# SOP #13 – Introduction of New Cattle to the Herd

*(Question BIO4, July 2023 Reference Manual pages 4-12 & 4-13. All shaded areas are required elements of your SOP. You may use your own words to communicate the same intent.)*

Purpose: All farm personnel must understand the process for properly introduction a new animal into your facility in a manner that limits the potential for pathogens to be introduced to your herd.

* We are a closed herd and do not purchase any animals (calves, heifers, cows and/or bulls).

However, should a scenario present itself (fire, disease, flood etc) and we must bring new cattle into our herd we will do the following:

* We are conscious of the introduction of disease and try to source animals from known health status herds if possible.
* Prior to purchase and movement, we request a complete health record. This includes: vaccine history, disease and treatment history, disease diagnostic history, pregnancy status and hoof trimming record. Source herd disease status (i.e. Johne’s, BLV, mycoplasma, ureaplasma, foot rot, digital dermatitis, abortion history, Staph aureus mastitis) is also requested.

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* + We obtain a letter of guarantee for springing heifers and lactating animals

OR

* + Ensure to test milk for residues and record results prior to shipping milk.
* We ensure new animal(s) are transported in a farm-owned vehicle/trailer **OR** atransporter is hired that will use a clean vehicle/trailer.
  + *We make sure to record the following information*: Date of movement, ID of animals moved (15 digits), premise ID of departure location, and license plate of trailer animal(s) are transported in.
* Once new animal(s) have arrived at the farm we unload and house them in the following designated area:­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* These cattle are confined for a minimum of\_\_\_\_\_ days with no contact with other cattle and monitored for signs of illness, including parasites and hoof disease.
* These cattle are observed and examined at least once daily by the following trained staff: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The trained staff:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will monitor and respond to any abnormalities according to farm protocols. Signs of illness to check include:

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* Any personnel handling these cattle must wash their hands, wear gloves, change their clothing and disinfect or change their footwear before working with other animals on the farm. If cattle appear healthy, prior to introduction into the herd the following actions are performed (confirmation of pregnancy or reproductive status, hoof trimming, vaccination, testing etc):

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* Vaccinations and medications administered will be recorded in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Information includes: product name, amount, injection technique, withdrawal times and clear dates.
* We ensure management adjustments are made to minimize the risk of introducing disease (i.e. housing separately or changing the order of milking). This includes:

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