Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Plan – What Producers Need to Know

Center for Food Security and Public Health at Iowa State University

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious viral disease that affects sheep and other cloven-hoofed livestock. FMD does NOT affect people or food safety. Meat and milk are safe to eat. The U.S. has not had an FMD outbreak since 1929 but it can be found in more than 100 other countries. With global travel and trade, the risk of FMD introduction exists. If the U.S. gets FMD, controlling the spread will involve stopping animal and animal product movement. Once movements are restarted, producers will require special permits for animal movement.

The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply (SSWS) Plan was developed to support FMD control for infected farms and business continuity for uninfected farms. Resources are provided to help producers prepare BEFORE an FMD outbreak. Following the guidance will help producers with sheep that have no evidence of infection limit disease exposure, request a movement permit and maintain business continuity. Producers can prepare now by:

* Having a National Premises Identification Number (PIN: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/traceability/state-pin>.
* Writing an operation-specific enhanced biosecurity plan
* Keeping movement records of animals, people, equipment, and other items onto your operation
* Developing contingency plans for their operation in the case of limited movement
* Reviewing the Wool Handling and Movement guidance on the SSWS website

The SSWS Plan and resources were created by veterinarians at Iowa State University. Funding was provided by the American Sheep Industry Association and USDA. Explore the resources available to help you protect your animals and business available at [securesheepwool.org](http://securesheepwool.org).