

Biosecurity Protocol



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Biosecurity Protocol

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Document last reviewed – August 2025

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Notifiable Diseases of Importance UK July 2025

- Cattle**
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- Poultry**



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1. Key Areas of Consideration

It is important to be aware of the potential disease and biosecurity and associated risks which are detailed below

Risk Type	Examples
Livestock Disease Transmission	Bovine TB, avian flu, foot and mouth, bluetongue, swine fever (see appendix)
Zoonotic Disease Transmission	Salmonella, cryptosporidium, campylobacter, ringworm, E. coli
Soil Borne Pathogens	Phytophthora ramorum
Contamination of Feed and Water	Via tools, vehicles or boots
Stress or Injury to Livestock	Noise, drone use, human proximity
Disruption to assurance standards	Breach of Red Tractor status or specific assurance schemes or farm support schemes

2. Pre-Visit Requirements

This document supplements the standard expectations for surveys and access being undertaken on Green GEN Cymru projects.

Considerations with the Landowner Prior to Access

- Is the farm within a TB restricted area? This predominantly relates to the movement of cattle and livestock affected by TB but also changes disinfection requirements.



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- Wales is split into low, medium and high-risk areas, and we should try to determine the level of risk prior to attending the farm, and if the landowner requires any additional measures than those outlined within this document.

Areas can be found here: <https://www.gov.wales/wales-tb-regionalisation-map>

- Is the farm under any form of farm assurance scheme or alternative scheme. Be clear on any biosecurity measures required under these frameworks.
- The type of farming occurring on the farm should be considered both from a biosecurity and general health and safety perspective.
- Does the farm have any biosecurity zones? Disinfection points? Movement bans or restrictions. Where possible, be clear on the requirements of these classifications, and if further action is required prior to attending site.

Pre-Land and Property Inspection Protocol

Risk and route planning should be considered, to identify and avoid high risk areas where possible (this is most easily completed through active communication with the land and property owner where possible).

Consider avoiding the following areas unless necessary for surveys:

- Livestock handling areas including sheds, crushes and milking parlours
- Silage, hay or feed stores.
- Slurry storage and muck heaps.
- Poultry sheds or pigs units (especially during outbreaks of avian flu or swine flu/fever). To reduce any disturbance to livestock, aim to understand what activities are undertaken where on the holding, for example:
 - Fields & Sheds with active Lambing, calving & farrowing
 - Milking times
 - TB Testing

These detailed access arrangements (and understanding of activities) may not be possible in the context of access under a S.172 and a landowner refusing to engage, however, those accessing the land should complete reasonable desk-based checks prior to attending the site, as well as trying to discuss those noted during the period of engagement.



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3. On-Site Biosecurity Protocols

i. Clothing and Equipment

Item	Requirement
Clothing	Clean clothing. Weather appropriate.
Footwear	Disinfected wellington boots, or suitable non-permeable footwear No sandals, trainers or open shoes.
Tools and Equipment	Surveying or environmental tools must be cleaned and disinfected between sites and as required between areas on the same site.
Vehicles	Park in designated parking areas ideally outside of the main yard or buildings as identified before the visit and agreed with landowners where possible. If the survey requires entry into the farmyard prior engagement with the landowner is preferred where possible. Vehicles should be reasonably clean, and tyres disinfected. Care should be taken to disinfect vehicles after exit also.



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ii. Disinfection Procedures

Those entering farms or land must carry a DEFRA approved disinfectant either made up to the correct dilution or concentrated with water to dilute as required.

Disinfectant	Dilution	Uses
FAM 30	1:49	General Orders
FAM 30	1:14	Tuberculosis Orders
Virkon LSP	1:30	General Orders
Virkon LSP	1:10	Tuberculosis Orders
Agrichlor	1:360	General Orders
Agrichlor	1:12	Tuberculosis Orders

Uses and dilutions correct as of the 30/07/2025.

Refer to <https://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/> to stay up to date with changes in authorisations.

- Suitable PPE (gloves and eye protection) should be used when mixing and handling disinfectants.
- Disinfectants should not be disposed of down drains as they risk entering water systems. Instead pour them over soil or sand to ensure slow dispersal. Check specific marketing authorisations for further information on safe disposal of specific disinfectants.

For farms free from notifiable diseases, general orders dilutions can be used. General orders dilution for these products is at the time of writing sufficient for swine vesicular diseases, foot and mouth disease and avian influenza. When visiting farms under bovine TB restrictions the higher tuberculosis order dilution should be used. At this point, due to known TB restrictions on several routes and the limited farm specific information that has been provided, the higher tuberculosis dilution must be used for all visits, but this will continue to be reviewed as the project progresses.



