methods can be adopted for the proper disposal of animal carcass:

- (i) Burial
- (ii) Burning
- (iii) Incineration

(i) **Burial:** Most commonly used method. In this method, animal carcasses are disposed in a deep pit, followed by covering it with layers of lime and soil.

Disposal of Animal Carcass (contd...)

(ii) Burning: Burning is a well-established procedure where wood or fire beds soaked in kerosene or diesel are kept around the animal carcass and ignited with fire.

Care is taken to keep away the vehicles and burning materials from the ignition point.

Disposal of Animal Carcass (contd...)

(iii) **Incineration:** In this method, animal carcasses are incinerated in an incinerator which is a fixed machine fuelled by natural gas or electricity.

The whole carcass is burned and reduced to ashes.

This method effectively inactivates the pathogens but is quite expensive.

Summary

- In this session you have learnt about Bio-security, culling and disposal of animal carcass .

Project Coordinator : Dr. Kuldeep Singh

Assistance

Dr. Preeti Dixit

Mr. Jeetendra



Joint Director

**PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education
Shyamla Hills, Bhopal – 462013 , Madhya Pradesh, India**

E-mail: jdpsscive@gmail.com

Tel. +91 755 2660691, 2704100, 2660391, 2660564

Fax +91 755 2660481

Website: www.psscive.ac.in