

# Farming student stable schools for improved biosecurity implementation

**Good biosecurity practice is often known, but hard to implement and maintain in daily work**

**The objective of a network-based intervention project in Biosecure is to let farming school students learn about and work with implementation biosecurity measures in their training farms**

**Motivation, ownership and exchange of experience with other students in a 'stable school' are expected to result in continuously imbedded focus on biosecurity measures by each student onwards – and thereby they are more likely to become biosecurity-competent farmers**

Danish stable schools are slightly modified from the farmer field school concept that has been used to facilitate learning processes for about 20 years.

The concept is that there is a common goal or theme for the group of farmers signed up to the stable school. However, each farmer decides the focus area of his/her farm within this theme.

The farmers meet with a facilitator and visit each other's farms to exchange experience and ideas regarding the specific focus area.

The facilitator is present at all meetings and could be a veterinarian or advisor. The role of the facilitator is, however, not to advise, but to guide the process of the meeting and keep up a good constructive dialogue between participants.

We will invite smaller groups of farming school students (17-22 years old) to participate in a 1-year stable school centered around the theme 'biosecurity'.

The idea is that the students, during their training periods on farm, can choose a focus area in "their" farm and work with implementation of specific biosecurity measures of their own choice.

The effect of the intervention is assessed qualitatively through semi-structured interviews of participants and co-workers, as well as more quantitatively with an appropriate tool, e.g. parts of BioCheck-questionnaire before and after the intervention period.



Implementation of biosecurity measures may be a challenge

Motivation, ownership and exchange of experience within stable schools are expected to lead to biosecurity-competent future farmers

The aim of the stable school is to facilitate learning processes

[www.biosecure.eu](http://www.biosecure.eu)