



AGROEXPO

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

Prepared: April 3, 2023

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

AgroExpo takes the health and safety of our attendees, vendors and volunteers seriously. We want you to know that we are committed to reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and we are ready to provide a healthy and safe venue and operation of the 2023 AgroExpo.

Our plan is based on information and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) at the time of its development. Because the COVID-19 situation is frequently changing, the need for modifications may occur based on further guidance provided by the CDC, OSHA, and other public officials at the state or local levels. **AgroExpo** is focused on three lines of defense:

1. Following increased sanitation protocols while providing opportunities for social and safe distancing.
2. Encourage the use of proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when necessary.

Note: **AgroExpo** may amend this Plan based on changing requirements or recommendations.

This Plan takes into consideration that the spread of COVID-19 can come from several sources:

- Vendors
- Attendees
- Show staff
- General public

AgroExpo vendors, attendees and show staff fall into the following category as defined by OSHA:

- Lower exposure risk (the work performed does not require direct contact with people known or suspected to be infected with COVID-19 or frequent close contact with the public).

COVID-19 AGROEXPO COORDINATORS

AgroExpo has designated the following staff as its COVID-19 Event Coordinator:

- **Marnie Swartzendruber, AgroExpo Coordinator** info@theagroexpo.com 989-640-6175

The Coordinators responsibilities include:

- Staying current on federal, state and local guidance
- Incorporating those recommendations into the event
- Training event staff on control practices, proper use of PPE and notification protocols of any COVID-19 symptoms or suspected cases of COVID-19
- Communicating protocols and expectations for the 2023 AgroExpo to vendors and attendees

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGROEXPO Show Staff

All **AgroExpo** show staff must be familiar with this Plan and be ready to answer questions from vendors and attendees. Additionally, **AgroExpo** expects that all show staff will set a good example by following this Plan. This includes practicing good personal hygiene and event safety practices to prevent the spread of the virus.

AgroExpo will:

- Promote attendees to register for admissions using www.theagroexpo.com or sign up day of the show.
- Encourage safe distancing practices.
- Strongly encourage face coverings for those who may be more vulnerable or have had symptoms of Covid-19 prior or during the show.
- Increase facility cleaning and disinfection to limit exposure to COVID-19, especially on high-touch surfaces.
- Have cleaning supplies available to show staff throughout the event.

We are asking show staff to help with our prevention efforts. **AgroExpo** understands that in order to minimize the impact of COVID-19 at our event, everyone needs to play his or her part. We have instituted several best practices to minimize exposure to COVID-19 and prevent its spread. This includes specific cleaning efforts. All show staff must follow these best practices to be effective. If they have specific questions about this Plan or COVID-19, refer to an AgroExpo show coordinator for guidance.

OSHA and the CDC Prevention Guidelines

OSHA and the CDC have provided the following preventive guidance for all regardless of exposure risk:

- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Follow appropriate respiratory etiquette, which includes covering for coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who is sick.
- Maintain appropriate social distance of six feet to the greatest extent possible.

Additionally, show staff must familiarize themselves with the symptoms and exposure risks of COVID-19. The primary symptoms of COVID-19 include the following:

- Dry cough;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Or at least two of these symptoms:

- Fever (either feeling feverish or a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher);
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Individuals with COVID-19 may also have early symptoms such as: diarrhea, nausea/vomiting, and runny nose.

If you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as an atypical cough or shortness of breath, do not report to show site. Notify a show coordinator by phone immediately, and consult your healthcare provider. We have the responsibility to work to identify and notify all show staff who have close contact with individuals with COVID-19 symptoms. “Close contact” is not brief or incidental contact with a person with COVID-19 symptoms.

The CDC defines “close contact” as either:

- Being within roughly six feet of a COVID-19 infected person or a person with any symptom(s) for a “prolonged period of time;” (the CDC estimates range from 10 to 30 minutes, or,
- Having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 infected person or a person with any COVID-19 symptom(s) (i.e., being coughed on).

HEALTH AND SAFETY PREVENTATIVE MEASURES FOR **AGROEXPO**

AgroExpo has put a number of best practices and measures in place to help ensure the health and safety of identified groups of individuals. With each group of individuals, our Plan is focused on three lines of defense – limiting the number of people together at a time, sanitizing all areas and requiring appropriate personal protection equipment.

Minimizing exposure from co-workers.

AgroExpo takes the following steps to minimize exposure from co-workers to COVID-19 by educating show staff on protective behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19 and provide show staff with the necessary tools for these protective behaviors, including:

General Education:

- Posting CDC information, including recommendations on risk factors
- Informing show staff of the importance of good hand hygiene. Regularly washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is one of the most effective ways for show staff to minimize exposure to COVID-19. If soap and water are not readily available, show staff should use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol. If hands are visibly dirty, soap and water should be chosen over hand sanitizer.
- Encourage good hand hygiene by ensuring that adequate supplies of soap and hand sanitizer are maintained and placing hand sanitizers in multiple locations.
- When possible, avoid the use of other show staff’s phones, desks, offices, other work tools and equipment, and other commonly touched surfaces.
 - If the above cannot be avoided, clean and disinfect them before and after use.

This Plan is based on information and guidance from the CDC and OSHA at the time of its development. The safety of our show staff and visitors remain the top priority at **AgroExpo**. We recognize that all individuals are responsible for preventing the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our workforce and visitors. We thank you for becoming familiar with the AgroExpo COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan to help us enhance the safety of this event.