



Explanations

Emergency plan livestock farming

These explanations are about the immediate and essential supply of animals with air, water and feed in case of an emergency:

■ **Emergency case 1: Loss of company manager or person responsible for livestock care**

■ **Emergency case 2: Power failure**

Note: As from 1. January 2017 at the latest, there must be a current emergency plan (see enclosed supporting documents) at every company. The emergency plan should be placed clearly visible /well detectable. Every company must keep an emergency plan at a central place. At least one emergency plan has to be at every location of the company.

These explanations will help you to fill in the QS supporting documents.

Please note: It is possible, that an emergency case has further impacts on your company (e.g. crop farming, banking business or insurances). Appropriate provision should be taken for other possible emergency cases (e.g. fire, water damage, outbreak of an epizootic disease) which are not mentioned in this document.

Emergency case 1: Failure of plant manager or person responsible for livestock care

In case of Loss of the plant manager or person responsible for animal care, a lot of personal and business matters must be regulated. The care of livestock must be ensured in any case. All necessary information must be on hand, substitution rules must become effective immediately. Every company is organized differently so that the emergency plans can be very different.

The simplest regulation applies, if another person (e. g. family member) knows the operating procedures (designated representative). If the company processes will be continued by an external person the main contact person and the person who takes on further tasks must be clearly stated in the documents for emergency prevention. The transition between the states (familiar or not familiar with the operational processes) is fluent.

The emergency plan must at least contain the following information:

1) Contact person:

Version A) Name and contact details of your designated representative (e. g. family members or employee), who knows the processes of livestock care and has all necessary information. The representative can perform or organize and instruct the necessary steps in case of emergency.

Note: The details regarding 2) should be filled in additionally.

Version B) Name and contact details of the main contact person, who is responsible according the substitute rules.

Note: The details regarding 2) have to be filled in in any case.



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2) Persons and other contact details:

- a) Name and telephone number of the veterinarian.
- b) Company name, contact person and telephone number of technical services (e.g. electrician, technical service for feeding and ventilation)
- c) Name and telephone number of a person who is familiar with used feed material in the company (e.g. family member, consultant, feed supplier)

3) Additional information:

Furthermore it is useful to list additional information which can be accessed in case of emergency. Examples:

- Access to the databases (HIT-database, QS-antibiotics database, sow planner etc.).
- Contact details of other suppliers (Insemination station, insemination technician, disinfectants etc.)
- Contact details for marketing of animals and products, QS-coordinator.

Emergency case 2: Power failure

If power supply fails, technical installations that are relevant for animal care may be affected. Therefore it is important that the emergency plan not only applies if power supply fails temporary but also if power supply fails extensively and over several days. This is particularly important if you have several locations. All animals must be provided with air – water – feed (in that order).

1) How is the **supply with fresh air** ensured?

If power supply fails, the emergency system for air supply in the shed/sty must be effective immediately. Usually in sheds/sties with forced ventilation a rapidly deployable emergency power supply (usually emergency power generator) is mandatory. An alarm signal is necessary. You have to ensure that emergency power generators are ready for operation on short call. Of course appropriate devices for power input must be present. Other emergency systems can be used as well: Some ventilation systems switch to gravitational ventilation by opening shutters in case of emergency, so that the supply of animals with fresh air is guaranteed. Especially in small or medium sized sheds/sties as well as in sheds/sties with a low livestock density (e.g. sow keeping) fresh air supply can be guaranteed by opening doors, windows or butterfly valves, if structurally possible. In sheds/sties without electricity dependent air supply (e.g. gravitation ventilation) an emergency power supply for fresh air supply is not necessary.

2) How is **water supply** of the animals ensured?

If water supply of animals depends on power supply, an emergency power supply must be available in case of power failure. This can be manual emergency solutions, pumps independent of electricity or temporary use of an emergency power generator (e. g. emergency power generator for more locations to fill water tanks and troughs). Which solution is more appropriate depends on the circumstances at the company (e.g. stock size, water tanks, size of troughs). Possibly it can be switched on public water supply in the short term.

If your animals are provided with public water, water supply is regulated by the provider.



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3) How is **feed supply** of the animals ensured?

If feed supply depends on power supply, replacement must be provided in case of power failure. It depends on the processes in your company (e.g. stock size, kind of feed submission, feed storage etc.) if an emergency power generator or power independent solution should be used or if manual feed supply is possible.

Access to further emergency numbers

Furthermore it is useful to list further information so that they can be accessed in case of emergency. Examples:

- The emergency case number of the fault desk of the energy provider.
- The service number of the electrician
- The contact details of companies for technical services
- Contact details of the marketer and/or QS-coordinator

Requesting support

In order to be effective, emergency plans have to be filled in individually adjusted to every company. Thus all aspects can be prepared premature so that the emergency plans can really help to take care of the animals in case of emergency. It may be helpful to obtain additional help during the preparation of the emergency plans. Ask e.g. your consultant, veterinarian or other experts.

Further information of emergency plans and handbooks can be found e.g. at the following institutions:

- Bavarian State Research Centre for Agriculture
- Deula Nienburg
- Chamber of Agriculture of Lower Saxony
- Chamber of Agriculture of North-Rhine Westphalia
- Saxon State Office for the Environment, Agriculture and Geology