

Weighted Criteria for Rating Producer Readiness (August 1, 2014)

In 2012, members of the [New England States Animal Agriculture Security Alliance](#) – chief animal-health officials in each of the six states plus the Area Office of USDA/APHIS/VS – assessed the relative importance of biosecurity criteria for Permitting emergency milk movement. In 2014, four USDA/APHIS epidemiologists added their assessments, as well. Through Analytic Hierarchy Process (via [Decision Lens](#)) the “readiness” of each producer to move milk was calculated as the sum of the products of the [Raw Scores](#) for the answers to each question in the [Producer Survey](#) (e.g. Yes = 1.0 or Possible = 0.5) times the weight that officials assigned to it. Weights were normalized to range from 0.0 to 1.0; so, the highest possible composite “Readiness Rating” for a farm would be 1.0. (See also [Assessing Farm Readiness for Emergency Milk Movement in New England.](#))

Criteria for determining farm "Readiness" for milk pickup in a FMD	Contribution to Readiness Rating
Security of the farm perimeter	19.08%
Distance to the nearest neighbor with susceptible stock	3.51%
Employees also working on another farm with FMD-susceptible animals	6.13%
Gate to restrict access to farm or livestock areas	4.55%
Signs with biosecurity advice for visitors	1.04%
Potential for milk pick-up from outside the farm perimeter.	3.84%
Sanitation of the route from the public roadway to the milk bulk tank	23.22%
Control point at farm entry	15.11%
Clean lane	8.11%
Lane free of agricultural run-off (e.g., from pens and pasture)	3.72%
Separation between the lane for milk pickup and the routes of other farm traffic	3.16%
Separation from cattle crossing	0.89%
Separation from manure hauling	0.73%
Separation from livestock shipments	0.85%
Separation from feed delivery	0.35%
Separation from employee parking	0.16%
Separation from visitor parking	0.18%
Permeability of travel surfaces	1.23%
Capacity to clean and disinfect dairy traffic	57.71%
Functioning foot baths	8.30%
Functioning wash station	26.85%
Site for a wash station	9.39%
Large enough	2.00%
Separate from farm run-off	3.75%
Not draining directly into a wetland or waterway	1.24%
Able to contain waste wash water	2.39%
Equipment and supplies for a wash station	13.18%
Water supply	2.20%
Electrical power	2.20%
Pressure washer	2.20%
Steam/hot washer	2.20%
Sanitizer	2.20%
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	2.20%