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EC65-739 Last Minute Fallout Protection for Livestock

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Last-Minute Fallout Protection for Livestock

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By Elvin C. Schultz
Extension Specialist, Rural Civil Defense
(For suggestions on advance preparation, see your county agent)

WHEN YOU FIRST GET WARNING OF NUCLEAR ATTACK:

1. Keep listening to your radio for latest local information. Have a battery powered radio in case there is electrical failure.
2. First, make sure your family has been provided with an adequate fallout shelter and emergency supplies.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR LIVESTOCK IF YOU HAVE TIME

1. Get livestock into shelter as quickly as possible. Put best animals in best shelter.

Priority: 1. milking dairy cattle; 2. breeding animals; 3. feeder stock, poultry, and other animals.

Shelters (best listed first): large barns with full hay mows, other large barns and pole sheds, small buildings.

2. Crowd remaining stock into small drylot pens.
3. Close shelter doors and windows as much as possible without suffocating or overheating animals.
4. Fill fed bunks if water supplies are adequate. If water is short, limit feed also.
5. Pile baled hay or straw or sacked grain, dirt, or fertilizer in front of windows, doors, and other openings to improve fallout protection.
6. Cover all exposed feed supplies to protect them from fallout dust, with tarp or polyethylene material.
7. Milk cows if there is time. Put suckling calves with cows if feasible.
8. During and after fallout, stay in your shelter until civil defense authorities notify you it is safe to leave. After a couple of days, you may be able to spend short periods outside. The daily chore period can gradually be lengthened depending on the amount of fallout in your area.
9. Keep tuned to your nearest Emergency Broadcast System radio station for vital information.

EC 65-739