

MEASURES TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

When visiting any site in a country with foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) additional precautions should be applied by those working in agricultural industries or visiting farms or rural areas. This includes wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) wherever possible while on site (e.g. visiting a feedlot or dairy property) and removing and leaving this PPE on the property or destroying it when leaving the site.

Ideally only clothing specific to a particular farm should ever be worn on that farm. Any clothing or boots that are moved off that farm should be thoroughly cleaned in warm soapy water to remove all organic matter before one of the following agents or treatments is applied.

- Virkon™ S – Make up a solution with at least 10g/L for FMD or 20g/L for LSD then soak clothes or items for 10 minutes.
- Sodium carbonate (washing soda) crystals – Make a solution with at least 100g/L then soak clothing or items for at least 30 minutes.

For disinfection of clothing contaminated with FMD you can also use:

- Citric acid (anhydrous powder) – Make a solution with at least 30g/L then soak clothing or items for at least 30 minutes.

The following agents can be used for personal disinfection.

- Sodium carbonate (Washing soda) crystals (100g/L) mixed in hot (60°C) water for scrubbing.
- Soap (or household detergent) and hot (60°C) water for scrubbing.

Further information and specific advice is available in section 4.2.2 of the AUSVETPLAN decontamination manual.

If there is any risk of FMD being present on a property (such as when in an affected area), full disinfection including washing hands before leaving the property then showering (including washing hair), changing clothes and avoiding other livestock for a period of at least 72 hours is recommended.

When returning to Australia all clothing that has been on farm properties in areas with signs of disease should be left in the affected country if possible. If this is not possible the above disinfection procedures can be used making sure to soak both internal and external surfaces of boots and equipment. Information on disinfecting other equipment can be found in the [AUSVETPLAN decontamination manual](#).