

[< Back to Document Comments \(/document/APHIS-2024-0044-0001/comment\)](/document/APHIS-2024-0044-0001/comment)

Share ▾



Comment from Damron, Kyndall

Posted by the **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service** on Oct 29, 2024

[Docket \(/docket/APHIS-2024-0044\)](/docket/APHIS-2024-0044) / [Document \(APHIS-2024-0044-0001\) \(/document/APHIS-2024-0044-0001\)](/document/APHIS-2024-0044-0001)
/ [Comment](#)

Comment

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is extremely contagious and has the capability of spreading via contaminated farm equipment. Importation of uncleaned farm equipment from areas with FMD can contaminate animals, since the virus has an incubation period between 2 and 14 days and can survive many harsh conditions (USDA). If FMD were to appear in the US, it would cause major catastrophes in the agricultural industry.

In 2022, the United States imported \$1.52 billion in other agricultural machinery (OEC, 2024). If there were regulations set in place to prevent the importation of farm equipment (regardless if it's cleaned or not) from areas with FMD, this would cause major problems with providing agricultural products to consumers. FMD hasn't been in the United States since 1929 and they are succeeding in preventing the introduction of it back in (USDA APHIS, 2020). To prevent the spread of FMD, all imported farming equipment received from infected areas should be steam cleaned prior to shipment, and have proof from an authorized official. Since the FMD virus can withstand temperatures up to 122 degrees Fahrenheit, steam cleaners, which reach up to 320 degrees Fahrenheit, are one of the most effective ways of killing it (Sioux). Additionally, steam cleaners are capable of reaching pores and cracks within equipment where other cleaning methods might not (Fortador).

If the farm equipment received at the port appears dirty in any way, a mandatory cleaning must take place in a designated cleaning area. It's also important that people change and dispose of their clothing after cleaning the equipment (in the case that FMD is present), since it can spread through clothing and footwear (WOAH, 2024).

Give Feedback

Comment ID
APHIS-2024-0044-0002

 **Tracking Number**
m2t-67bz-dcbh

Comment Details

Submitter Info

Document Subtype
Public Comment

Received Date
Oct 28, 2024



Your Voice in Federal Decision Making

[About](#) [Bulk Data Download](#) [Agencies](#) [Learn](#) [Reports](#) [FAQ](#)
(/about) (/bulkdownload) (/agencies) (/learn) (/dotreports) (/faq)

[Privacy & Security Notice \(/privacy-notice\)](#) | [User Notice \(/user-notice\)](#) |
[Accessibility Statement \(/accessibility\)](#) | [API Requests \(https://open.gsa.gov/api/regulationsgov/\)](https://open.gsa.gov/api/regulationsgov/) |
[FOIA \(https://www.gsa.gov/reference/freedom-of-information-act-foia\)](https://www.gsa.gov/reference/freedom-of-information-act-foia)

[Support \(/support\)](#)

Give Feedback