Emergency Depopulation of Livestock Facilities During COVID-19

Animals continue to grow and move through livestock production systems despite packing plant closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. These recommendations pertain to livestock farmers who may be forced to euthanize livestock to avoid exposing their animals and workers to unsafe conditions.

1 **Humane animal handling and euthanasia practices should always be a priority.** Contact your herd veterinarian for guidance on accepted euthanasia methods.

2 **Options for carcass disposal in Nebraska: rendering, composting, traditional burial, above-ground burial (temporary order allowing this method) incineration, and landfilling.** Contact your Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) Field Inspector if you plan to dispose of animals on-farm.

3 **Financial and technical assistance for COVID-19 related carcass disposal is available through the** USDA Emergency Animal Mortality Management Initiative. Contact the USDA Service Center in your county. Completion of NRCS Form 1200 and an approved early start waiver are required before burial of any animals for potential USDA financial assistance.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Swine COVID-19 Response Materials
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Recommendations for the Depopulation of Swine
American Association of Swine Veterinarians

What You Need to Know About COVID-19
National Pork Board

Pork Industry COVID-19 Resources
National Pork Board

Tools for Pork Producers
National Pork Board

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