

### Principle 5

**Ensure that access to the barn and premise is controlled through the establishment of protective zones and controlled access points**

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It is well documented in the disease literature that the movement of people and pets is an important route for bringing disease-causing agents into a barn or onto a premise. Controlling access to the areas where your birds are housed is an important biosecurity procedure. In commercial poultry operations the actual barn where the birds are housed is considered a "fortress" or Restricted Area (RA) where visitors are not allowed without special permission and without wearing some sort of protective clothing. In addition to this highly restricted area commercial poultry producers also create an area around the perimeter of the barn where they restrict access of trucks and visitors vehicles that they refer to as the Controlled Access Zone (CAZ).

Most farmers do not want strangers or neighbours that may not be concerned about disease control wandering into their barns and amongst their livestock. This principle simply emphasizes the importance of structuring your farm environment so that strangers and visitors understand that the health of your birds is important and trespassing is not acceptable. If these procedures are in place then it becomes easy for you to "lock down" your birds in the event of a significant disease problem in your area.

**Figure 1** is a schematic that shows an ideal layout of the access zones.

### Discussion

This principle is very important and will be one that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will be looking for in the event of a foreign animal disease outbreak. Having your barn locked and prohibiting visitors from having direct access to your birds is quite simple. In most cases signs or locks on doors are sufficient. Think of how you would "lock down" your facility if you were leaving for a holiday and wanted to keep out strangers.

Most farmers find it inconvenient to change clothing when they go into the barn. Regardless, research indicates that changing boots and cover-alls between barns is important in preventing pathogen movement. At a minimum, having a set of clothing dedicated to use in your barns that is not worn off the property is a good first step.

# Schematic of a farm or bird housing layout with

## QUARANTINE ROOM NOTES

Requires a separate room with a separate entrance when dealing with:

- New birds
- Show birds (after visit to shows)

To increase biosecurity when dealing with birds in quarantine you should have:

- Different boots
- Different coveralls
- Separate hand washing area

If birds inside the barn or pens get sick do not move them to the quarantine room. They should stay in a sick pen inside the barn so that no pathogens leave the area and also so that none of your new or returning birds are exposed to the pathogen.

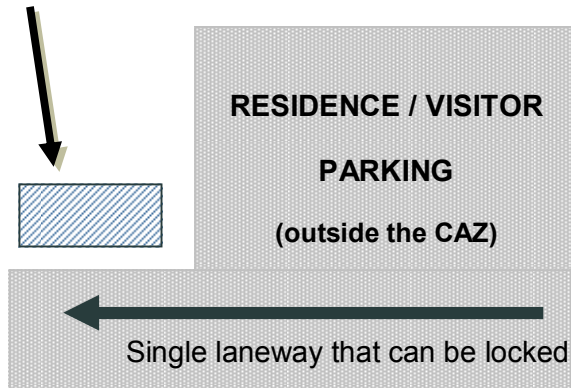
Your Restricted Area is the most crucial area because it is where your birds are living. Depending on your operation, this could be one building, multiple barns, outdoor pens or a combination of both. The quarantine/isolation room can be a separate building or just have a separate access point, and no connection to the actual bird pens, to ensure there is no cross contamination.

### PERIMETER FENCE




Keeps all traffic, animals and people out.

### DEAD STOCK FREEZER

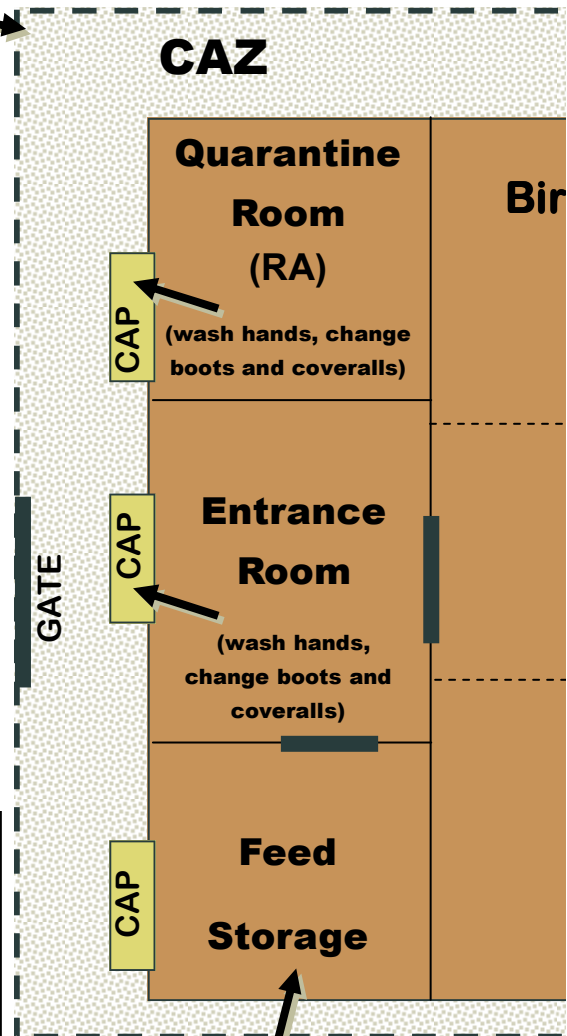
Location should be outside CAZ and depends on use of compost or dead stock pick up.



