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Livestock can be
exposed to unique
hazards created
by
flood
waters.



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Spring Flooding Dangers On The Farm

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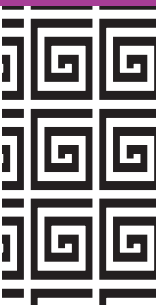
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[Click on Ag Preparedness link!](#)



- Animals must have source of clean, uncontaminated water.
- Animals on pasture may need different source of water until ponds or creeks clear up.
- Have your water tested if any part of the farmyard is flooded.
- Wells may be contaminated. You may have to disinfect.

Don't forget to protect your own health after a flood!





Standing water may have damaged pastures.



CHECK PASTURES

- Check all sources of feed and forages for spoiling and contamination. Flood waters can contaminate your feed. Watch for molds in the field and in stored feed and hay. Feeding of moldy feeds is risky and unhealthy for animals.
- Standing water may have damaged your pastures. This may have in turn, isolated animals and limited food intake. Hungry animals may eat contaminated or poisonous plants. Be prepared

to supplement feed, when needed!

- Make sure all animals are up-to-date with vaccinations. You may need to administer Blackleg boosters to pastured animals. High-risk, younger animals that were on flooded pastures may benefit from dose of penicillin. Consult your veterinarian.

- There are several diseases to watch for when spring arrives. Here are a few examples.

BLACKLEG

ANTHRAX

TETANUS

FOOT ROT

MASTITIS

BOTULISM

BROODER PNEUMONIA

WATCH FOR SIGNS OF ILLNESS



- Animals are stressed during thunderstorms and flooding. Consider supplementing additional feed or vitamins. Watch closely for signs of pneumonia and lameness.
- Make sure all animals are accounted for and are eating.
- Manure storage facilities may be damaged during a storm. Contact Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for evidence of weakening or leaking.

While assessing flood damage and caring for animals, do not forget about yourself!

- Never handle a downed power line! Be extremely wary of electrical equipment that has been exposed to moisture or flood water. If you are not sure if the electricity is off, you should not enter flooded areas or touch electrical equipment if the ground is wet.
- Flood cleanup may involve use of gasoline or diesel powered pumps, generators and power washers. Be aware that these devices produce carbon monoxide - use them outdoors!
- Be extremely cautious when using towing chains to free or move "stuck" equipment. Hitch only to drawbar to avoid tipping the tractor over backwards. Use only a long towing chain designed to support the towed load.

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. ON SPRING WEATHER!

<http://aes.missouri.edu/swcenter>
Click on Ag Preparedness link!



Make sure all animals are up-to-date on vaccinations!

