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.iabeeef.org/resources/producer-resources](http://www.iabeeef.org/resources/producer-resources)
  - Nebraska – [bqa.unl.edu](http://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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category Point</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Acceptable/Yes</th>
<th>Requires Action</th>
<th>Unacceptable/No</th>
<th>Not Applicable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Herd Health</strong></td>
<td>Are documented herd health protocols in place that address disease prevention, management, and treatment?</td>
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<td><strong>Antibiotic Stewardship</strong></td>
<td>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?</td>
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<td><strong>Biosecurity</strong></td>
<td>Is a documented biosecurity protocol in place that addresses visitor logs, staff training, physical security and a current biosecurity plan?</td>
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## Cattle Handling Observation Scoresheet

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<tr>
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<th>Max. less than</th>
<th>P/F</th>
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<tr>
<td>E - Electric Prod used ( \frac{____}{TO \times 100} )</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>P/F</td>
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<tr>
<td>F - Fell upon release from chute ( \frac{____}{TO \times 100} )</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>P/F</td>
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<tr>
<td>S - Stumbled / Tripped when released ( \frac{____}{TO \times 100} )</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>P/F</td>
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<td>V - Vocalized in chute before procedures ( \frac{____}{TO \times 100} )</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>P/F</td>
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<td>J - Jumped or Ran when released ( \frac{____}{TO \times 100} )</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>P/F</td>
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<td>M - Miscaught and not readjusted ( \frac{____}{TO \times 100} )</td>
<td>0%</td>
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Pen/Equipment Observation Scoresheet

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TO - Total Observed ________
S - Stocking Rate/Space is o.k. ________ / TO x 100 = ________%
PM - Pen/Mud is o.k. ________ / TO x 100 = ________%
W - Water is accessible ________ / TO x 100 = ________%
F - Feedbunks accessible/clean ________ / TO x 100 = ________%

Comments:

Min. = 0%
P/E = P/F
Min. = 70%
P/E = P/F
Min. = 70%
P/E = P/F
Min. = 70%
P/E = P/F
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

Feedyard Assessment
A list of national feedyards assessed in accordance with NCBA requirements
FIND FEEDYARDS
Beef Quality Assurance

Rob Eirich
Extension Educator/Director of BQA
reirich2@unl.edu
308.632-1230

Doug Bear
Iowa Beef Council/BQA Coordinator
doug@iabeef.org
515.296.2305