

## GUIDELINES FOR DISINFECTION

### Vehicle disinfection

#### Why disinfect vehicles?

Equine influenza is a highly contagious viral disease, which can be easily spread between two properties by contaminated vehicles, equipment and people.

#### Minimising contamination of vehicles

1. Try to leave vehicles outside the property. Walk in or have someone collect you from the gate.
2. If you must drive in, remain on paved surfaces, avoid parking on horse thoroughfares and, park at least 10 metres from stables and horses in paddocks.

All vehicles leaving after being on the properties will need to be cleaned and disinfected. The cleaning and disinfection area must be away from horses and horse thoroughfares. Limiting the vehicles coming onto the properties will minimise this procedure.

#### Vehicle types and risk rating

Vehicle type	Risk Rating
Vehicles used to transport horses; Horse floats, horse trucks & trailers etc.	<b>Very high</b> (See procedure 1)
Vehicles driven by personnel who are in close contact with horses or vehicles parked near horses; e.g. Staff, farriers, veterinarians, equine dentists, other horse care providers.	<b>High</b> (See procedure 2)
Vehicles driven by personnel who have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Not been in close contact with horses</li> <li>2. Who shower and wear clean street clothes before driving</li> <li>3. The vehicle has been kept well away from horses; e.g. family car, visitors to house, feed and stock etc.</li> </ol>	<b>Low to Medium</b> May need to assess the risk for each occasion. (See procedure 3)
Other vehicles	<b>Assess on each occasion</b>

#### Procedure 1 - for a vehicle with a VERY HIGH RISK rating

1. Remove all bedding, tack, rugs etc and disinfect separately. (Refer to separate disinfection procedures for equipment.)
2. Remove all hay, straw, dirt and manure etc, for treating and disposal.
3. Wash inside and out, including wheel arches and tyres, with high-pressure water and detergent to remove all visible dirt and contamination.
4. Spray with a disinfectant. (Refer to disinfectants below).
5. If necessary, wash off after waiting at least 10 minutes for the disinfectant to work.
6. Clean the inside of the cab –
  - a. wash dirty rubber mats with disinfectant
  - b. Wipe touched interior surfaces e.g. door handles, steering wheel, gear shift, hand brake etc, with a cloth dampened with detergent or use disinfectant wipes. (Note: if using a cloth, ensure it is regularly washed in a disinfectant).
  - c. If the driver has been wearing dirty or contaminated clothing, the seats should also be cleaned.
7. Park vehicle well away from all horses.

#### Before transporting horses:

8. Inspect the vehicle inside and out and assess whether any of the above steps 1-5 need repeating.

Assess things such as:

- a. Where has it been parked?
- b. When was it last used and disinfected?
- c. has it been used in the last 24 hours?

#### Procedure 2 - for vehicles with a HIGH RISK rating

##### Outside of vehicle:

1. Remove all gross contamination/dirt etc
2. Wash with water and detergent

##### Inside of vehicle:

1. Wash dirty rubber mats with detergent and water
2. Wipe touched interior surfaces e.g. door handles, steering wheel, gear shift, hand brake etc. with cloth dampened with detergent, or use disinfectant wipes.

## Procedure for vehicles with LOW TO MEDIUM risk rating

No disinfection is required provided that:

- a. The driver has not been in close contact with horses
- b. The driver has showered or is wearing clean street clothes
- c. The vehicle has been kept well away from horses.

**Note:** Drivers should not enter a vehicle unless they are wearing clean clothing/overalls and have washed their hands and boots.

## Detergents

The following detergents are suitable when following the disinfection process above:

- a. Liquid dishwashing detergent such as Morning Fresh or Palmolive liquid can be used for general washing
- b. Liquid hand soap can be used for washing hands.

## Disinfectants

The following disinfectants are suitable for use in the process above:

- a. Disinfectants containing Chlorhexidine, such as Savlon, Hibitane or Dettol
- b. TriGene Advance, distributed by Ethical Agents, is available from most Veterinary practices.  
Note: the "clear" type has not been perfumed, and is more effective
- c. Disinfectant wipes.

**If you suspect your horse has Equine Influenza call your veterinarian, or contact  
MAF on 0800 80 66**