


Animal Welfare

During Animal Health Emergencies

Livestock



Animal Welfare

- Ethical responsibility
- Ensuring well being
 - Physical and mental
- Consideration of
 - Health
 - Behavior
 - Biological function
- Continuously evaluate



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The Five Freedoms

- Define ideal states of welfare
- Framework for analysis of welfare
 - Freedom from hunger and thirst
 - Freedom from discomfort
 - Freedom from pain, injury, and disease
 - Freedom to express normal behavior
 - Freedom from fear and distress

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Freedom from Hunger and Thirst

	Water (per head per day)	Feed (per head per day)
Cattle	6-9 gallons	8-20 pounds hay
Pigs	1-3 gallons	3 pounds grain
Sheep Goats	3 quarts	3 pounds hay




- Daily requirements vary with species and age
- Monitor feed/water intake

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Freedom from Discomfort

- Appropriately sized confinement space
 - Stalls or outdoor pens
 - Protect from elements
 - Appropriate temperature for time of year
 - Ventilation
- Bedding
 - Saw dust
 - Wood chips
 - Straw
- Waste management



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Freedom from Pain, Injury, and Disease



- Examine upon entry/exit
 - Illness
 - Injury
 - Nutritional well-being
- Treat appropriately
 - Medical, surgical
 - Euthanasia
- Monitor
- May have delay in showing signs
 - Stress analgesia



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Freedom to Express Normal Behavior

- Livestock
 - Herd animals
 - Prey animals
 - Anxious when isolated
 - Pigs: Inquisitive nature and strong natural urge to escape
 - Goats: Difficult to keep confined

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Freedom from Fear and Distress


- Recognize normal vs. abnormal
 - Elevated stress – unpredictable
 - Experienced handlers
- Safe transport
 - Avoid overcrowding
 - Familiar groups
- Group by species, age, gender, farm of origin, pregnant animals




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Responders: Mental Health and Animals

- Response stress
 - Can affect responder mental health
 - May affect animal welfare
 - Responder apathy
 - Responder fatigue
 - Uncompleted tasks
 - Carelessness of tasks
 - Forgetting overall welfare needs



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Resources

- American Veterinary Medical Association
 - The veterinarian’s role in animal welfare
www.avma.org/products/animal_welfare/welfare.pdf
 - AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia
www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/euthanasia.pdf
- USDA Animal Welfare Information Center
 - <http://awic.nal.usda.gov>
- OIE Animal Welfare Guidelines
 - Terrestrial Animal Health Code
www.oie.int
- American College of Animal Welfare
 - www.acaw.org

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