

2020 UPDATES TO THE CANADIAN FEEDLOT ANIMAL CARE ASSESSMENT - NATIONAL CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

The feedlot audit guide was developed by feedlot producers, veterinarians, animal scientists, and the processing industry's beef welfare experts to provide the beef industry with a credible and widely accepted feedlot animal care and welfare assessment program that can be used by all stakeholders to improve animal care and provide reassurances to consumers and the public that feedlot cattle are raised humanely.

Changes made to the 2020 Canadian Feedlot Animal Care Assessment Program were primarily clarifications to assist auditors making assessments onsite and additions to harmonize with the US Feedlot Audit recently published and certified by PAACO. Those updates/edits are summarized below.

Audit Section	Change
Primary Core Criteria 1: Commitment to Animal Care	Added the question: <i>Feedlot has completed a BQA (Beef Quality Assurance) certification training program specific to feedlots within the last 3 years</i> (https://www.bqa.org/beef-quality-assurance-certification/online-certifications or http://verifiedbeefproductionplus.ca/)
Primary Core Criteria 4: Nutrition and Feed Management Program	<p>Added the question: <i>Feedlot has a written feeding program as required by CFIA Feed Regulations, which includes, but is not limited to mixer tests, scale testing, medicated equipment cleanout and/or segregation procedures including management of flush materials, feed recall procedures</i></p> <p>Revised the question: <i>Feeding records are documented as per CFIA Feed Regulations, including ration formulations, batch mix sheet, feed delivery sheets, veterinary feed prescriptions, medicated feed equipment cleanout records, mixer validation tests, and scale calibration records</i></p>
Primary Core Criteria 5: Animal Health Management	<p>Added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Feedlot has documented Biosecurity Procedures which include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>cleaning or segregation of machinery and equipment used to move non-ambulatory, diseased, or dead animals</i> - <i>cleaning of re-usable veterinary equipment e.g. vaccine syringes, stomach tubes</i> - <i>disposal of sharps in a sharp's container</i> - <i>disposal of expired animal health products as per provincial regulations</i> - <i>cleaning of cattle handling facilities</i> - <i>how to manage suspected foreign animal diseases (may be part of Emergency Response Plan)</i> - <i>site security</i> - <i>staff biosecurity training</i> • <i>Feedlot has a Visitor Log as part of their Biosecurity Program</i> • <i>Feedlot has a Broken Needle Protocol and records to ensure that the next owner of the cattle, whether another producer or the processor, is informed of a potential broken needle in an incoming animal</i> • <i>If feedlot feeds heifers, it has an Abortion Protocol if aborting pregnant heifers and a plan on how to manage calving heifers and newborn calves</i> • <i>Feedlot has a Shipping Protocol that specifies procedures to ensure that no cattle are shipped to slaughter with violative drug residues</i> • <i>Feedlot has shipping records to verify that all shipped cattle, including railers and emergency slaughters, have been checked for and passed drug withdrawal periods prior to shipment to slaughter</i> • <i>Feedlot has a documented Antimicrobial Stewardship Protocol that was developed with their veterinarian to ensure prudent drug use as per national stewardship policies for beef cattle producers e.g. CVMA, OIE</i> • <i>Feedlot has a documented Cattle Health Product Management Protocol and records for the receiving, handling, administration as per BQA guidelines, storage, and inventory management of products</i>
Primary Core Criteria 7: On-Farm Humane Stunning / Euthanasia of Feedlot Cattle	<p>Added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Feedlot has a record listing personnel trained and approved to euthanize animals</i> • <i>Feedlot disposes of carcasses as per provincial regulations</i>
Feedlot's Final Score (page 11)	Additional possible points were updated to reflect the additional requirements listed above.

Audit Guide Revisions

- Added text for audit scoring providing direction to the auditor that a numerical score of 10 also includes regulatory or food safety requirements on the farm (page 7)
- Increased the number of observed Specialty Pens to 50% (page 8)
- Added the following for Competency of Auditors (page 10):
 - *Auditors must have successfully completed the NCBA's Feedlot BQA or VBP+ training program within the last 3 years.*
 - *Auditors must annually complete the NCFA's eLearn training program for the PAACO certified Canadian Animal Care Assessment Program to ensure awareness of program changes.*

Visit https://animalauditor.org/files/PAACO-Assessment_Guide_ver8_Feb19_EN_FINAL.pdf for more information and the complete Canadian Feedlot Animal Care Assessment Program documents. For questions related to this audit, please contact the National Cattle Feeders Association at 403-769-1519 or via email (info@cattlefeeders.ca).