BioSecure
Enhanced and cost-effective biosecurity in livestock production

GHENT UNIVERSITY

PRACTICE ABSTRACT # 27

How to clean and disinfect animal transport vehicles?

Cleaning and disinfecting trucks after every delivery of animals helps prevent pathogen spread between farms. The following six seps should be followed for a proper cleaning and disinfection (C&D) procedure for vehicles!

1. **Dry Cleaning and/or pre-washing**
Visible manure, bedding and solid debris are removed using brushes, shovels or a low-pressure, high-volume water system. This step removes organic matter and loosens remaining dirt, preparing the vehicle for effective detergent use.

2. **Washing with detergent**
Detergent is applied to all surfaces and allowed to soak to loosen dried organic material. The truck is then thoroughly pressure-washed, ensuring all surfaces are visually clean.

3. **Drying before disinfection**
Surfaces should be as dry as possible before applying disinfectant to prevent dilution.

4. **Disinfection**
A disinfectant is applied at the correct concentration and with the required contact time. Application can be done with low/medium-pressure sprayers or foam.

5. **Final Drying**
After disinfection, the vehicle is dried again to ensure all surfaces are completely dry and to allow disinfectant contact time to be fully effective.

6. **Evaluation**
The C&D procedure effectiveness is checked. Truck C&D facilities may also implement routine inspection systems, self-audits or bacteriological sampling to monitor performance and maintain high standards.





- Clean water of drinking quality should be used throughout C&D.
- During C&D, the cabin of the truck should also be cleaned and disinfected.
- Drying of the vehicle can be done passively (ventilation or parking on a slope) or actively by using heated air or vacuum systems.

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