

ZOONOTIC INFECTIONS

Common Diseases that man can get from animals

<i>Brucellosis</i>	<i>Campylobacter</i>
<i>Chlamydia psittaci</i>	<i>Coxiella burnetti (Q Fever)</i>
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	<i>E. coli O157</i>
<i>Leptospirosis</i>	<i>Orf Virus</i>
<i>Ringworm</i>	<i>Salmonella</i>
<i>Streptococcus suis</i>	<i>Tetanus</i>
<i>Toxocariasis</i>	<i>Toxoplasma</i>
<i>Tuberculosis</i>	

In the full advice pack, each disease is described under the following headings:

What it is – a simple explanation of the organism.

What illness does it cause – an explanation of the illness caused in infected humans and animals.

Where does it come from - what are the likeliest sources of the organism and how it can be passed on to humans?

How you can prevent infection – simple measures that can be taken to reduce the risk of becoming infected.

This leaflet is intended to give a summary of the health advice which is available in the full advice pack.

The full advice pack is targeted at all farmers and those caring for animals. It is especially relevant for farmers in relation to all visitors to their farms and is particularly useful to farmers who admit paying guests to their farms.

Special Precautions REMEMBER

Hand-washing prevents infection

The full advice pack for the farming community

“STAYING HEALTHY ON YOUR FARM”

is available on the following websites

www.safefoodonline.com and www.hse.ie

or in hardcopy from the following

District Veterinary Offices

Department of Agriculture and Food

Davis Street, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary,
Government Offices, Hebron Road, Kilkenny,
Government Offices, The Glen, Waterford,
Strawhall Ind. Estate, Athy Road, Carlow,
Vinegar Hill Lane, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Regional Veterinary Laboratory

Department of Agriculture and Food

Hebron Road, Kilkenny.

County Council Offices

Athy Road, Carlow,
Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel,
Civic Offices, Dungarvan,
John Street, Kilkenny,
Spawell Road, Wexford.

City Council Office

The Mall, Waterford.

HSE – South Eastern Area

Lacken, Dublin Road, Kilkenny.
Tel: 056-7784100

*Funding for the printing of this leaflet was provided
by the South East Zoonoses Committee*

STAYING HEALTHY ON YOUR FARM



ADVICE PACK FOR THE FARMING COMMUNITY

**Produced by the
South East Zoonoses Committee**

(Health Service Executive – South Eastern Area, Department of Agriculture & Food, Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources, The City Council of Waterford and The County Councils of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary South Riding, Waterford and Wexford)

GENERAL ADVICE

The following summarises a number of points to help prevent Zoonotic illness (illness passed from animals to humans).

The Farm Environment

Keep enclosures, fencing, pathways etc. as clean as practicable;

Ensure hand-washing facilities are available and are kept clean;

Prevent contamination of soil by dog and cat faeces or droppings in areas immediately adjacent to houses and children's play areas;

Remove dog and cat faeces from public areas specifically children's play areas;

Control rodents in human habitations, especially rural and recreational.

Animal Health

Keep sick animals, especially those with diarrhoea away from other animals;

Keep good written records of routine preventative measures e.g. vaccination, blood tests, TB tests, etc so that the health status of your animals can be easily checked;

Worm all dogs and cats at least 3 times a year;

Follow good husbandry practices including:

Ensure good standards of hygiene in young-stock housing;

Avoid contaminating animal drinking water with dung;

Keep animals especially young, as stress-free as possible – particularly important on farms that open to the public;

Have regular herd health checks by a vet.

Special Precautions

REMEMBER

Make sure any milk for human consumption is pasteurised

Visitors to the Farm

Keep sick animals, especially those with diarrhoea away from visitors;

Discourage visitors from direct contact with the animals, especially kissing and licking;

Keep animals giving birth, whether premature or normal, away from visitors and other animals and restrict access to such animals for 2-3 weeks afterwards;

In the case of visitors, discourage eating and drinking during the visit or provide a separate area away from the animals with hand-washing facilities;

Encourage and supervise hand-washing at the end of the visit/before eating and drinking;

Make sure any milk for human consumption is pasteurised;

Discourage visitors from swimming in slow-moving streams or stagnant water such as ponds or canals;

Encourage visitors to clean, wash and disinfect footwear on leaving the farm.

Special Precautions

REMEMBER

*Drinking water quality from private wells should be checked annually.
Contact Local Environmental Health Officers in HSE – South Eastern Area*

General Measures

Follow safe working practices by considering the following:

Avoid or minimise the use of equipment or tools likely to cause cuts, abrasions or puncture wounds, and use safe working practices and Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate;

Do not use mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on newborn animals – use traditional husbandry methods of resuscitation such as massaging or clearing nostrils with straw;

If you or your staff sustain a cut;

Wash cuts and grazes immediately with soap and running water and cover new and existing wounds with a waterproof dressing before beginning work,

Wash hands and arms before eating, drinking or smoking after having contact with animals, or working in areas with animal dung or droppings;

Work clothes should be left at the workplace for cleaning so that families of those working on the farm cannot contract the disease through contact with soiled clothes;

Anyone who has had their spleen removed and those taking immunosuppressive medication should be cautioned about contact with animals and advised to seek medical attention promptly if they develop a febrile illness.

Special Precautions

for PREGNANT WOMEN

Pregnant women should stay away from areas where animals have given birth or are giving birth.