

# UPDATE – BIOSECURITY MANUAL REVIEW



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# Just because it's boring... Doesn't mean it's not important

## Why is biosecurity important?

Biosecurity protects the business, industry and consumers. But like any investment in 'insurance' it can be hard to quantify the benefits

## Why is having a biosecurity manual important?

- Guidance/reference as to what is considered good biosecurity practice, within practical constraints
- Evidence that a farmer is meeting their biosecurity duty/obligation - legal requirement
- Meets industry's obligations under the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement which is the cost-sharing arrangement between industry and Governments

# Where the chicken manual came from



## National **Farm Biosecurity** Manual **POULTRY PRODUCTION**



First edition 2009

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Federal Ag Dept

Animal Health  
Australia

Poultry industry  
representative  
organisations

State Government  
representatives



## National **Farm Biosecurity** Manual **FOR CHICKEN GROWERS**



First edition 2004

TIME TO REVIEW



# Why review now?

## Many things have happened since 2009:

- Structure and location of the industry
- RSPCA adoption
- 2012/13 avian influenza outbreaks in NSW
- Large increase in free range production
- Increase in the size of farms
- Extensive AI outbreaks overseas

## Plus requirements for EADRA signatories:

- Signatories must have a training materials for biosecurity
- Must be up to date

Ideally the manual wouldn't be > 5 years old

WHY IS IT TAKING SO  
LONG??



# Why is it taking so long?

Started March 2017...

...15 months later it's still being commented on...

## Why????!?

- Industry takes biosecurity more seriously now??
  1. **Inconsistencies** in the manual with current practice
  2. **Contradiction** throughout current version
  3. **Lack of detail:**
    - Pick-up / other contractors
    - Free range
    - Early action during an EAD

# 1. Inconsistencies with current practice





# Inconsistencies (being) resolved

- **What should be locked?**
  - Front gate?
  - All entrances?
  - Vehicle entrances only?
- **No other birds allowed on the property** (unless completely separate units)
- **Shed entry?**
  - Vehicle entry?
  - Personnel entry?
- Should be able to be disinfected
- **Must be rodent control**
- **People suffering from gastro (& flu?)**
- **People returning from overseas travel**
- **Feed not placed on the range**
- **Training in biosecurity (contractors)**

## 2. Contradiction in the manual



# Contradictions (being) resolved

- **One level of biosecurity**
  - + EAD procedures
  
- **What's the 'production area'?**
  - Biosecure zone?
  - Whole property?
  - Just where the sheds are?
  - Sheds+ vehicle entrances/passageways?
  
- **Who signs the Visitor's log?**
  
- **Farm specific footwear (& clothes??)**
  
- **Water standards?**
  - Supply to chickens?
  - Cooling?
  - Range irrigation?
  - Shed wash-down?
  - Chlorine? Other?
  
- **Quarantine requirements?**
  - The farmer?
  - Stock personnel?
  - Contractors?
  - Pick-up crews?
  - Other visitors?

# 3. Detail



# Adding more detail

- **Free range section**
  - Standalone section
  - Duplication of relevant recommendations from the general section + relevant range risks e.g. *'no feed on the range'* ; *'range drainage'*
  
- **Contractors and other visitors section**
  - Standalone section
  - Duplication of relevant recommendations from the general section
  - Appropriate risk management still being determined (replacing *'showering/changes etc'*)
  
- **Early EAD action**
  - If suspected on your property
  - If confirmed in your area
  
- **Additional sections being considered**
  - Appropriate rodenticide?
  - Biosecurity during pick-up?

PROCESS FROM HERE



# What happens next?

Once industry has agreed on a draft...

...Animal Health Australia coordinates review by all AHA members (Federal and state government; other animal industries that are signatories to the EADRA)...

...If all members approve the version, it is ratified...

...then put on [farmbiosecurity.com.au](http://farmbiosecurity.com.au) website (along with other notifications and relevant locations e.g. ACMF website).

Hopefully complete in 2018

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