

## **FEED BIOSECURITY**

Feed handling on farm is an often-overlooked path of transferring diseases, such as PRRS, PED and PDCOV. Feed that was pathogen-free can become contaminated through improper biosecurity during delivery and handling. Consider the following to reduce your risk:

- 1. Have concrete pads under bins and keep your pads and unloading areas clean. Clean bin areas reduce the risk of pests and wildlife that can transfer diseases being attracted to the barn. Keep unloading areas clear of standing water/mud by using a good gravel base so drivers can maintain good biosecurity too.
- 2. **Invest in bins that can be augured instead of blown.** Blow pipes that lay on the ground are a risk to bringing in disease. If you must blow in feed, try to have your own blower pipes.
- 3. Have skids and/or bags delivered to a neutral location, such as a drive shed. This prevents delivery equipment from touching the docks, reducing the contamination risk for the feed delivery truck.

## OR

Have a clean, raised location in the barn for skid/bag deliveries. Placing skids and bags directly on the ground where people and/or animals may be walking and tracking disease can contaminate the bags. This can also be a visible boundary between inside and outside.



- 4. **Use a bin monitoring system with your feed supplier.** These systems increase efficiency of deliveries and reduce the number of visits to the farm.
- 5. **Don't place anything on the ground outside that is going in the barn.** This includes skids/bagged feed or any equipment that might be used.
- 6. Keep people and animal traffic away from feed delivery areas.
- 7. **Use dedicated equipment.** If using carts, bucket loaders, other farm equipment, tools, etc. for feed/bags, avoid using them for other purposes unless fully cleaned.
- 8. **Do not handle feed and deadstock in the same areas.** Dead animals often contain pathogens, which could be passed to the feed.
- 9. **Ensure adequate insect and rodent control inside and out.** Pests are attracted to feed and manure and can move disease between barns.
- 10. Disinfect your feed loading docks (and other barn entry points) regularly. Keep the area clear of debris and use a disinfectant such as lime or Prevail at regular intervals.

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