



University of Maryland College Park

Animal Care and Use Standard

Isolation and Quarantine of Ungulates

Purpose: This standard describes separation of newly arrived ungulates from those already on-site.

Background: Quarantine is the separation of newly arrived animals from those already on the premises until health of the new animals has been evaluated and found to be acceptable. The isolation of sick animals and the quarantine of new or returning animals are prudent steps to ensure the continuing health of the herds. An effective quarantine program minimizes the risk of introduction of pathogens into an established colony.

Standards: Facilities will implement a quarantine period that is long enough to observe signs of infectious disease or obtain diagnostic evidence of infection status. If the health history of newly received animals is unknown, the quarantine procedures should be more comprehensive and sufficiently long to allow expression or detection of disease. Most agricultural animal diseases have an incubation period ≤ 14 days. Cattle that return to CMREC will be quarantined for 14 days. Newly purchased cattle shall be quarantined for 30 days. Other newly purchased ungulates (e.g., sheep, goats, pigs, horses) will be quarantined for 14 days.

Methodology:

Procedures for Animal Handling:

- Appropriate personal protective equipment (e.g., coveralls, gloves, boots or shoes, etc.) should be worn when handling quarantined or isolated animals and should be removed or disinfected when leaving quarantine.
- Animals in quarantine or isolation should be handled last.
- Cattle in quarantine or isolation should be milked last. The milking equipment must then be sanitized before use with other animals.
- The period for isolation when an infectious disease is in question is at the discretion of the clinical veterinarian in consultation with the University Attending Veterinarian (UAV).
- While in quarantine, if an animal's feed intake or milk production decreases, its temperature shall be taken at least every other day. If it develops a fever, the veterinarian shall be contacted.
- Animals must be observed daily until they are cleared for introductions into the herd. If signs of an infectious disease were observed during quarantine, animals should be cleared by a veterinarian.
- During quarantine, new animals should be vaccinated and treated for diseases and parasites as appropriate to protect their health and maintain the health of animals in the herd.

Procedures for Quarantine Area:

- Prevent direct contact with the rest of the herd.
- Provide an air space, water source and feeders separate from the rest of the herd.
- Provide water adequate for consumption by the animals and any cleaning and disinfection needs.
- Small equipment (halters, ropes) should be dedicated to the quarantined animals for the duration of the quarantine period or sanitized/disinfected prior to being moved or coming in contact with other animals or non-quarantine areas.
- All large equipment must be cleaned of organic debris prior to and upon completion of use in the quarantine area. Equipment should be sanitized/disinfected before it is moved or used with other animals.
- Manure from the quarantine area must be stored in a manner that prevents access by susceptible species or disposed of at a site not accessed by susceptible species.
- Hands should be washed after handling quarantined animals.

Illness or death must be reported immediately to facility management and to the UAV.

D.1. Isolation and Quarantine of Ungulates

(Formerly D.11.b.)

Approved: 10/22/15

Reviewed/Revised: 6/25/20;