

Traveling Overseas?

Pork producers, production employees and industry consultants often travel internationally for vacation or work. If the trip includes a farm visit, care needs to be taken to not carry disease back into the U.S. and onto a farm, infecting animals. Disease can be carried on clothing, footwear and even on hands.

Following specific biosecurity measures prior to the trip, while abroad and upon returning to the U.S. will reduce the risk of infecting the domestic livestock industry.



To prevent disease transmission onto a farm in the U.S., the following procedures are recommended when traveling internationally:

Before and during your trip:

- **If you are an employee on a farm, discuss your trip with your employer and follow any recommended biosecurity measures.** Preparing prior to your departure will help ensure disease-prevention measures are taken during the trip. You will be protecting your herd as well as the entire domestic herd by not bringing a disease back into the country.



- **Determine if personnel from the international farm you plan to visit will provide you with site-specific footwear and coveralls or clothing during your visit.** Wearing footwear and coveralls or clothing provided by the site and leaving those items at the site will reduce the possibility of bringing diseases home with you.
- **Pack disposable coveralls and footwear to wear during international farm visits if items will not be provided. Dispose of these items on the farm after wearing them.** Disposing of items onsite following the farm visit will ensure you are leaving any diseases behind.
- **Do not wear footwear on your trip that you wear to your farm.** You may carry disease back on your footwear if it is not cleaned properly. With some diseases, a very small amount of fecal matter in a shoe or boot tread can transmit disease.
- **Know which items you are allowed to bring back with you into the U.S. Prohibited foods may carry diseases which pose a risk to domestic livestock.** In order to protect U.S. agriculture, some items are not allowed into the country. Make sure the items you purchase will be allowed into the U.S. Visit www.dontpackapest.com for a list of prohibited items.



Traveling Overseas? (Cont'd)

Upon your return:

- **Upon your return through customs, declare your international farm visit, so your footwear can be correctly disinfected.** If you did not dispose of the footwear you wore during the farm visit prior to entering customs, officials will inspect it and disinfect accordingly.

The image shows a U.S. Customs and Border Protection Form 9500B (04/14), titled "U.S. Customs and Border Protection Welcomes You to the United States". It is a "CUSTOMS DECLARATION" form. The form includes sections for "Family Information", "Travel Information", "Declaration of Goods", and "Declaration of Currency". It also has a table for "Description of Articles" and a section for "Declaration of Currency". The form is designed to be filled out by travelers returning to the United States.

11 I am (We are) bringing

- (a) fruits, vegetables, plants, seeds, food, insects: Yes ☐ No ☐
- (b) meats, animals, animal/wildlife products: Yes ☐ No ☐
- (c) disease agents, cell cultures, snails: Yes ☐ No ☐
- (d) soil or have been on a farm/ranch/pasture: Yes ☐ No ☐

12 I have (We have) been in close proximity of livestock: Yes ☐ No ☐

(such as touching or handling)

- **Follow farm biosecurity measures in the U.S. upon your return. Follow the farm downtime requirements. If there are no set requirements, 48 hours is a minimum downtime as long as a shower is taken and clean clothes are worn to the site.** Farm biosecurity measures may vary. Make sure to follow the biosecurity measures on the farm.
- **Do not wear any items from your international farm visit to a U.S. farm.** A small amount of fecal matter can transmit disease. Even machine washing in hot water may not ensure footwear is clean because fecal matter can remain in the tread. Not wearing this footwear to your farm ensures you are not taking any unnecessary risk of bringing disease back to work with you.



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