



Annex D – Disaster Planning for Farm Animal Facilities

January 2018

PVAMU Annex D – Disaster Planning for Farm Animal Facilities

Promulgation Statement

The Disaster Planning for Farm Animal Facilities is a guide to how the College of Agriculture & Human Sciences maintains farm operations during an emergency situation. The Disaster Planning for Farm Animal Facilities is written in support of the Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) Emergency Management Plan (EMP).

Approval and Implementation

This annex is hereby approved, superseding all previous editions, and is effective immediately upon being signed by all signature authorities below.

Approved:  _____ Date: 01-24-2018 _____

Dr. Ali Fares, Interim Dean
College of Agriculture & Human Sciences
Prairie View A&M University

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Record of Changes

Change #	Date	Part Affected	Date Posted	Who Posted

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Introduction:

Prairie View A&M University and the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences (CARC) acknowledges that it is vital to have written plans in place to address the proper care and maintenance for any and all livestock species contained within and under the supervision of the University Farm in preparation for potential disasters. This document contains a site-specific emergency plan for all species of animals contained on the University Farm that are used for research, teaching and extension purposes. This plan is also an extension of the SOP manual already in place to specifically address the plans to mitigate and minimize animal distress, injury and/or loss due to circumstances created by any form of disaster. It is understood that the execution of policies and procedures to care for livestock during these period of disaster are also to include parameters to ensure employee and/or caregiver safety.

Typical disasters are region specific and for our region are usually associated with high wind, tornado, hurricane, fire, flood, ice and breach of biosecurity that threatens the well-being of the animals.

This DISASTER PLAN for the University Farm is an evolving document that will undergo regular review to update and change the plan to make it a more comprehensive and effective document.

I. The Farm Disaster Planning Team (FDPT) (Note: The member of the FDPT is comprised of College, and University personal.)

- a. The FDPT are considered essential personnel during the event.
- b. A safe site will be established to accommodate the DPT during the emergency event and will be at a location that has emergency power capabilities to operate communication needs as well as to monitor emergency channels.
- c. Although little can be done generally, during most emergency events that impact the farm, the DPT will be relied upon to cover veterinary and husbandry needs during the immediate event aftermath since other staff personnel will have evacuated the farm.
- d. The FDPT members should consider having: cell phones, sleeping bags, flashlights, extra batteries, battery powered radios, hygienic supplies, backup clothes, water, non-perishable food, first aid kit, and any personal prescription medicines.

II. Animal Species and Locations

- a. The normal care and maintenance of all university farm species are outlined in the current Farm SOP (FSOP) manual. As part of the FSOP, all animals are individually identified with some form of external identification (ear tags, ear punch, collars, bands) and inventory records are maintained and upgraded on a monthly basis. Inventory records are kept in a secure file in the University Farm Office as well as at a secure location in the College of Agriculture and Human Science main office. The security and access to these records are of importance to identify all species of livestock before and after any emergency incident.
- b. All species (except poultry) are maintained under either pasture or pasture and barn confinement. Appendix B illustrates a satellite photo that specifically identifies farm

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location under normal conditions for each species and identified areas to which animals are to be moved in emergency situations. According to the report by the Humane Society of the United States, the leading cause of injury or death of large animals in disasters such as hurricanes and similar events is collapsing shelters, flying debris, and electrocution. Evacuation to safe locations is usually not feasible with large numbers of animals and most experts consider confinement to buildings or other small areas is not as effective as allowing animals to seek safety in open pastures on higher ground.

- i. Thus, the primary course of action for all species of livestock is to designate on farm areas (see attached aerial photos) that are deemed most secure and safe for animals to survive during most emergency situations. The places selected are not subject to flooding, have available forage or hay and will have access to water. All species will be maintained in these designated areas until other areas of the farm are determined to be safe and secure for livestock use after the event.

III. Pre- event preparations

- a. Key farm personnel will have emergency management training every two years. This training will specifically address the policies and protocols developed for the Prairie View Farm with its livestock species.
- b. The Farm Director and Farm Manager will have the responsibility to monitor environmental conditions on a daily basis and will decide if and when to implement emergency measures for the farm.
1. Emergency events that do not lend themselves to advanced actions will be dealt with on an event basis. The tentative flow of activity will be as follows:
 - a. Event will be identified and reported to Farm Director or Farm Manager
 - b. Farm manger will convene (by whatever means is most rapid, i.e., at university or by conference call) the first response team to assess problem and develop and emergency plan
 - c. Response plan will be implemented by whatever means is necessary to mitigate loss/injury and secure safety of livestock
 - d. Situation will be monitored continuously until the emergency is deemed over and livestock care established to maintain safety until post occurrence assessment deems return to regular management conditions.

