

October 29, 2012

Suggested Ag/Livestock Emergency Preparations

Adapted from materials provided by David Cox, CCE Schoharie/Otsego Counties

Power and Food/Water Activities:

- Anticipate power outages. Check to see that your generator is in good working order. Consider purchasing a generator if you currently do not have one.
- In the event you require a generator for emergency agricultural purposes (i.e. milking cows, cooling milk tanks, poultry house ventilation) and are in an area predicted to be hit hard, contact local Emergency Management Office or your county's Cornell Cooperative Extension office. Make sure your house or barn has been wired such that a generator could be connected and that you have a transfer switch or other isolated means to connect to the generator.
- Purchase sufficient amounts of fuel to operate your generator and other equipment on the farm.
- Charge batteries on cell phones and cameras. Have extra batteries.
- Pump and store adequate supplies of drinking water for humans and animals in the likelihood of power outages. SC-EMO recommends a minimum 72-hour reserve.
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Livestock Activities:

- Check feed inventory and order extra if needed. Move feed, including round bales to higher ground, or to a more accessible place in case of flooding or transportation problems.
- Determine the best places for livestock on your property, where they have the best chance of being free from flying debris, heavy winds and rain. This may mean moving livestock and poultry to higher ground if possible or sheltering them in securely battened barns, houses or tightly fenced areas.

Equipment Activities:

- Secure or remove items or equipment that could become blowing debris.
- Remove hoop houses from low-lying areas that could be subject to high water.
- Move equipment to the highest, open ground possible away from trees or buildings.

General Preparedness:

- Make a list of important phone numbers ahead of time in order to make calls following a storm. Numbers to include are your County Emergency Management Office, county extension agent, insurance agent, county Farm Service Agency and private veterinarian.

Important phone numbers:

- **Call 911 ONLY** if you have an emergency.
- For non-emergency resource assistance, if your county has a 211 system, call 211.
- For information about road closures, call 511.
- Sign-up for NY-ALERT at www.nyalert.gov or call NY-ALERT by calling 1-888-697-6972.