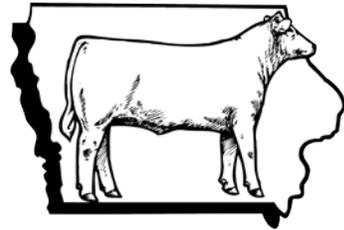


COALITION TO SUPPORT
IOWA'S FARMERS

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



Iowa Cattlemen's



Association



Rules for Calving Barns





What are calving barns?

- ▶ "Confinement feeding operation" means an animal feeding operation in which animals are confined to areas which are totally roofed.
- ▶ Confinement barn, cows will be locked under roof 45 days or more in a 12 month period.
- ▶ If both true then confinement rules apply.

▶ Size matters:

- ▶ Capacity determines which rules apply. Capacity is the maximum number of animals that will be confined at any one time.
- ▶ Although not specified under Iowa law, federal law provides that a cow/calf pair is to be counted as one animal unit.
- ▶ 500 Animal Units or Less - Small Animal Feeding Operations (SAFO)
- ▶ 500 to 1,000 Animal Units

New
Confinements,
Size matters!



What rules apply to all sized confinement barns?

- ▶ Setbacks to water
- ▶ Check for Alluvial and Karst soils
- ▶ Stormwater discharge permit
- ▶ All confinement animals counted together (Combination Farms)

Setbacks from water bodies:

- ▶ 100 to 200 feet for a confinement from a private well
- ▶ 200 feet from a water source (lake, river, reservoir, creek, stream, ditch or other body of water having definite banks and a bed)
- ▶ 1000 feet from a major water source (navigable lake or river listed in DNR rules)
- ▶ 2500 feet from a designated wetland
- ▶ 1000 feet from a known sinkhole



Alluvial and Karst

- ▶ **Alluvial soil/floodplain:** Alluvial soils are soils deposited by running water and are often located in existing **floodplains**.
- ▶ **Karst/Bedrock:** Karst terrain is characterized by the **presence of easily dissolved bedrock** (limestone and dolomite) near the ground surface. Because carbonate rocks can be dissolved by groundwater, karst areas are often characterized by **sinkholes, springs, and losing streams** where some surface flow is lost to groundwater.

Stormwater Discharge Permit

- ▶ Stormwater discharge permit: A storm water discharge permit is required if the area disturbed during construction is more than one acre. The permit is a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit required under the Clean Water Act. If a permit is required the operator must complete a pollution prevention plan and file their application for a permit 24 hours prior to construction if filing a general permit.





500 to 1,000 Animal Units

- ▶ Separation distances to residences, businesses, churches, schools, public use areas, and public roads must be met.
- ▶ Manure Management Plan or Nutrient Management Plan
- ▶ Certified Manure Applicator
- ▶ Construction Design Statement and Standards



Confinement Animals Counted Together (Combination Farms)

- ▶ Under state law, for the purpose of new construction permitting, all animals units in the same production practice need to be counted together.
- ▶ What this means is if you have a 2,400 head confinement hog barn and you are considering building a 600 head cattle confinement barn, you would need to count the animal units from both confinements together to know what separation distances and permitting requirements would need to be met for the proposed cattle confinement.



Before building, get yourself educated!!

- ▶ It costs too much to do it wrong!
- ▶ Contact someone to help you with the rules.
- ▶ Think about tomorrow, today.

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