

Definition

An Animal Mortality Facility is an on-farm facility for the treatment or disposal of livestock and poultry for routine mortality events.

Animal Mortality Facility (316)



Photo from cwmi.css.cornell.edu

This practice applies to: livestock and poultry operations or corrals for the storage, treatment or removal of animal carcasses from routine mortality events. This practice does not apply to animal mortality caused by catastrophic events.

In cases of catastrophic animal mortality, use Emergency Animal Mortality Management - Practice Code 368.

Practice Information

An animal mortality facility is designed to reduce impacts to soil and groundwater resources, reduce foul odors, and decrease the spread of pathogens associated with animal mortality.

Methods for disposal of dead animals that arise as part of routine operation; they include compost and incineration / gasification. Routine mortality can be arranged outside the farm or farm (paid for by the producer).

Structures to dispose of dead animals may include a refrigeration unit to store carcasses until they can be composted or buried. The disposal of dead animals resulting from a catastrophic events can be done through composting or burial, however, Territorial laws may affect the use of these disposal techniques. The disposal of dead animals produced by epidemics or disease must be handled according to Federal or Territorial standards.



Design information for this practice includes: location, design sizing, storage period, and safety / biosecurity criteria. It can also include the appropriate installation criteria and the manufacturer's recommendations.

The operation requirements for the facility depend on the type of structure chosen by the producer and must include provisions for proper disposal of waste materials. Routine maintenance is necessary to ensure that the facility operates as designed.

Associated Practices

An Animal Mortality Facility (316) is commonly used with practices such as Diversions (362), Roofs and Covers (367), Composting Facility (317), and Critical Area Planting (342).

Disposal of composted material and by-products from incineration or gasification must be performed in accordance with the Nutrient Management (590) practice.

For More Information

For more information, contact your local USDA-NRCS Field Office:

Arecibo	:	(787) 817-2473
Caguas	:	(787) 743-2743
Corozal	:	(787) 859-2880
Juana Díaz	:	(787) 837-4450
Mayagüez	:	(787) 831-3454
San Sebastián	:	(787) 896-3565
Utua	:	(787) 894-1480
U.S. Virgin Islands	:	(340) 692-9632

Or visit the NRCS Caribbean Area website:

<https://www.pr.nrcs.usda.gov/>

**Conservation Practice
Standard 316 Animal Mortality
NRCS - USDA**

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