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On-Farm Assessments/Audits



What are Assessments/Audits?

- Operation Review by an Assessor/Auditor
 - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
 - Operation Records
 - Observation of Daily Production Practices
 - Observation of Animal Care and Well Being



Why Assessments / Audits?

■ Consumers

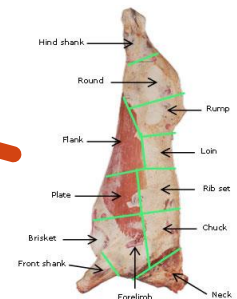
- Want to know how and where their Beef is raised.
- Wholesome, Safety, Quality Beef Products

■ Processors

- Verified Source
- Creditable Source

■ Producers

- Product Integrity
- Best Management Practices



Who wants the Assessments/Audits?

■ Consumers

- McDonald's (2016 – “Sustainable” Beef?)
- Wendy's (2019 - 90% Beef from BQA Certified Operations)

■ Processors

- Tyson (Farm Check)
- JBS (??)
- Cargill (BQA Assessment)

■ Beef Producers

- Market Accessibility



What is in the Assessments/Audits?

- Key Elements

- Employee Training Documentation
- Review of Standard Operating Procedures
- Daily Observations & Documentation
- Pen Observations (Waterers, Bunks, Maintenance)
- Animal Handling Observations
- Euthanasia SOP, Plus Secondary
- Acts of Animal Abuse



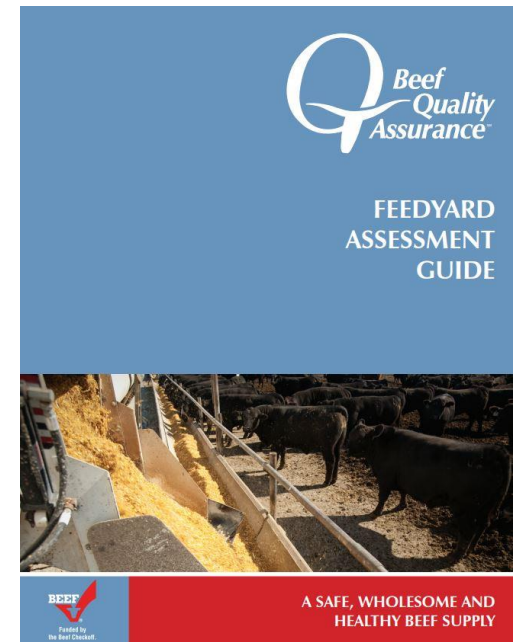
Can We Fail? Then What?

- NO, but will need to re-evaluate or correct!
- Scoring the Audit/Assessment
 - **Acceptable**
 - **Requires Action**
 - **Unacceptable** (Must Be Corrected)



How do we prepare for the Audit?

- NCBA Assessments (bqa.org)
 - Cow-Calf Assessment
 - Stocker Assessment
 - Feedlot Assessment
- State BQA Websites
 - Iowa – www.iabeef.org/resources/producer-resources
 - Nebraska – bqa.unl.edu



Standard Operating Procedures

- Guide for Judicious Use of Antibiotics
- Animal Carcass Disposal
- Animal Health Product Receiving, Storage and Handling Protocol
- Broken Needle Procedures
- Daily Observation Log
- Emergency Action Planning
- Feed and Water Analyses
- Pen Surface Management (Indoor)
- Pen Surface Management (Outdoor)
- Humane Euthanasia of Cattle
- Management of Non-Ambulatory Cattle
- Medicated Feed Additive Protocol
- Preventative Herd Health Protocol
- Processing, Vaccination and Treatment Records
- Protocol for Security, Biosecurity and Biocontainment
- Protocol for Shipping Cattle
- Receiving, Acclimation and Processing Cattle Protocol
- Treatment Protocol
- Water Tank Management



Assessment

	Category Point	Measure	Acceptable/Yes	Requires Action ▲	Unacceptable/No ▲	Not Applicable
	BMPs [Protocols or Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)] must be provided and documented for the following category points, and when specifics are described, that protocol must contain each of the item(s) noted within the measure. If the measure is fully met, mark Acceptable/Yes. If not, make an appropriate mark and fill out the comments section.					
	Herd Health	Are documented herd health protocols in place that address disease prevention, management, and treatment?				
	Antibiotic Stewardship	Have treatment protocols for diseases, lameness, digestive disorders and other cattle health and well-being issues been developed with the feedyard veterinarian, in accordance with current FDA guidance and BQA guidelines for the judicious use of antibiotics?				
	Biosecurity	Is a documented biosecurity protocol in place that addresses visitor logs, staff training, physical security and a current biosecurity plan?				



Assessment

Cattle Handling Observation Scoresheet

TO - Total Observed _____	Max. less than	P/E
E - Electric Prod used _____ / TO x 100 = _____%	10%	P/F
F - Fell upon release from chute _____ / TO x 100 = _____%	2%	P/F
S - Stumbled / Tripped when released _____ / TO x 100 = _____%	10%	P/F
V - Vocalized in chute before procedures _____ / TO x 100 = _____%	5%	P/F
J - Jumped or Ran when released _____ / TO x 100 = _____%	25%	P/F
M - Miscaught and not readjusted _____ / TO x 100 = _____%	0%	P/F

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20



Assessment

Pen/Equipment Observation Scoresheet

TO - Total Observed _____

Min. =

P/E

S - Stocking Rate/Space is o.k. _____ / TO x 100 = _____%

0%

P/F

PM - Pen/Mud is o.k. _____ / TO x 100 = _____%

70%

P/F

W - Water is accessible _____ / TO x 100 = _____%

70%

P/F

F - Feedbunks accessible/clean _____ / TO x 100 = _____%

70%

P/F

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Comments:



What's the Bottom Line?

- Follow NCBA Assessment Guidelines
- Be Prepared
- Have Documentation
 - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
 - Health Records and Product Inventories
 - Feed Records and Inventories
- Train Employees
 - BQA
- Maintain Best Management Practices



Assessment To Audit

- National Pork Board
 - Common Swine Industry Audit
- National Cattlemen's Beef Association
 - Developing an industry wide audit
 - Based off the BQA Assessments
 - US Roundtable for Sustainable Beef Assessment



National BQA Assessment Database (feedyardassessment.org)

- Operation Name
- City
- State
- Year Performed



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