

Returning Home

Livestock producers moving back onto premises that have been flooded should follow normal cleanup and sanitary practices in the barn and loose housing sheds. Some points to consider include:

- Check all electric motors and equipment for dampness and debris. Be sure they are clean and dry, to avoid any further damage.
- Remove all organic material, such as debris, manure and straw. Move it far away from the building for future burning (debris) and spreading (manure).
- Clean buildings and barns before animals return. Wash with a good general-purpose daily cleaner using high-pressure sprayers or scrub brushes.
- Wash equipment with a suitable cleaner; take extra care to ensure that it is well rinsed before use.
- Before using any chemical cleaners or disinfectants check the label for information on safe use of the product. When applying disinfectants of any kind, use disposable coveralls, chemical-resistant gloves and goggles.
- Clean and disinfect bulk storage bins and other feed equipment. If flood-waters have entered the bin via the auger ports, remove feed, and clean and disinfect the bin.
- Test the water supply as soon as possible. Contact your local health unit or MAFRD office for proper sample bottles and instruction.
- If cattle have been mixed with other cattle or livestock contact your local veterinarian for advice on quarantine and other herd health precautions.
- Repair damage which may attract or provide points of entry for rodents.
- Rodent control should be carried out, in order to minimize the chance of spreading disease organisms carried by rats and mice.

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