

Lesson 3.3 Glossary

A

Agar – A gelatin-like product of certain seaweeds, used for solidifying certain culture media.

B

Bacteria – Single-celled microorganisms; some cause human animal, or plant diseases; others are beneficial.

Biosecurity – The practices that protect herd health by preventing the spread of pathogens.

C

Colony – A cluster of bacteria or fungi grown on a culture medium, usually originating from a single bacterium, spore, or inoculation transfer.

Control point – Area where risk can be influenced.

Controlled environment – An environment for animals that is kept at the correct temperature and other conditions to maximize animal comfort.

Corral – A small enclosure for handling livestock at close quarters.

E

Environment – The sum total of all the external conditions that may act upon an organism or community to influence its development or existence.

F

Facilities – Something designed, built, installed, etc., to serve a specific function affording a convenience or service.

Farrowing crate – A crate or cage in which a sow is placed at the time of farrowing. The crate is so constructed as to prevent the sow from turning around or crushing the newborn pigs as she lies down.

Feed bunk – A forage and grain feeding station.

Feed lot – The enclosed area in which animals are fed for fattening and finishing.

H

Head-catch chute – A device at the end of a narrow alley that catches and holds the heads of cattle while they are treated.

Holding pen – A large pen in which sheep or other animals are held prior to being handled.

Homeostasis – Maintenance of a constant internal environment by a combination of body mechanisms.

Humidity (relative) – The ratio of the actual amount of water vapor present in the atmosphere to the quantity that would be there if it were saturated.

Hutch – A boxlike cage or pen for a small animal; e.g. a rabbit hutch.

L

Lambing pen – A specially equipped, isolated pen in the sheep barn in which a ewe is placed just before she gives birth to her young.

M

Milking parlor – In a dairy, a specially arranged and equipped room where cows are separately fed concentrates and milked by mechanical milking equipment.

N

Nest box – A box that animals use to give birth, lay eggs in, and raise their young.

P

Pathogen – In the general sense, anything capable of causing disease, but when referred to by most veterinarians and physicians it signifies a living, microscopic, disease-producing agent such as a bacteria or virus.

R

Risk management – The technique or profession of assessing, minimizing, and preventing accidental loss to a business, as through the use of insurance, safety measures, etcetera.

S

Squeeze chute – A narrow stall with a hinged side that is used for restraining animals. The animal's head is caught in a head-catch chute and the sides of the chute are moved against the animal to restrict movements.

Stall – The space in a barn that is occupied by a single animal, such as a dairy cow or horse, for feeding and handling.

Stanchion – A tying or controlling device, usually made of wood or metal, used in barns to control animals, usually dairy cows.

T

Temperature – The amount of heat or cold measured in degrees on different scales, as Fahrenheit or Centigrade.

Thermoneutral zone – The range of temperatures that maximizes efficiency and rate of gain.

Thermoregulation – Control of body temperature.

V

Ventilation – The exchange of air from within a building and the outside.