

Disaster Preparedness for Livestock

Assignment Sheet 2—Evaluate Disaster Types for Possible Occurrence at Family Farm and Develop an Emergency Preparedness Plan for Each Type of Disaster

The United States is prone to many different types of disasters. Some of our known disasters are more prone to occur in the different geographic regions of the United States. Typically disasters occur from wildfire, flood, blizzard, hail storm or drought, Hurricane/Typhoon/Cyclone, Tornado, Seismic Activity, and Epidemic.

Based on the geographic region of the United States where you have your goat farm and according to the location of your property to such things as low areas subject to flooding or close to a forest area that is subject to wildfires, what type of disasters you believe you and your animals might be exposed. List those types below:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____

A disaster preparedness plan needs to be developed for each possible disaster that you identified above. A partial listing/framework for such disaster plan is provided below and it will be necessary for you to finalize the plan based on your knowledge of your farm and community. Part I of the disaster plan is generic information and planning that goes into any disaster plan regardless to the type of disaster that could occur. Good luck with building you plan and we hope the plan that you develop will keep you and your goats safe.

Part I—Disaster Preparedness Plan

Emergency Contact Phone Numbers—Collect the phone numbers and record them in the space provided.

Fire Department Number: _____
Veterinarian Number: _____
Emergency Response Number: _____
County Extension Office Number: _____
Agriculture Instructor Number: _____
Animal Disease Center Number: _____
Phone Number of Employee: _____

Phone Number and 911 addresses for home/goat farm:

Phone: _____
Address of home: _____
Address of goat farm if different: _____

Name and address of individual that would have information and a copy of the Disaster Preparedness Plan that does not live in and the area of where the Disaster Might Occur:

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____

Name and address of neighbors that could assist you with the movement of your goats in case of a disaster:

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____

Identify a minimum of two evacuation routes that you might need to use in case of a disaster occurring at your goat farm:

Route One: _____
Route Two: _____

Identify the location of where the disaster preparedness kit is stored on the goat farm.

Identify the location of where you have a three day supply of feed and water for your goats stored for use in the case of a disaster.

Part II—Plan of Action for a Specific Type of Disaster

Type of disaster: Fire

Preventing barn fires and being prepared in the event of a fire can mean the difference between life and death of your goats. Knowledge of the danger of fires and how to deal with them is of the greatest importance and should be an ongoing concern to goat producers.

The best disaster fire plan is called prevention.

	Yes	No
1. Do you prohibit smoking in or around the barn?	___	___
2. Do you avoid parking tractors and other vehicles in the barn where animals are housed?	___	___
3. Do you inspect electrical systems regularly and immediately correct any problems?	___	___
4. Do you keep appliances to a minimum in the barn?	___	___
5. Do you make sure hay is dry before storing in the barn?	___	___
6. Do you have fire extinguishers mounted at the entrance to the barn?	___	___
7. Are the inspections on the fire extinguishers current?	___	___
8. Do you keep barn aisles, stall doors, and barn doors free of debris and equipment?	___	___
9. Do you have smoke alarms and heat detectors install in the barn which are hooked to a siren that will quickly alert you that there is a fire in the barn?	___	___
10. Do you host an open house with emergency personnel in your area to familiarize them with the layout of your farm?	___	___
11. Do you try to move your animals from the barn at night using a flashlight in order to desensitize them to the flashlight and flashing lights?	___	___
12. Do you have a place to relocate your animals in case of a fire?	___	___
13. Do you have adequate water supply for the emergency crew to use to fight a barn fire?	___	___
14. Do you apply protective devices to heat lambs if the lambs are used in the barn during the kidding season?	___	___
15. Do you have two exit points from the barn back, front and/or side?	___	___
16. Do you have a new pasture or lot to place your goats in if your pasture is being threatened by a fire that is burning out control?	___	___

Develop a plan of action for all items that received a No response. All no responses will be corrected by _____.

Type of disaster: Flood

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-----|-----|
| 1. Is you land subject to flooding? | ___ | ___ |
| 2. Do you have an area outside the flood zone where the goats may be moved in order to get out of the potential water? | ___ | ___ |
| 3. Do you have a way to move the goats from the high water? | ___ | ___ |
| 4. Does you neighbor or other family members know of your plan to move goats in case of a potential flood? | ___ | ___ |
| 5. Will your relocation space be sufficient for the needs of your goats for a minimum of three days? | ___ | ___ |

Develop a plan of action for all items that received a No response. All no responses will be corrected by _____.

