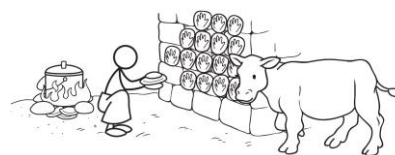


# Environmental Sanitation Inspection Form: Animal Excreta Management



## Part 1. General information:

- a. Location: .....
- b. Village/Town: .....
- c. People served: .....
- d. Date of visit: .....

**Part 2. Risk assessment:** Please adapt this form for the local context. Remove questions that are not appropriate and add questions that are appropriate.

Walk through the community to observe practices and ask community members questions. Be respectful of the community and local traditions. When necessary, seek permission from community leaders to do the inspection.

Circle 'Yes' if there is a potential risk and 'No' if there is no or very low risk. Add notes to the results and comments section on the next page. See explanation on the next page for details about each question.

	Question	Observation	
		Yes	No
1	Are animals walking through the community freely?	Yes	No
2	Do livestock live in the household with family members?	Yes	No
3	Do cats live in the household with pregnant women?	Yes	No
4	Is animal excreta poorly managed around the households (e.g., animal feces are not collected or properly disposed)?	Yes	No
5	Do people use untreated animal excreta on crops or gardens as fertilizer?	Yes	No
6	Do animals have access to crops or gardens in the community?	Yes	No
7	Do animals have access within 10 m of water sources in the community?	Yes	No
8	Is animal excreta poorly handled when used as fuel or within the home (e.g., no handwashing with soap after making or burning dung cakes/pats)?	Yes	No
9	Is animal excreta compost poorly managed (e.g., people or animals can easily contact the excreta while being composted)?	Yes	No
10	Do people practice poor personal hygiene after handling livestock and animal excreta?	Yes	No
<b>Risk of contamination</b> (add the number of 'Yes' answers)			

**Part 3. Results and comments:**

a. Risk of contamination (check the appropriate box):

9-10 = Very high	6-8 = High	3-5 = Medium	0-2 = Low

b. The following risks were observed:

**Part 4. Name and signature of inspectors:**

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**Explanatory Notes: Animal Excreta Management**

1. *Are animals walking through the community freely?* Animals that freely roam the community can contaminate water sources, food, people and other animals. Observe whether livestock animals (e.g., cattle, goats) or stray animals (e.g., cats, dogs) are freely roaming the community around homes and gardens. Fences (to keep the animals in or out) are a good way to reduce the risk of contamination.
2. *Do livestock live in the household with family members?* Livestock may live in the household with family members, including goats and sheep. There is a high risk of contamination when livestock sleep and live within the household. If this is not practiced, then circle 'No'.
3. *Do cats live in the household with pregnant women?* Cat feces can transmit a disease called toxoplasmosis. A pregnant women infected with toxoplasmosis can pass the parasite on to their unborn child. The disease has health impacts on the child, such as vision loss, mental disability and seizures. Women who are or may become pregnant should avoid coming into contact with cat feces, wash hands with soap after contacting soil or clean food from a garden.
4. *Is animal excreta poorly managed around the households (e.g., animal excreta is not collected)?* Animal excreta around households should be collected on a daily basis and moved to a location that is away from water, food and people, especially children. Observe whether livestock animals (e.g., cattle, goats) are kept away from home gardens by using fences or tethers.
5. *Do people use untreated animal excreta on crops or gardens as fertilizer?* Observe or ask if animal excreta is applied to agricultural crops or gardens as a fertilizer. There is a high risk of contamination if the community uses animal excreta directly on crops or gardens. Depending on the type and extent of treatment, if treatment is used at all, pathogens may still be a risk to both human and animal health.
6. *Do animals have access to crops or gardens in the community?* If there is no fence (or the fence is damaged) then animals can access the crops or gardens and may pollute the area with excreta. You will need to check the protection of the site as well as check whether animals are routinely in the area of crops or gardens.
7. *Do animals have access within 10 m of water sources in the community?* If there is no fence (or the fence is damaged) then animals can access the water source and may damage the structure as well as pollute the area with excreta. You will need to check the protection of the site as well as check whether animals are routinely in the area (sometimes animals are kept in the fenced area for security purposes) (WHO, 2012).
8. *Is animal excreta poorly handled when used as fuel or within the home?* There is a high risk of contamination if people are not practicing good hygiene when handling animal excreta. It is very important that people wash their hands with soap and water after making animal dung cakes or pats and before touching food (e.g., preparing food, eating). People can also reduce transmission of pathogens by wearing protective clothing, such as gloves, when handling animal dung in the home. If this is not practiced, then circle 'No'.

9. *Is animal excreta compost poorly managed (e.g., humans or animals can easily contact animal feces)?* Composting is a traditional practice in many rural communities. The risk of contamination from the compost pile is high if the compost is easy to access by household members and animals. If this is not practiced, then circle 'No'.
10. *Do people practice poor personal hygiene after handling livestock and animal excreta?* It is very important that people wash their hands with soap and water after handling livestock and animal excreta. People can also reduce transmission of pathogens by wearing protective clothing, such as gloves, when handling livestock and animal excreta.

### Additional Resources

CAWST (2014). Environmental Sanitation Inspection Forms. CAWST, Calgary, Canada. Available at: [www.cawst.org/resources](http://www.cawst.org/resources).

- Use this form with the other Environmental Sanitation Inspection Forms, in particular the Vector Control Form.

CAWST (2013). Technical Brief: Animal Excreta Management. CAWST, Calgary, Canada. Available at: [www.cawst.org/resources](http://www.cawst.org/resources).

- This Technical Brief discusses diseases related to animal excreta and how to properly treat, use and dispose of animal excreta.

### References

Stockholm Environment Institute (1998). Proxy Indicators for Rapid Assessment of Environmental Health Status of Residential Areas: The Case of the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area (GAMA), Ghana. Available at: <http://www.ircwash.org/sites/default/files/Songsore-1998-Proxy.pdf>

World Health Organization (2012). Rapid Assessment of Drinking-Water Quality: A Handbook for Implementation. WHO, Geneva, Switzerland. Available at: [www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/2012/rapid\\_assessment/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/2012/rapid_assessment/en/index.html)

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