

FAQs: Animal Care Standards

In 2011, BOAH adopted standards of care for livestock and poultry. More information may be found online at: www.in.gov/boah/

To what species of animals do the standards apply?

The standards of care apply only to livestock and poultry, not companion animals or wildlife. The standards also do not apply to research animals in facilities regulated by the USDA under the Federal Animal Welfare Act.

What types of production method environments are acceptable in Indiana?

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) approves of all production methods recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. The production method used should be conducive to the animal species and/or breed. This includes everything from commercial production to free-range methods.

What types of handling, restraining, and transporting procedures are accepted in Indiana?

BOAH recognizes the procedures accepted by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The policies and guidelines used by the AVMA can be found at www.avma.org

Will my farm be inspected regularly to be in compliance with these new standards?

Producers will not be inspected regularly for complying with the animal care standards; however, BOAH veterinarians will investigate credible complaints. If a law enforcement officer is called to a farm for a neglect case, the farm will be inspected based upon these standards.

How do I file a complaint against a livestock producer?

Complaints may be submitted to BOAH by phone at (877) 747-3038, or online at www.in.gov/boah/ Complaints must include contact information for the submitter to allow appropriate follow up.

How will complaints be handled?

Complaints submitted to BOAH will be investigated by a compliance staff member. All investigations will be done with the cooperation of the law enforcement agency for the area of the incidence. Individuals submitting complaints will not be notified of the outcome of the investigation.