



## Livestock Disaster Preparedness Project – BUILDING COLLAPSE

It is not uncommon for farm structures to collapse. This can occur due to heavy snowfall or due to adverse weather such as tornados or high winds. Livestock that are commonly housed inside a farm building structure include hogs, poultry, dairy cattle and stabled horses. Livestock event centers that may also be at risk of collapse are riding or livestock show arenas.

Long term temporary housing and feed supplies may need to be established until animals can safely return. Animals may need to be sold if the provision for temporary housing is unable to be secured.

### Entities Impacted

- All animals in the effected building and any animals that required access to the building.
- Possible catastrophic impact on health and welfare including pain and suffering, loss of housing/containment, loss of feed and water source.

### Response and Recovery

- Call 911 and wait for first responders to arrive before entering building.
- Never enter an unstable structure to rescue animals. Human safety always takes precedent over that of an animal.
- Be alert at all times of loose livestock. These animals will be very frightened and may charge or attack first responders or other people in the area.
- Utilize low stress, safe livestock handling practices.
- Once first responders arrive.
- For partial collapses, only evacuate animals from areas where animals are accessible, and building is stable.
- When entering the structure, use extreme caution. Be on the lookout not just for building damage, but also frightened animals.
- Examine animals for injuries. Only mobile animals can be removed from the facility. Non-ambulatory animals must be euthanized where they are found. Animals that require euthanasia must be euthanized as soon as it can safely be done. Animals cannot be transported for euthanasia but must be euthanized where they are located.
- Injured animals are to be moved to designated triage site. If triage has been established away from the incident site, only animals that meet standards for transport are to be moved to designated triage area.
- Remove dead stock to designated disposal site.
- All animals that are loose or unable to be contained at the farm or facility will need to be relocated to the designated temporary housing facility.
- Means and methods of dead stock will need to be determined and animals removed to designated disposal site.
- Long term temporary housing and feed supplies may need to be established until animals can return home.
- Animals may need to be sold if the provision for temporary housing is unable to be secured.