Biosecurity is a set of management practices which when followed, reduces the introduction or spreading of disease-causing germs. Infectious agents spread via persons, animals and equipment. The infectious agent is carried with small traces of droppings on shoes, dust, small feathers attached to any rough surface, eggshell or any part of a dead chicken.

**Biosecurity measures**

**Location:** The area should be between 0.5 to 1 Km from the nearest building. During construction, use prevailing wind directions when choosing a site to reduce the risk of airborne infection. Winds should flow along the house and not against it.

**All-in-all-out:** Reduce build-up of germs by breaking the rearing-cycle for different ages.

**Litter disposal:** Remove and properly dispose used litter. Disinfect all new litter.

*An illustration of a well fenced chicken house with a footbath at the entrance.*
Site security
Reduces introduction of infection to premises mainly from personnel moving between houses and flocks and equipment. Use foot and vehicle baths.

Requirements for specified movements and entry
- One combined entrance and exit to your farm.
- Move chicks beginning with the youngest.
- Trucks must be cleaned between chick deliveries.
- Staff must maintain a high standard of hygiene
- Protective clothing including overalls and shoes must be kept clean
- Foot baths must be used on entry and exit to disinfect shoes.
- Hand sanitizers must be placed and used at all shed entrance and exit points.
- Clean and disinfect equipment on entry and exit.

Other important precautions
- Gates must be locked.
- Shed doors must be locked at night.
- No unauthorised persons should be allowed in the production area.
- Maintenance and repair works should be carried out regularly.
- Provide complete protective clothes, footwear and head gear for visitors.
- Vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected at a wash pad on entry and exit of the farm.
- No birds should be moved in or out before its health condition is known.
- Control pests, rodents and wild animals using recommended methods including traps.
• Keep garbage and waste from feeds, water, equipment and chicken houses.
• Consult veterinary services for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in case of any specific disease.
• Have signs to restrict movements.

Potential signs of diseases

• Sudden, unexplained deaths
• Illness of many birds
• External parasites and maggots
• Weakness and staggering.

Dead bird collection

• Birds must be removed immediately.
• Freezers must be cleaned and sanitized between the batches of slaughtered and culled chicken.
• Collection area must be far from production area.
• All containers used for collection of dead birds must be washed and disinfected before returning them to the production area.

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Editorial and publication coordinated by:
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