IV. Monitoring of Animal Care/Safety during Emergency

- a. Key personnel will continuously monitor level of emergency and level of animal security throughout the event
- b. Monitoring will be conducted only if deemed safe for emergency personnel

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- c. The emergency response team will decide if and when the peak emergency occurrence is over so that we can proceed to the post occurrence assessment and action to insure safety of animals.

V. Post Event Assessment and Action

- a. Key personnel will conduct post occurrence assessment of determine first if any immediate action(s) have to take place to assure the safety of all livestock species including need for immediate care of injured animals, integrity of containment area, any additional livestock needs (water, food, shelter, movement to an alternative location, etc.) and an assessment of any lost livestock.
- b. Any deceased animals will be identified and removed to an on farm disposal station in anticipation of physical removal to our contracted livestock disposal vendor.
- c. Once initial livestock assessment has been conducted and any immediate needed actions taken, the remainder of the farm will be assessed to evaluate containment integrity and damage to buildings which will have to be removed and replaced before livestock are allowed to return to normal areas of use.
- d. Any breach of perimeter fencing will have to be repaired as soon as possible to insure that other livestock not of the PV flock will come onto the property. Also, any outside livestock that have entered the PV farm area will be gathered and isolated until ownership of these animals is established and owner can pick them up.
- e. The emergency response team will determine if and when it is safe to return animals to their regular areas.
- f. After return to normal conditions, the Farm Director will develop a comprehensive report assessing the quality of the response to the event along with any comments and suggestions regarding modification of the protocol to make future responses more effective. A report of livestock injury and death will be made and submitted to our inventory officer.

VI. Other Disaster Planning areas

- a. Greenhouse area: Since there is a great deal of valuable plant genetics associated with the greenhouse complex, measures must be taken to move valuable plant stock to designated safe locations. If there is sufficient advance notice of an impending disaster, plants, seeds, and any other valuable plant genetics and materials will be moved to an enclosed, secure location on campus such as the farm shop building to protect these materials.

VII. Appendices:

- a. Appendix A - Online Resources for Emergency Preparedness
- b. Appendix B - Aerial Photo of Current and Designated Areas for Farm Livestock
- c. Appendix C – Plan's Emergency Contact Information

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APPENDIX A: Online Resources for Emergency Preparedness

1. <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/agency/contact.html>
2. <http://awic.nal.usda.gov/farm-animals/disaster-planning>
3. <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/emergency/HurricaneEvacuationAndMassCarePlan-Att6.pdf>
4. <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/livestk/01815.html>
5. <https://www.animallaw.info/article/detailed-discussion-state-emergency-planning-laws-pets>
6. <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Education-Training/Animal-Care-Modules/Intro-Animal-Emergency-Mgmt-Course-Materials.pdf>

APPENDIX B: Arial Photo of Current and Designated Areas for Farm Livestock During a Disaster



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APPENDIX C – Plan’s Emergency Contact Information

A. Core FDPT

- a. Dr. Ali Fares, Interim Dean, CAHS
 - i. Cell: 808-499-7923; Office: 936-261-5019
- b. Dr. Louis Nuti, Director of Farm Operations
 - i. Cell: 979-277-9797; Office: 936-261-5085
- c. Mr. Neal Baines, Admin. Office, CAHS
 - i. Cell: 281-627-8640; Office: 936-261-5106
- d. Dr. Eustace Duffus, Farm Manager
 - i. Cell: 281-650-5763; Office: 936-261-5013
- e. Dr. Gary Newton, Animal Systems and IGRC
 - i. Cell: 936-443-4025; Office: 936-261-5086
- f. Dr. Alfina Ho-Watson, DVM, IGRC Veterinarian
 - i. Cell: 607-339-6335; Office: 936-261-5088
- g. Mr. Willie DeWalt, Farm Worker (Note: Lives very close to campus)
 - i. Cell: 281-703-7498
- h. Mr. Kenneth Garfield, Farm Worker
 - i. Cell: 979-224-9896; Office: 936-261-5054
- i. Mr. Alec Boulds, Farm Worker
 - i. Cell: 832-452-2942; Office: 936-261-5054

B. Other Emergency Operations Contacts

- a. Dr. Wendell Baker, DVM, Baker Veterinary Services (University contracted external veterinarian)
 - i. 713-504-2644
- b. Aaron Scheffler, Director, Risk Management & Safety
 - i. Cell: 979-450-6382; Office: 936-261-1745
- c. University Police Department/Campus Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 - i. 936-261-1375