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Prior to disinfection all visible organic matter should be removed including taking care to remove all matter from shoe treads. Diluted disinfectant should be applied to all outside non disposable footwear. The products should not be rinsed off until these minimum contact times have been achieved. In line with user instructions.

On farm disinfectant mats and/or foot baths should be used in addition to personal disinfection measures where provided and directed.

During Surveys

Aim to achieve:

- Where required (and if applicable) - sign into the farm visitor's log
- Stick to tracks and paths (although may not be possible for certain surveys)
- Follow any farm or land specific biosecurity rules and signage
- Avoid entry into buildings or animal housing unless specifically authorised to do so
- Maintain a safe distance from livestock
- Report any unusual signs (illness, dead livestock) to the landowner or occupier
- In the event of a bio security emergency, we should stop the survey and notify the owner or occupier (or farm manager) along with GGC Land/Land Agent.

Avoid:

- Entering areas (specific areas) with diseased or recently treated livestock. We should work with landowners and occupiers to ensure (where practical), that livestock in these categories are moved.
- Eating or drinking near animal housing or near livestock.
- Causing distress to livestock through our actions

Post Visit Protocols

The following should be completed prior to leaving the site:

- Disinfect all footwear
- Document the visit including the areas accessed and any biosecurity concerns or issues.
- Notify the landowner of any biosecurity or animal health concerns



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The surveyors undertaking surveys and taking access have been briefed on the requirements of this protocol. If you have any concerns about adherence and adoption of these standards, please ensure these are raised as soon as possible using the below details:

info@greengencymru.com

Please include details of your property and your specific concerns in relation to surveyors' behaviors against the requirements in this document.



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Appendix

Notifiable Diseases of Importance UK July 2025

Full information can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/notifiable-diseases-in-animals>

Cattle

Anthrax	Sudden death, fever, loss of milk, colicky
Bluetongue	Lethargy, crusty erosions around nostrils/muzzle, red eyes/mouth/nose, red coronary band, reddening and erosions on teats, fever, milk drop, off food, abortion
BSE	Altered behaviour/apprehension/nervousness/aggressive, exaggerated reactions, weak/high stepping gait, reluctant to allow milking, excessive nose licking



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Cattle

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	Sores/blisters on feet (between claws and at coronary band), in mouth and on tongue, fever, off feed, lameness, drooling, reduced milk yield
Lumpy Skin Disease	Fever, milk drop, one or more firm nodules on skin/nose/mouth, swollen lymph nodes, swollen udder/testicles, death
Warble Fly	Soft, painful swellings on back (approx. 3mm wide)



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Sheep

Bluetongue	Ulcers or sores in mouth and nose, discharge from eyes/nose and drooling from mouth, swelling of lips, tongue, head and neck and coronary band, fever, lameness, breathing problems, abortion, death,
Contagious Agalactia	Weight loss, swollen joints, abortion, yellow/separated milk, shrivelled/swollen udders, reduced milk yield, swollen/infected eyes, fever
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	Severe lameness (may affect many animals), increased lying, reluctant to move, abortions, stillbirth and weak lambs, unwilling to allow lambs to suckle, blisters on feet (and rarely mouth)
Scrapie	Excitable, nervous or aggressive, tremble, lag behind flock, high stepping gait, lack coordination/weak hind legs, skin irritation
Sheep/Goat Pox	Fever, red spots/blisters on skin, swollen lymph nodes, depressed, swollen eyelids, breathing difficulties, death
Sheep Scab (Only notifiable in Scotland)	Rubbing, scratching or nibbling at fleece



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Pigs

African Swine Fever (ASF)	Fever, reduced appetite, lethargic, sudden death, diarrhoea, abortion, red skin, weak
Classical Swine Fever (CSF)	Fever, reduced appetite, lethargic, sudden death, diarrhoea, abortion, red skin, weak
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	Lameness (may affect many animals), painful squealing, reluctant to move/feed, blisters on feet (at junction between skin and horn) and/or snout and/or tongue
Swine Vesicular Disease	Blisters on feet (top of hooves or between toes), occasionally on snout, tongue and lips, lameness, reduced appetite, fever



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Poultry

Avian Influenza	Sudden death, swollen head, closed and runny eyes, lethargy and depression, lying down and unresponsiveness, lack of coordination, anorexia, drooping wings or dragging legs.
Newcastle disease	Respiratory distress (gaping beak, coughing, sneezing, gurgling, rattling), nervous signs (tremors, paralysis, twisting of neck) unusually watery faeces, depression, lack of appetite.