### LEGEND

-  **CAZ** — Controlled Access Zone
-  **CAP** — Controlled Access Points
-  **RA** — Restricted Area

Example of a single barn operation:

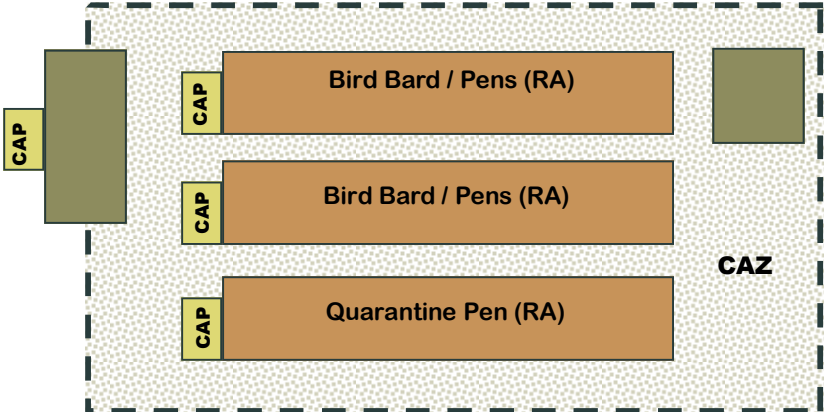


### FEED STORAGE

Room with external access for deliveries and internal access for easy access.

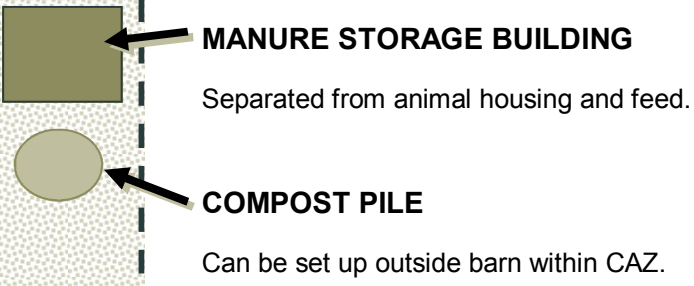
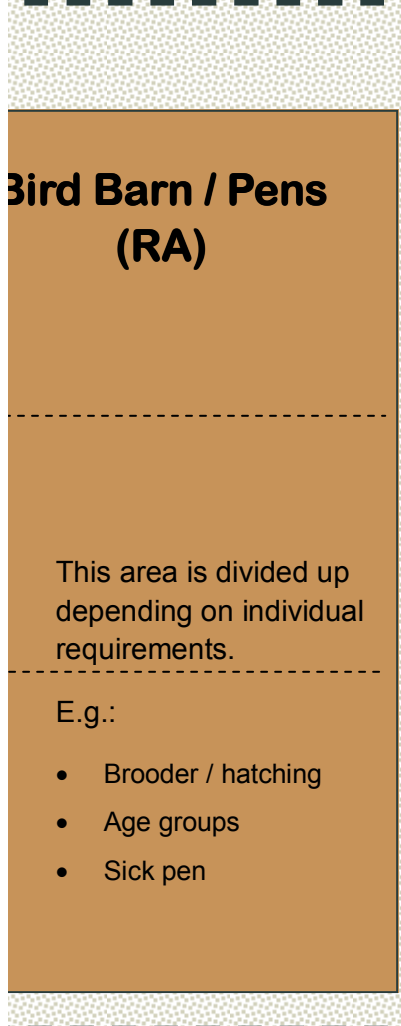
# with “ideal” biosecurity zoning

Example of a multiple barn operation:



## DEAD STOCK NOTES

If a dead stock freezer is used, it should be placed outside barn doors. If dead stock is picked up, freezer should be placed outside CAZ or close to road side at end of the laneway.



### RECOMMENDATION #1

A Controlled Access Zone (CAZ) around the barn should be established where strangers or visitors are not allowed without your permission. Defining the CAZ can be simple, perhaps a rope or fence or even putting up signs indicating visitors should not enter this area. Controlled access can be achieved easily by having one access point to the area (maybe a single door or a gate that can be locked or signage can be used to indicate that trespassing is prohibited). This single entrance is called the Controlled Access Point (CAP). Visitor parking should be outside the CAZ. The entrance to the CAZ should be capable of being closed. This may be by a single laneway that can be blocked with a physical gate or chain, etc.

### RECOMMENDATION #2

The area where birds are housed should be a Restricted Area (RA). This is also controlled through a CAP. Only essential personnel should enter a barn. Pets should be prohibited from entering a barn.

### RECOMMENDATION #3

There should be no common footwear contact between the CAZ and the RA (i.e., boot changes, sanitation, plastic boots). There should be a means to sanitize hands in the restricted area. Dedicated barn clothes (cover-alls and boots) should be worn in the barn. Barn clothing and boots should be supplied for visitors and can be disposable or washable.

## Biosecurity Principle 5



Dirty boots and hands are another proven route of spreading disease. Hand sanitizers are now readily available, reasonably priced and easy to use. If wash stations with running water are not available, these waterless hand sanitizers are very useful. Hands should be sanitized before entering or leaving the barn and with particular care if you are entering or leaving breeding areas, the hatchery or brooding areas where young birds are being housed. Traditional foot baths are usually ineffective as they are rarely cleaned or recharged with fresh disinfectant and an **improperly managed foot bath may become a source of infection.**

FACTSHEET 2.6  
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### TAKE HOME MESSAGE

**Keep your birds secure from strangers and visitors with controlling access to the barn and farm by establishing protective zones.**

- Your operation should be mapped out into a CAZ, CAP and RAZ.
- The barn should be a "fortress" and the access to the barn or pens housing birds should be controlled and lockable.
- Signs or other readily visible indicators should alert visitors that they are not welcome without your permission.
- Barn clothes should be dedicated to the barn.
- Visitors should be supplied with protective clothing. At a minimum plastic boots should be supplied and visitors should put these on before entering the RA.
- Hand sanitizers should be available at the entrance of the barn and everyone should be required to use them.
- The entrance to the CAZ should be able to be closed in the event you need to "lock down" the farm (i.e. chain or locking gate/door).



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