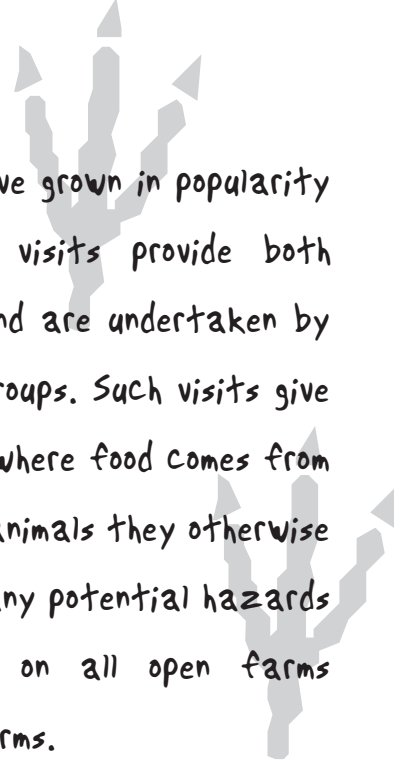




Visits to farms have grown in popularity over recent years. Farm visits provide both education and enjoyment and are undertaken by families and by organised groups. Such visits give children the chance to see where food comes from and to have contact with animals they otherwise might not see. There are many potential hazards (as with domestic pets) on all open farms including pet and animal farms.

The following is a list of precautions that should be taken:-



VISITORS GUIDELINES:

- 1 OBSERVE FARM NOTICES.
 - 2 Do not eat or drink unpasteurised produce (such as milk or cheese). Do not taste animal feedstuffs.
 - 3 Ensure that all cuts/broken skin are covered with waterproof plasters.
 - 4 When handling animals, make sure they do not come in contact with your face.
 - 5 Eat only in a designated eating area.
 - 6 Wash and dry hands thoroughly after contact with animals / animal feed and before eating and drinking.
 - 7 Do not eat anything which may have fallen on the ground.
 - 8 Children should be discouraged from putting fingers in their own mouths or in the mouths of animals
 - 9 Do not touch manure or slurry, as it may be a source of infection.
 - 10 Feeding of animals should be supervised.
 - 11 Pregnant women should not handle sheep or new born lambs.
 - 12 Visitors should keep away from farm equipment and machinery.
 - 13 Before departure wash hands thoroughly and ensure footwear is free from animal dung.
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This leaflet is published by the South Eastern Regional Zoonosis Committee, (including the HSE, The Dept of Agriculture & Food , The Dept of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources, The City Council of Waterford and The County Councils of Carlow, Wexford, Kilkenny, Waterford and South Tipperary) in conjunction with Pet and Open Farm owners in the South East.

HSE Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Visitors Guide

TO

OPEN FARMS