Type of disaster: Blizzard

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Do you have adequate pasture protection for the goats in case of a blizzard? | ___ | ___ |
| 2. Will you have to bring your goats into a penning area/barn in case of a blizzard? | ___ | ___ |
| 3. Do you have adequate pen space in the barn to house your goats in case of a blizzard? | ___ | ___ |
| 4. Do you have adequate straw and/or shaving to use in bedding your goats in case of a blizzard? | ___ | ___ |
| 5. Do you have a way and plan of moving your goats from the pasture to the holding pen/barns in case of a blizzard? | ___ | ___ |
| 6. Do you have a source for heat in the barn if the goats are kidding and you loose electric power? | ___ | ___ |
| 7. Do you have a way and procedures in place to provide adequate water for your goats in case of a blizzard? | ___ | ___ |

Develop a plan of action for all items that received a No response. All no responses will be corrected by _____.

Type of disaster: Drought

	Yes	No
1. Do you have adequate pasture forage to sustain the goats for a lengthy drought period?	___	___
2. Do you have a means to rotate your goats through different pastures in order to preserve your forage during a lengthy drought period?	___	___
3. Do you have a plan to protect your goat herd in case of a serious drought?	___	___
4. Do you have adequate hay that might be used to sustain your goat operation if the drought last for a three month period?	___	___
5. Do you have adequate funds to be used to support supplemental feeding of your goats during a lengthy drought period?	___	___
6. Do you have a plan for culling a percentage of your goat herd in case you have to cull during a lengthy drought period?	___	___
7. Do you have a plan for supplying water to the goat herd in the creeks and ponds go dry during a lengthy drought period?	___	___
8. Do you have a plan to move your goats to markets outside of the drought area in case you will be required to sell some of your goats?	___	___

Develop a plan of action for all items that received a No response. All no responses will be corrected by? _____

Type of disaster: Tornado

	Yes	No
1. Do you plan on leaving the goat herd in the pasture area in case of a tornado?	___	___
2. Is your pasture area large enough where the goats may move to protect and provide them adequate shelter?	___	___
3. Do you have a plan to cut the fences on your property in or to let your goat herd move to a larger area for protection in case of a tornado?	___	___
4. Do you plan on letting the goats you have in the barn and lots of the barn or move to larger outside areas where better protection might be found?	___	___
5. Do you have a plan for locating and re-pasturing your goats following the aftermath of a tornado?	___	___
6. Do you have a medical plan that will be followed in case some the goats get hurt during the tornado?	___	___
7. Do you have a plan for salvaging some of the goat meat in case your goats are hurt beyond recovery?	___	___
8. Do you have a safe and approved plan for destroying the goat carcasses that were killed during the tornado?	___	___
9. Do you have a plan for identification of your goats during the round up phase following the tornado?	___	___
10. Do you have a plan for rebuilding the barn, barn lots and fences following the aftermath of a tornado?	___	___
11. In case the destruction of the tornado is so severe the goat operation is beyond use do you a plan to house the goat herd until the farm is back in operation?	___	___

Develop a plan of action for all items that received a No response. All no responses will be corrected by _____.

Type of disaster: Epidemic

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Do you have a plan for protecting your goats during an epidemic outbreak? | ___ | ___ |
| 2. Do you have a way to protect your goats from individuals vehicles from entering your goat farm? | ___ | ___ |
| 3. Do you have a sign at the entrance of your facility that states “individuals owning livestock shall not enter without contacting farm owner/operator?” | ___ | ___ |
| 4. Do you have a medical plan to following in case your goats become sick? | ___ | ___ |
| | Yes | No |
| 5. Do you have a means for relocating and isolating sick goats from the rest of the goat herd? | ___ | ___ |

Develop a plan of action for all items that received a No response. All no responses will be completed by _____.

Type of disaster: Lightning

- | | Yes | No |
|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Do you have a lightening protective system installed at your barns and other areas where your goats may come into contact? | ___ | ___ |
| 2. Do you move goats that are housed in lots constructed of metal pipe in side the barn during a lightening storm? | ___ | ___ |
| 3. Do you avoid running electrical lines on the ground? | ___ | ___ |

Develop a plan of action for all items that receive a No response. All no responses will be completed by _____.

Livestock Disaster Insurance

1. What is the available of livestock disaster insurance in your service area?
2. What would be the projected cost of providing insurance coverage for your goat farm?
3. Would the cost of insurance coverage be affordable and profitable to you?
4. What is your opinion regarding purchasing livestock disaster insurance for your goat herd and farm?

Conclusion

As previously stated this is not a complete and accurate disaster preparedness plan for your goat operation. However it is a starting place for you to develop a productive and profitable plan. Do some research. Read articles found on the internet regarding disaster planning and talk with your neighbors and other goat producers to see the kind of disaster plan they have in place.

Good luck with your planning purpose. We sincerely hope that a disaster does not occur at your goat farm and your plans are never used.

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