

Central Missouri

Livestock News

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Secure Beef Supply Plan - What Producers Should Know

U.S. beef exports were over \$10 billion in 2023. Exports add about \$425 of value per fed steer or heifer (including meat cuts and offal), which is nearly 20% of the value for every fed carcass. One case of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) found in the U.S. would shut our export market down and cut profits for all cattle producers.

Luckily, the United States has not had a case of FMD since 1929. However, with global travel and trade, there is a risk of FMD introduction. The Secure Beef Supply Plan (SBS) was created to help producers protect their herds from FMD. Recently, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) funded the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) to develop more outreach materials and increase FMD awareness of producers, transporters, and other stakeholders.

What Does FMD Look Like?

Foot-and-mouth disease (sometimes called “hoof” and mouth disease) causes blisters on the feet and in the mouth of two-toed (cloven-hooved) animals like cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, deer, bison, and some wildlife. Cattle with FMD show signs of lameness, drooling, and do not want to move or eat because of the painful food and mouth sores. FMD is a very contagious animal disease. It does NOT affect people or food safety. Meat and milk are safe to eat and drink.

Preventing FMD Spread

At the beginning of an FMD outbreak, the USDA will recommend at least a 72-hour national movement standstill for cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, deer, elk, bison, and their germplasm (semen or embryos). This is one way to stop the spread of FMD. Movement controls will continue after the standstill ends in the areas around infected herds. Restarting movement will require a special permit, issued by State Officials, after a producer meets certain requirements. The SBS Plan has guidance for producers who have cattle with no evidence of FMD infection to meet movement permit criteria that is listed here:

<https://www.securebeef.org/permits/>.



Secure Beef Supply (SBS) Plan

The SBS Plan supports FMD control for infected herds and business continuity for uninfected herds. Resources are provided to help producers prepare BEFORE an FMD outbreak. Following the SBS guidance will help producers with cattle that have no evidence of infection to limit disease exposure, move animals under a movement permit, and maintain business continuity. Producers can prepare now by:

- Having a [National Premises Identification Number \(PIN\)](#)
- Writing an operation-specific enhanced biosecurity plan
- Keeping movement records of animals, people, equipment, and other items onto and off your operation
- Developing contingency plans for their operation in the case of limited movement

Disease Monitoring

Cattle should be looked at often in an outbreak so disease is seen quickly to limit FMD spread. Producers should report suspicious signs of disease to their herd veterinarian or officials.

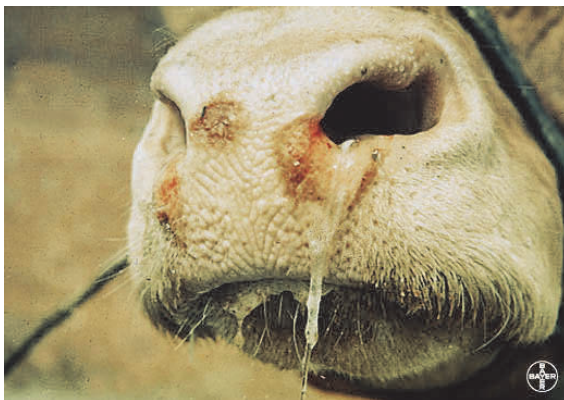
Next Steps

Explore the resources available to help you protect your animals and business at securebeef.org. Work with your herd veterinarian to build an enhanced biosecurity plan. Contact the office of your State Veterinarian to learn more about the SBS Plan in your state.

Please contact Chrisee Brandl, MU Livestock Field Specialist, for more information on SBS, enhanced biosecurity, and/or FMD.

***Resources: Dr. Danelle Bickett-Weddle, Preventalytics and Dr. Julia Herman, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, 2025.

Available at [Secure Beef Supply Training Articles](#)



[Visual pictures to show what FMD looks like on cattle.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pearls of Production: Pixel Virtual Sessions - 7 pm to 8 pm

“Chick-Chat” will start at 6:40 pm to network and talk to other producers. If virtual sessions are not your thing, there are barn locations to attend the sessions from a few extension offices.

September 23 - SRP Technology

October 28 - Heroes to Hives; helping veterans and women producers establish beekeeping

Pearls of Production: In-Person Conference

The November 8th in-person session will begin at 9am with registration and light refreshments. Sessions will begin at 10am. Participants can choose one of three topics for each session. Back this year is the Future Pearls of Agriculture Conference for children of attendees from ages 5 to 12 in cooperation with the Columbia FFA. With the return of this option, we hope to attract active moms with young kids.

Virtual Fence Foundations Webinar Series

Calling all livestock grazers looking to intensify or increase current grazing efforts without the stress of fencing. Virtual fencing is an emerging technology that used GPS enabled collars to create invisible fence boundaries. Join the Center for Regenerative Agriculture, MU Extension, The Fertilizer Control Board, and Missouri Cattleman’s for an educational and engaging lunch and learn opportunity. Remaining sessions include;

September 26 - 12:00 pm Pasture Nutrient Management

Join us for a discussion on pasture fertility management and how virtual fencing might be a tool for improved nutrient distribution.

October 24 - 12:00pm Producers and Providers

Hear first-hand from producers and companies currently working with virtual fencing. Come and ask those burning questions to determine which virtual fence technology best fits your operation.

Farm and Home Workshop - Osage County

September 27 - 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Missouri Regional Library, Linn MO Topics include: Soil Health Improvement in the Garden (Dr. Dhruba Dhakal, Horticulture Specialist), Forage Selection and Pasture Management (Chrisee Brandl, Livestock Specialist), Soil Health (Dr. Rudra Baral, Agronomy Specialist), and Forest Management (William McCaslin, Forestry Educator).