

ANIMALS, WILD LIFE AND LIVE STOCK

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

PURPOSE

To ensure **high concentrations** of wildlife or domestic animals do not cause a food safety issue due to significant amounts of uncontrollable animal feces. The application of practices that can enhance food safety and that are also consistent with sustainable conservation are strongly encouraged.

THE FOLLOWING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED TO REQUIRE THE HARMING OF ANY WILDLIFE AND/OR DOMESTIC ANIMALS (I.E., TO HARASS, PURSUE, HUNT, SHOOT, WOUND, KILL, TRAP, CAPTURE, OR COLLECT, OR TO ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE IN ANY SUCH CONDUCT).

POLICIES:

1. Farming operations are **never** going to be able to exclude wildlife and/or domestic animals from entering crop production areas. However, every effort should be made to limit their access to the production areas. a. If fecal matter becomes a systematic event, it will result in an automatic failure.

2. Domestic animals and livestock are not allowed in the growing area or the equipment storage area.

3. If adjacent land has domestic animals and/or grazing land, buffer zones should be in place at least 30 feet from the edge of crop.

4. Wildlife and/or domestic animals are restricted from entering crop production areas by a variety of means including, but not limited to the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ Fencing
- ☐ Physical Repellents
- ☐ Scare Balloons
- ☐ Odoriferous Repellents
- ☐ Perimeter Monitoring
- ☐ Berms
- ☐ Other

- 5. Manure stored near or adjacent to crop production areas is contained to prevent contamination of crops.
- 6. Measures are taken to restrict livestock access to water sources used in crop production. Produce that has come into direct contact with fecal matter is not harvested.
- 7. A no harvest zone with a radius of approximately five-feet should be implemented around any contamination, unless or until adequate mitigation measures have been implemented.
- 8. If evidence of fecal matter is found, a food safety assessment should be conducted by a qualified worker.

PROCEDURE:

Perimeter and Water Source Monitoring:

- 1. Drive or walk around the growing area and water sources looking for the presence or signs of **significant, high concentrations** of wild or domestic animals, animal intrusion, cracked well heads, improper manure storage, trash, excessive plant material, or anything abnormal that may be a food safety or security risk.
- 2. Where appropriate, corrective measures are taken.
- 3. Corrective measures may include: Removing animal fecal material, disposing of crop which comes in direct contact with fecal material, repairing fences, removing dead carcasses, picking up trash, looking for signs of trespassing, etc.
- 4. Observations and corrective measures are logged in the Perimeter and Water Source Monitoring Log.
- 5. If treatment of a well and/or reservoir is required, document it on the NUOCA form.
- 6. If evidence of fecal matter is found, a food safety assessment should be conducted by a qualified worker.

Prepared By

Approved By

Version

Date