



Environmental Review Audit Standards

GENERAL LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION FACILITY CONDITIONS

1. Measures are employed to prevent an uncontrolled release of manure in the event of a flood.
2. The site has a written Emergency Action Plan for preventing and mitigating environmental impacts.
3. The production site managed to prevent clean water from entering the site.
4. Stormwater that could be manure laden is managed by containments or flow controls.
5. Manure laden stormwater is managed in the Nutrient Management Plan or is released through a correctly functioning vegetative filter strip.
6. Production site drainage is diverted away from sensitive areas.
7. Areas where manure is handled/stored prevent run-off entry from surrounding areas/structures.
8. Manure containment or storage is managed to prevent clean water from entering.
9. Site vegetation is managed appropriately.
10. Exteriors of buildings are in good repair.
11. The site has all-weather access where appropriate.
12. The site is managed to prevent erosion and ponding.
13. Subsurface drain test records are current for the past two years.
14. Commodity storage area addresses stormwater run-off.
15. Silage leachate is contained/collected.
16. Leachate is properly utilized.
17. Processed wastewater is stored in containments.
18. Processed wastewater is included in the Nutrient Management Plan.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AREAS

1. Surface water protected from direct animal access.
2. Integrity of manure storage structure prevents seepage.
3. Warning signs are posted near access points and confined spaces.
4. Flush tanks have overflow protection.
5. Air quality is maintained to provide a healthy environment.
6. Fresh water additions to the manure system are metered.
7. There is a procedure for recharging pits when they are emptied.
8. Slug loading is avoided when adding manure to underbuilding pits.
9. Pump out/accesses are covered, sealed, and secured.
10. Manure is agitated sufficiently to suspend solids before pumping.
11. All scrapers and belts are operating to ensure proper manure removal.
12. Recycle/flush water taken from appropriate location in storage structure to aid air quality.

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13. Flush tanks are maintained to prevent leakage.
14. Flushed areas are free of solids/manure accumulation.
15. Bedding/litter is free of excessive manure.
16. Animal watering systems are free of leaks.
17. Animal cooling systems are free of leaks.
18. Living areas are free of spilled feed.
19. Waster feed is kept out of manure storages.
20. Insect and rodent populations are controlled.
21. Debris, birthing waste, and animal health consumables are prevented from entering manure storage.
22. Surface water is diverted from trench or bunker silos.
23. Run-off is diverted from buildings.
24. Manure that is stored above grade in a pit under a confinement building, has a record of assessing exposed building foundations for any manure seepage.
25. Areas under or around bulk feeding bins are free of accumulated spilled feed/grain.
26. Manure transfer lines, vents, and cleanouts are closed/secured.
27. Ventilation equipment is appropriately maintained.
28. Outdoor animal living areas are free of ponded water.
29. Living area drainage is kept from flowing into surface water or tile inlets.
30. Portable shade is located away from environmentally sensitive areas.
31. Fixed shade structures and feeding/watering troughs are managed to prevent groundcover destruction.
32. Pasture is managed to prevent bank and streambed erosion.
33. Streamside pastures are grazed only during non-vulnerable periods.
34. Stream crossings restrict access to other portions of the stream.
35. Stream crossings stabilized to prevent bank and streambed erosion.
36. Outdoor feeding and water areas are on non-permeable surfaces.
37. Pasture supplemental feeding/mineral stations are placed at an adequate distance from sensitive areas.
38. Structural designs and re-design drawings and specifications are on site.

OUTDOOR MANURE AND STORM WATER STORAGE

1. Dikes or embankments of holding ponds or manure structures are maintained free of damage.
2. There is an emergency shut-off for the transfer system.
3. A staff gauge is installed with adequate marking.
4. A secondary containment is able to hold the entire storage volume of the manure storage structure, in the case that surface water could be impacted.
5. Liquid manure storages are operated to minimize the potential for uncontrolled manure release.
6. The solid manure storage base is constructed to minimize permeability.
7. Areas immediately adjacent to holding ponds and manure storages are maintained free of damages.
8. The Emergency Action Plan addresses accidental manure spills.
9. There is a process for monitoring and/or measuring sludge or sediment build up.
10. Livestock is prevented from access to stormwater or manure structures.

11. There is a protocol for ensuring that containments aren't accessed by unauthorized humans and wildlife.
12. Embankments are kept free from woody plants, shrubs, trees, or other deep-rooted vegetation.
13. Manure storage covers are maintained free of water/organic matter.
14. Run-off from solid manure storages are collected and contained.
15. The solid manure storage has all-weather access.
16. Temporary manure stockpiles are stored under a roof or are covered.
17. Subsurface drainage around the manure storage or holding pond is monitored.

MANURE UTILIZATION

1. The Nutrient Management Plan is current.
2. Manure samples are analyzed for appropriate content.
3. Management has written transfer agreements for release of manure usage outside of management control.
4. Management has application agreements for manure application on non-owned land.
5. There is a log of all manure land application events by producer or custom applicator.
6. Soil tests are current for fields receiving manure for the last two years.
7. Application equipment is calibrated, or the calibration is verified annually.
8. Surface applied manure is incorporated or managed to prevent run-off and odor.
9. Manure is tested before release to outdoor parties for utilization.
10. The sampling procedure for manure tests are representative of the manure being removed from the production site.
11. If appropriate, manure transfer is covered in the Emergency Action Plan.
12. There is documentation that if a custom applicator is used, the custom applicator has been trained on the Emergency Action Plan procedures in the case of a spill.
13. Manure application equipment is clean and maintained.
14. Soil conservation measures are implemented on Highly Erodible Land, if used for manure applications.
15. Sensitive areas (tile inlets, wetlands, residence, surface water, etc.) are managed to avoid direct application, run-off, and drift.
16. Neighbors are notified seasonally prior to land applications.
17. Irrigation systems are visually monitored according to the inspection schedule.
18. Vegetative filter strips are maintained to allow for proper functioning.
19. There is a process for monitoring or protecting subsurface drainage on any application fields during application.
20. There is a protocol for spreading on snow covered or frozen ground.

MORTALITY MANAGEMENT

1. The producer has a Mortality Management Plan.
2. Carcasses are removed from animal living areas within 24 hours.
3. Mortality management areas are removed from public view.
4. Mortality management areas are managed to prevent unauthorized public or scavenger access.
5. The Mortality Management area has an impermeable base.
6. The mortality management area has all-weather access.

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7. Management provides an alternative disposal method for mortalities, if utilizing rendering.
8. The Nutrient Management Plan includes leachate or solids if composting is utilized.
9. There are no leaks in fuel storage or incinerator lines if incineration is used for mortality disposal.

Inspections and Records

1. Inspections are performed, recorded, and dated by trained personnel.
2. The frequency of inspections allows for timely corrective action.
3. Records are: retained on site for 5 years, signed, and dated.
4. There is a written inspection schedule for areas of the farm that include: weekly liquid manure storage, weekly liquid levels, monthly solid manure storage, monthly completed burial areas, spilled manure after transfer or load out, spilled feed, erosion, animals found in surface water or manmade containments, vegetation conditions, and manure access points.
5. Verification of where the Validus Certification Marks are used by the operation. (Brochures, pamphlets, website, packaging, etc.)