

# Flat Aggie Adventures

# Turkey Care

Edition 3



## DID YOU KNOW?



**Biosecurity:** Taking sanitation measures to keep livestock healthy by preventing germs.



**Germs:** A microorganism that causes disease.



**PPE:** Personal Protective Equipment.



**Disinfectant:** A liquid that kills germs.



**Sanitation:** The act of cleaning or disinfecting to protect the health of animals.



**Veterinarian:** A doctor for animals.

## GERMS, GERMS, GO AWAY

Flat Aggie is practicing proper biosecurity measures before entering the turkey farm, this is especially important for visitors.

Biosecurity is when farmers implement sanitation measures on their farm to protect their animals from getting sick.

Flat Aggie dresses in a PPE suit, including plastic boots, before dipping both feet into a pan of disinfectant. Many farmers will also have visitors sign their name in a log book to keep track of who has entered the barn. This is important for a vet to know in order to help detect possible illness.





## **SANITATION**

Poults arrive at one day of age and will be sent to market between 19 and 20 weeks, this means a farmer can have multiple flocks of turkeys throughout the year. It is important to reduce the spread of germs from one flock to the next.

The barns are sanitized before the new turkeys arrive. Flat Aggie is demonstrating how the farmer cleans out the barn using the tank in the picture to the left. Bedding is scooped out and the walls/floors are sanitized. All of the waterers and feeders are also cleaned.

New bedding is put down and soon new one-day old poults will arrive in boxes of 100.

## **HEALTHY BIRDS**

Farmers make decisions that best meet the needs of their farm. Some farmers choose to house their turkeys outside while others prefer indoor barns. Indoor barns help protect against predators, extreme weather, and germs.

Biosecurity measures also vary from farm to farm; but they all have one thing in common, they all care for the health and wellness of their birds.

Farmers check their turkeys at least twice a day to feed, water and check for signs of illness. Farmers will call a veterinarian if multiple birds are showing disease symptoms. A veterinarian will visit the farm to help the farmer diagnose and care for the turkeys.



**Brought to you by:**

Katie Hermanson & family  
Diane Rinner & family

## **TURKEY FUN FACTS**

- June is turkey lover's month!
- Iowa has the largest turkey hatchery in the world.
- Turkey growers in Iowa produce 11 million turkeys.



Buchanan, Delaware,  
Scott & Linn County