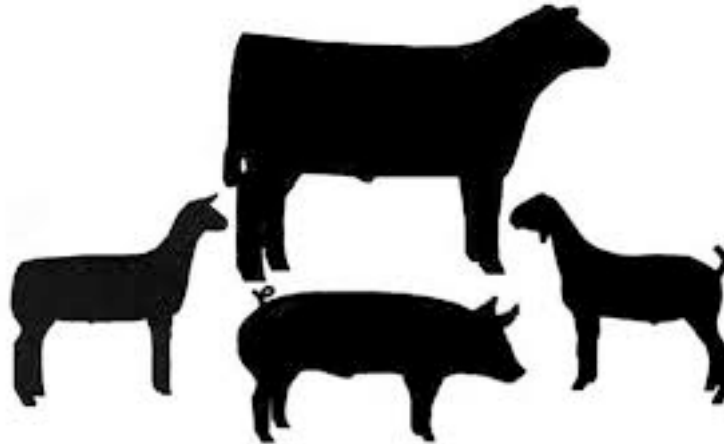


LIVESTOCK NEWSLETTER

July/August 2015



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"Who you going to call?"

With the increased risk for Avian Influenza I wanted to make sure everyone knew what steps to follow if you suspect your flock is sick.

1. **Call your local Veterinarian.** If they do not handle birds move on to step 2.
2. **Call the State Veterinarian.** If at all concerned don't hesitate to call. We would rather be safe than sorry.
919-733-7601
3. If all else fails call your local Cooperative Extension office for additional contacts.

Visit for more details:

<http://www.ncagr.gov/avianflu/industry.htm>

I also wanted to make you aware of the NC General Statutes - Chapter 68 Article 3. It is referring to fence laws and restricting animals from entering someone else's property. Keep your animals on your property to keep from getting fined or from having animals taken away.

NC State University
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Severe Weather Prep



Summer brings in all sorts of joys and fun, however it can bring some nasty storms as well. Now is the time to make sure you have your barns and pastures prepped for any type of weather that might come your way.

Tornadoes: During a strong wind event of any type (Hurricanes included) your animals are safer outside. They have a natural instinct to turn away from the wind to keep wind and water out of their faces. Being confined inside a barn can cause anxiety as well as injury/death in the event that your barn is blown down.



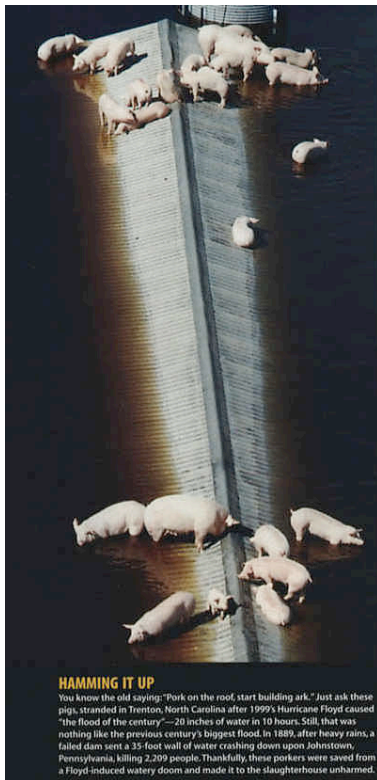
Lightning: If you are experiencing a lightning storm your horses are safer inside the barn. Lightning strikes the tallest object so if your animal is in the middle of a field they will be the target. Keep them inside a barn away from the tallest point (if your barn is an "A" frame) and keep them out of standing water. Also you can install a lightning rod and have a grounding system in place for your barn.



Drought: You have plenty of time to prepare for a drought. I suggest having a drought plan regardless of what the weatherman has said. Here are some things to consider:

- **Stockpile hay if possible.** Identify backup sources for hay.
- **Identify alternate water sources.** This is especially important if you rely on surface water or a shallow well. An animal's water intake needs increase during hot, dry periods.

- **Be alert to fire hazards.** The risk of fire increases during a drought.
- **Remove livestock from pasture to maintain the health of the pasture and the animals.**
- **Look for poisonous plants.** When feed is short, or animals are hungry, plants normally avoided become a tempting source of feed.



Flood: On the coastline we are well aware of the dangers associated with flooding. Flash flooding can occur during any significant rain event whether short lived or a few days long. Have a plan in place and watch the weather to keep your livestock safe.

- **Have an evacuation plan.**
- **Watch for down power lines.**
- **Have an electrical generator and supply of fuel ready on higher ground.** A generator is a critical piece of equipment to have during a power outage.
- **Scout for debris before returning animals to paddocks and pastures.** Significant amounts of debris can be deposited in pastures and paddocks after a flood.
- **Listen for reports of infectious disease outbreaks.** Outbreaks of diseases can occur among animals in some areas of the country, particularly during hot weather that immediately follows a flood.

Always be prepared for the worse and hope for the best!



Upcoming Events

There will be no Livestock Association Meeting in July

- July 21, 2015 (2-5pm)
3-Hour Animal Waste Class @ Wayne County Extension Office
 - **Contact Stefani Garbacik (919) 731-1525**
- July 22, 2015 (2-5pm)
3-Hour Animal Waste Class @ Duplin County Extension Office
Contact Wanda Hargrove (910) 296-2143 with questions
- July 28, 2015 (3-4pm)
Hauling Ag Commodities @ Onslow County Extension Office
Contact Valerie Futrell or Melissa Huffman (910) 455-5873
- August 11, 2015 (2-5pm)
3-Hour Animal Waste Class @ Onslow County Extension Office
Contact Valerie Futrell (910) 604-3378 with questions
- August 11, 2015 (7:00pm)
 - Livestock Association Meeting @ Burgaw Office
Speaker will be Steve McGill from Merial
 - **Contact Valerie Futrell (910) 604-3378**