Biosecurity for Poultry Farms: Questions to ask yourself:

1. Do you have footwear disinfection stations, site-provided footwear, or site-provided foot covers available outside all external entrances and is everyone, including visitors/contract workers, required to clean and disinfect their footwear?

2. Are external entrances to chicken houses and the processing plant kept locked during nonbusiness hours?

3. Do you ask everyone entering your farm if they've had any kind of avian contact in the past 5 days?

4. Does farm policy require that employees and visitors/contract workers do not own other birds—including pet birds, domestic chickens, fighting chickens, ducks, geese, waterfowl, exotic birds, quail, partridge, or pheasants? Do these persons sign a document stating this?

5. Are hand washing or hand-sanitizing stations are available and is everyone (including visitors and contractors) required to wash/sanitize their hands before entering and after leaving chicken houses or egg processing areas?

6. If truck drivers are required to make multiple stops at more than one individual farm in any given day, are they prohibited from entering chicken houses or egg processing areas?

7. Does your farm strongly discourage unnecessary outside visitors? Are biosecurity signs posted warning people not to enter any of the buildings on the premises?

8. Do you have a dedicated parking area for visitors away from poultry housing and work traffic? Is there signage in the parking area to tell visitors how to call for assistance and to stay in their vehicles until they are escorted by management?

9. Does your farm require visitors to wear clean clothes and footwear? Do visitors change into dedicated clothing and boots if possible?

10. Does your farm avoid sharing equipment or supplies with other farms? If tools or equipment must be brought in, are they cleaned and disinfected as they enter?

If you find yourself answering no to these questions, you may need to increase your level of protection!