AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



Photo courtesy of USDA ARS



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons



Photo courtesv of USDA ARS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING ASSISTANCE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

TOTALLY COVERED OPEN CONFINEMENT

LIVESTOCK BMP #19



Description:

A roofed facility to house animals where they are fed and maintained. These facilities can provide nutrient and pollutant runoff reduction and more efficient use of production inputs. The use of livestock confinement can increase the feed efficiency and finishing time of animals without increasing labor requirements. It can also lower mortality rates during calving by providing shelter. It can lead to improved facilities management and control of production processes that help in the production of a higher value product. It improves recordkeeping and production tracking for total system management and provides a great potential for environmental benefits. Lower cost structures include hoop barns, which provide cover and housing at less cost than traditional structures.

AWQA Minimum Requirements:

Use equipment, methods, and technology that support livestock confinement in a manner that reduces impacts to soil and water

resources. This could include but is not limited to the use of roof runoff structures, heavy use area production lots, covered manure stack pads, compost bedded pack barns, and waste storage lagoons to improve runoff management from production areas and reduce impacts to soil and water resources.

Recommendations:

Develop a livestock confinement plan to define goals and identify environmentally sensitive areas that could be avoided by confining livestock. Develop a record keeping system to track system inputs, outputs, and evaluate the influence of critical environmental factors.

Technical References

University Publications

- ID-206 Compost-Bedded Pack Barn Design
- ID-178 Compost-Bedded Pack Barns in

<u>Funding Assistance Options</u>

Important Considerations

State Cost Share

• No cost share assistance is currently available for this

Water Quality Benefit (O-OOOO): OO (KEY: O=good, OOOO=best: see <u>STEPL Model</u>)

1

- Kentucky
- ID-213 Kentucky Compost-Bedded Pack Barn Project

USDA/NRCS Publications

- Practice Code 313 Waste Storage Facility
- <u>Practice Code 590 Nutrient Management</u>
- Practice Code 316 Animal Mortality Facility
- <u>Practice Code 634 Waste Transfer</u>
- Practice Code 632 Waste Separation
 Facility
- Practice Code 558 Roof Runoff Structure
- <u>Practice Code 560 Access Road</u>
- Practice Code 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt
 Establishment

practice.

<u>Kentucky Ag. Development Fund</u> (KADB/KAFC)

• Select from available program options <u>here.</u>

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

• Select from available program options <u>here.</u>