COVID-19
Best Practices for Hygiene on Farms

Best Practices for Farms
The following are best practices to help farmers keep their workforce healthy, their food products safe, and to protect their businesses as much as possible during this COVID-19 outbreak. Farmers are encouraged to continue these best practices and integrate them into their farm hygiene and sanitation systems to ensure their on-farm health and hygiene standards remain at a high level into the future.

KEY TAKE-AWAYS FOR FARMERS:

1. Improve your farm’s hygiene and sanitation programs by making them more frequent and in-depth.
2. Have ill employees stay at home.
3. Keep high-touch surfaces clean and disinfected.
4. Reduce numbers of customers at points of sale at any one time.
5. Use physical distancing of at least 6 feet whenever possible. Use face coverings to reduce possibility of transmission within your workforce.
6. Stay informed and responsive by checking updates on the CDC, CDPHE, and your local public health websites.

1. Purchase cleaning and sanitation supplies and make sure to keep an up-to-date inventory of products and equipment to support your hygiene practices.
2. Develop schedules for cleaning and sanitation. Designate one employee to supervise and reinforce all hygiene related activities.
3. Develop written Standard Operating Procedures for: 1) cleaning and sanitizing both non-food contact surfaces and food contact surfaces; and 2) cleaning and disinfecting high-touch non-food contact surfaces. Provide training for employees who will be performing these tasks on the process and any PPE they may need when using sanitation products.
4. Post signage reminding employees about zero-tolerance ill-worker policies and personal hygiene requirements.
5. Follow requirements and guidelines released by the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE) and by your local public health agency. CDPHE has a hotline CO HELP (303-389-1687 or 1-877-462-2911) that will provide answers in many languages. Emails in English are being received at COHELP@RMPDC.org.
6. Communicate your enhanced practices and visitor policies to customers, vendors and others by posting information at your farm, on your website and social media. Clearly designate specific and limited areas of your farm that provide for physical distancing of 6 feet between individuals when customers come to purchase products or when vendors come to deliver supplies. See example visitor signage here.