Animal and Range Sciences Department
Agricultural Animal Care Training Program
Approved by AACUC May 2003, updated Sept 2013

Goals
The goals of the Agricultural Animal Care Training Program are to ensure animal well-being, the validity and effectiveness of research and teaching activities, and the health and safety of animal care personnel.

Overview
The Agricultural Animal Care Training Program includes these three categories (A, B, C), with two levels of certification within category A.

Category A includes all temporary farm employees and all graduate students that work with animals.

   Level I certification is required of all individuals in category A.
   Level II certification is required of all individuals in category A that may be given unsupervised responsibility for animal care – e.g., weekend or holiday responsibilities, or supervisory responsibility.

Category B includes all permanent farm employees.

Category C includes all faculty and staff that have responsibilities or projects dealing with animals, excluding permanent farm employees.

Maintenance of certification shall be achieved via annual mandatory update/training sessions administered by the Department. Records of employee certification shall be filed in the Department Main office.

Category A - temporary farm employees and all graduate students that work with animals.

   Level – I Certification
   • 1. Read Chapters 1 (Institutional Policies), 2 (Agricultural Animal Health Care), 3 (Husbandry, Housing, and Biosecurity), 4 (Environmental Enrichment), and 5 (Animal Handling and Transport)
   • 2. Read Animal and Range Science Department’s:
       • A. General Livestock Husbandry Policies and Procedures
       • B. Farm and Ranch Operations Policies
       • C. Signs and Symptoms of Animal Disease, Pain, and Injury
       • D. Agricultural Animal Worker Health and Safety Plan
   • 3. Pass a written exam based on material above. (>80%)
Level - II Certification

- 1. In addition to above read Chapters 6 (Beef), 8 (Horses), 10 (Sheep and Goats) of FASS Ag Guide.
- 2. Read components of current Animal and Range Sciences Farm and Ranch Management Plan pertaining to management and health of livestock.
- 3. Pass a written exam based on material listed above. (>80%)
- 4. Beef Quality Assurance certification

Category B – Permanent farm employees.
Category B includes expectation of advanced education, training, and experience in livestock husbandry as listed in the job descriptions for these positions.

- 1. Read Chapters 1 (Institutional Policies), 2 (Agricultural Animal Health Care), 3 (Husbandry, Housing, and Biosecurity), 4 (Environmental Enrichment), and 5 (Animal Handling and Transport) 6 (Beef), 8 (Horses), 10 (Sheep and Goats) of FASS Ag Guide.
- 2. Read Animal and Range Science Department's:
  - A. General Livestock Husbandry Policies and Procedures
  - B. Farm and Ranch Operations Policies
  - C. Signs and Symptoms of Animal Disease, Pain, and Injury
  - D. Agricultural Animal Worker Health and Safety Plan
- 3. Read components of current Animal and Range Sciences Farm and Ranch Management Plan pertaining to management and health of livestock.
- 4. Pass a written exam based on material listed above. (>80%)
- 5. Beef Quality Assurance certification

Category C – Faculty and Staff who work with animals, excluding permanent farm employees. Category C includes the expectation of advanced education in animal science and related research and teaching experience.

- 1. Read Chapters 1 (Institutional Policies), 2 (Agricultural Animal Health Care), 3 (Husbandry, Housing, and Biosecurity), 4 (Environmental Enrichment), and 5 (Animal Handling and Transport) 6 (Beef), 8 (Horses), 10 (Sheep and Goats) of FASS Ag Guide.
- 2. Read Animal and Range Science Department's:
  - A. General Livestock Husbandry Policies and Procedures
  - B. Farm and Ranch Operations Policies
  - C. Signs and Symptoms of Animal Disease, Pain, and Injury
  - D. Agricultural Animal Worker Health and Safety Plan
- 3. Pass a written exam based on material listed above. (>80%)
Maintenance of Certification Using Annual Updates and Training

- Review of:
  - General Livestock Husbandry Policies and Procedures (Department Head)
  - Farm and Ranch Operations Policies (Department Head)
  - Animal management components of farm management plan (Farm manager and Consulting Veterinarian)
  - Health and Safety Guidelines (Farm Manager, Consulting Veterinarian, and representative of MSU Safety and Risk Management).
- Discussion of current issues and concerns with Department Head, Farm Manager, and Consulting Veterinarian

Reference: