

Emergency Planning for Livestock/Animals

Brad Andres

**Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
Emergency Program**

Outline

Emergency Management and Agriculture

Municipal Emergencies and Animals

Major Animal Disease Events

Why prepare for Agricultural Emergencies?

- 2009 H1N1 Influenza
 - 2011 Slave Lake Region Fires
 - 2012 Northern Alberta Fires
 - 2013 South Alberta Flood
 - 2014 South Alberta Flood
-
- In all cases, dealing with the agricultural impacts and issues was not considered until several days into the event.

Agricultural Emergency Management

- Hazards to Agriculture and its stakeholders
 - Plant Health Issues – Insects and Diseases (Potato Cyst Nematode, Club Root, Stem Rust)
 - Animal Health Issues – Diseases (Foot and Mouth Disease, Avian Influenza)
 - The consequences of other hazards on agriculture and agricultural stakeholders:
 - Flooding
 - Wildfires
 - Tornados
 - Winter storms
 - Dry conditions/Drought

Agriculture Emergencies and the Municipal Emergency Management Plan

- Every municipality has a Municipal Emergency Management Plan/Municipal Emergency Plan. *Is agriculture considered as part of the Municipal Risk Assessment?*
- Including Ag emergencies into that plan makes sense
 - Build on the expertise of emergency responders in managing emergencies
 - Builds awareness of your Council and Administration in agriculture emergencies
 - Allows for easier use of emergency powers should a major event take place.
- Is your Agriculture Service Board represented in the Emergency Operations Structure?

Draft Municipal Risk Assessment Framework

Risk Assessment Example – Screen 1/5

1. Select all emergencies or disasters with **significant** impact level that are **probable** to occur in your Community, or have occurred in the last 20 years.

Human-Caused
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction Accidents/Structural Collapse
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Explosions
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Industrial Accident
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Utility Failures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Gas Main Break
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Water Main Break
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Pollution or Shortage
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Fire (urban/rural)
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest Fire/Wild Fire
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Contamination/Chemical Spills
<input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Gas Releases
<input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline Explosion
<input type="checkbox"/> Oil Spill
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Road Accidents (truck/bus)
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Rail Accidents
<input type="checkbox"/> Airplane Crash
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Epidemic
<input type="checkbox"/> Radiological Accidents

<input type="checkbox"/> Evacuation/Reception
<input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal Frost/Freeze
<input type="checkbox"/> Missing Persons (Search & Rescue)
<input type="checkbox"/> Terrorism
Naturally-Caused
<input type="checkbox"/> Blizzards/Massive Snowstorms/Ice-storm
<input type="checkbox"/> Drought
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Wind/Hailstorm/Tornado
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rainfall/Run-off Flooding
<input type="checkbox"/> Watercourse Flooding
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Diseases/Pest Infestation
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Diseases
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Technology-Caused
<input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunication Failure
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer/Hardware/Software Failure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy/Power/Utility Failure
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication equipment failure

MUNICIPAL EMERGENCIES AND DEALING WITH ANIMALS

What types of events are we talking about?

- Flooding
- Forest/grass fire
- Highway/Rail accident
- Oilfield/Pipeline issue
- Severe weather



What can realistically be done?

- Shelter in place
- Evacuate or move animals
- Evacuate family and leave the animals



Whose role is it?

- Shelter in place – onus on farmer to self protect ... how long? What if risk changes?
- Evacuate and move animals ... to where? How? What routes? Time?????
- Evacuate people and leave animals – How long? What about contamination? Animal welfare (food and water)? How to allow access after initial evacuation?

Possible roles for Municipality – *2011/2012 Wildfires*

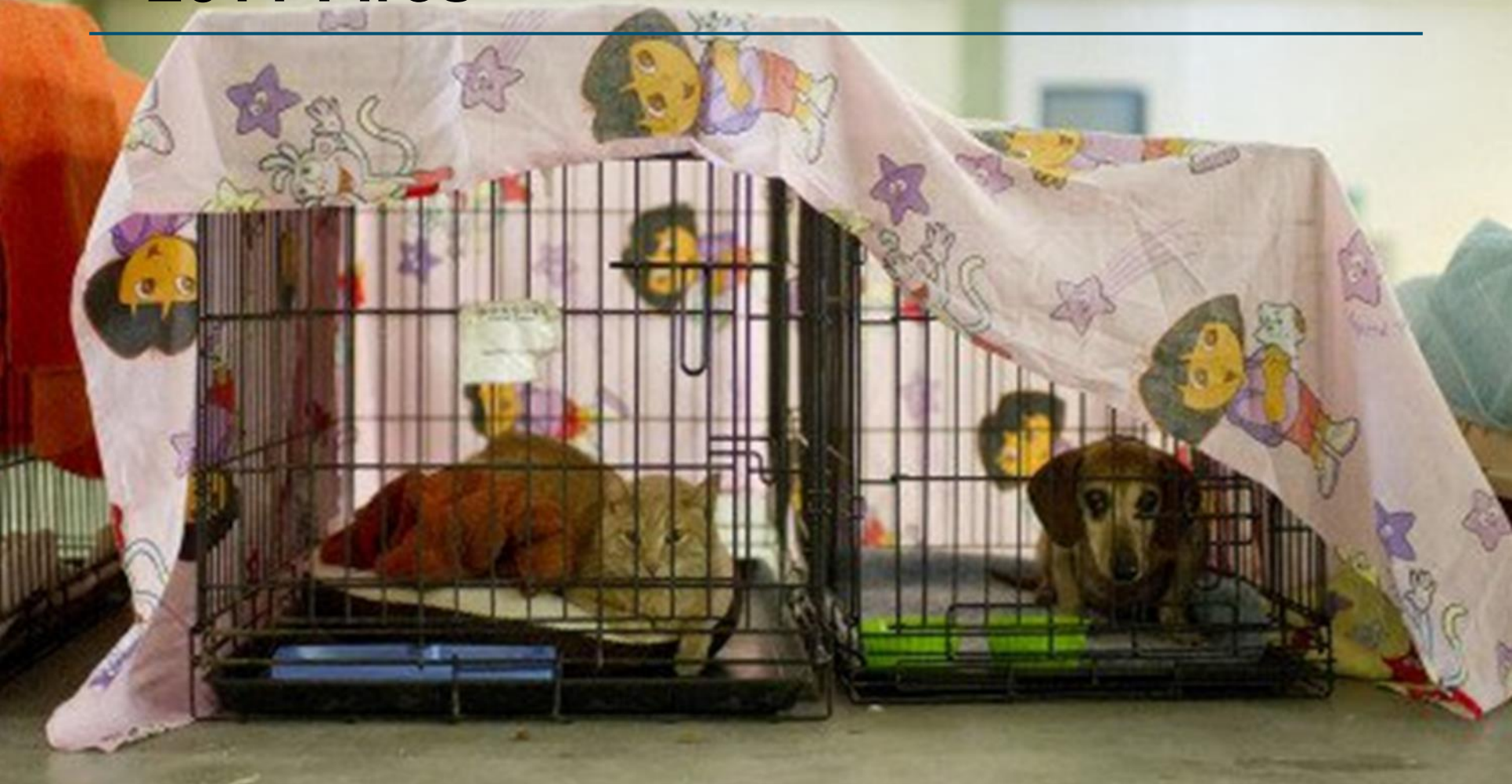
- Education and awareness of good prevention practices for rural residents. (FireSmart)
- Extension work on rural emergency planning for farmers and rural residents
- Agriculture advice on preventative measures (like prescribed burning)
- Information and knowledge to Emergency Management Team about high risk/important agriculture infrastructure that may need priority consideration.
- Arrange temporary housing of evacuated animals
- Equipment for protection of barns/facilities??
- Coordinate access into restricted area to provide feed/water
- Advice/assistance with disposal of animals killed by fire. (DDDA Regulation)

Livestock Response Trailers



- Four sponsored by province:
 - Westlock
 - Vermilion River
 - Willow Creek
 - Cypress
 - Available in mutual aid system ***
 - Pre-arrange!
- Others locally procured:
 - Ponoka
 - Red Deer
 - Hanna
 - Leduc
 - Clearwater

Pets and Community Evacuation Centres – 2011 Fires



Alberta

- What about people's pets when they are evacuated? Does your municipal plan address pet management in reception centres?

Honey Bee's

- Huh? ... why would I worry about bee's?
 - Alberta is the largest beekeeping, honey producing province
 - Spring and fall are high movement times with thousands of beehives on the move.

Guide for Responders

- 3 page guide
 - Hazard
 - Responder and victim protection
 - Contact information



Responding to Accidents involving
Honey Bees



From: www.dadychery.org/2012/06/17/what-price-a-bee/

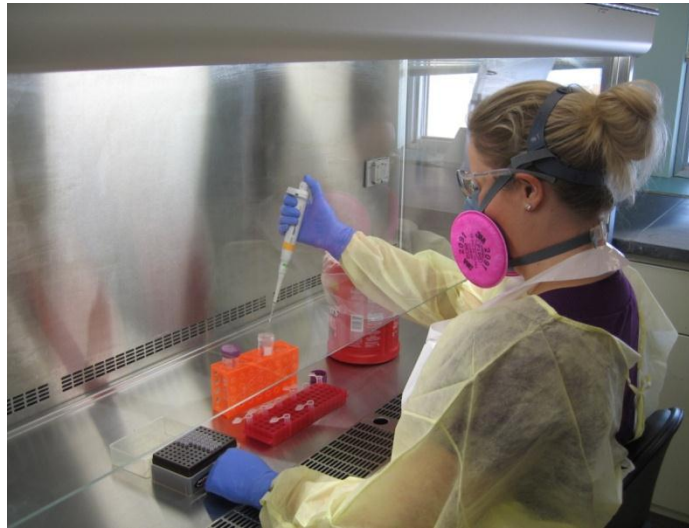
MAJOR ANIMAL DISEASE EVENTS

Major Animal Diseases

- Why do we worry about them?
 - Potential for some to move from animals to people
 - Spread rapidly between animals causing death or severe illness
 - Import/Export restrictions that stop movement for long periods of time.

Animal Disease Response Plans- *Components*

- Notification
- Containment
- Surveillance
- Vaccination
- Depopulation
- Disposal
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Communications



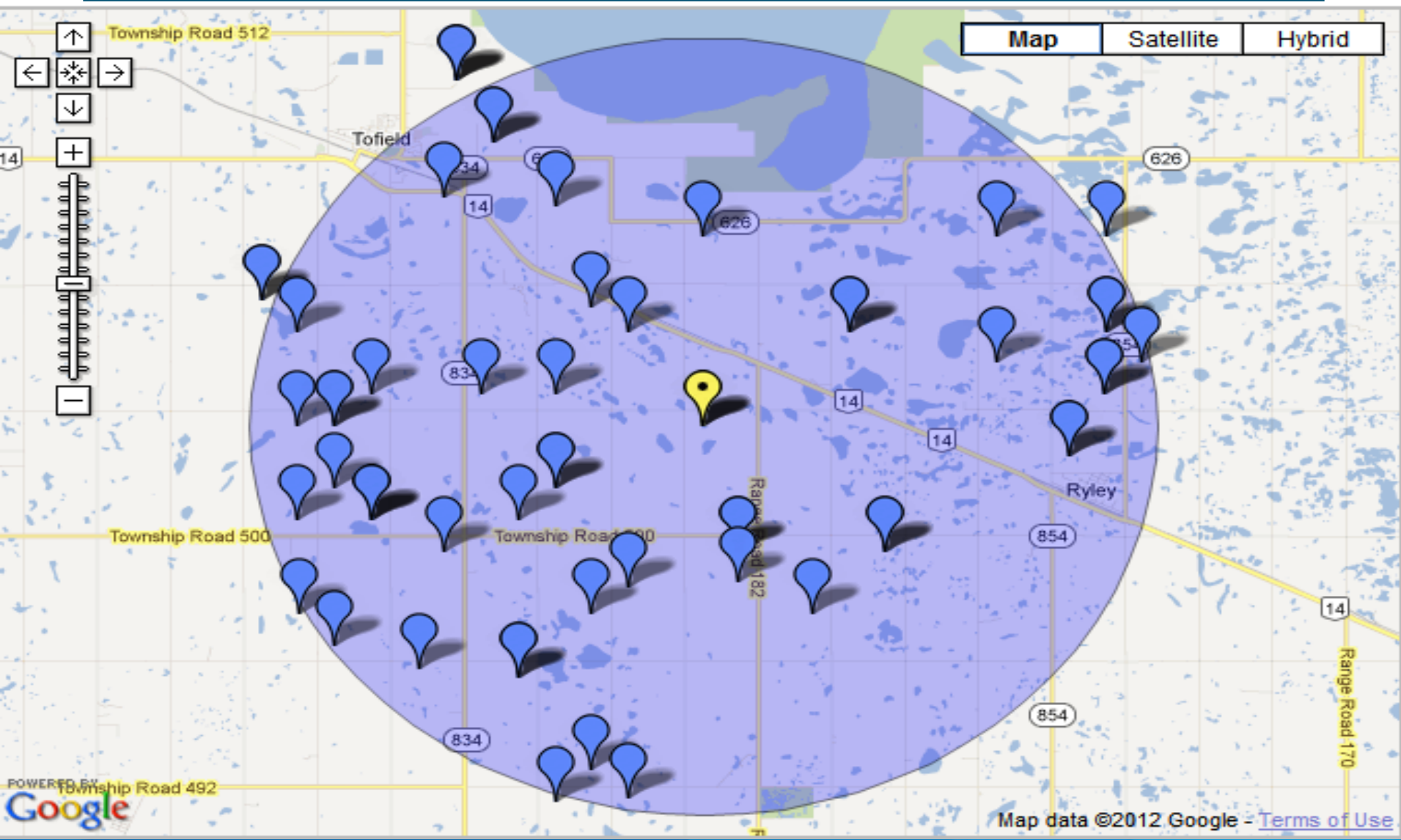
Notification

- To Alberta Health
- To the provincial commodity association
- To your municipal Agriculture Fieldmen
- To Alberta Emergency Management Agency (if significant event)

- Specific locations are kept confidential, and shared on a need to know basis.

- If you have not been notified but feel you should have been, do not hesitate to call.

Containment and Surveillance – *Disease zone (10km)*



Vaccination and/or Depopulation





Disposal

- Will be a major challenge
- Can be done well ... or poorly!



Animal Disease Response – *Role of the Municipality*

To support other government departments with:

- Movement Control
- Disposal
- Access to facilities



EMERGENCY CARCASS DISPOSAL
PLANNING GUIDE
FOR
MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS AND COUNTIES

PREPARED FOR
ALBERTA AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
AND
CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY

PREPARED WITH ASSISTANCE BY
SERECON MANAGEMENT CONSULTING INC.
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

JUNE, 2008

Supporting your Residents

- Disease events can be personally, financially and psychologically devastating.
- Be prepared to facilitate assistance
 - Through FCSS
 - Elected Officials
 - Community engagement

Natural Disasters



Conclusion

- Municipalities have a challenging role in preparing for emergencies.
- Most animal issues can be prepared for/decisions made on how the municipality will respond.

Conclusion - How do we close the gaps?

- Integration of Ag Staff into Municipal EM system.
- Expanded planning where the risk assessment deems it appropriate
- Resources and training
- What else???



Conclusion - Tools available

- Municipal Guide for Animal Disease Emergencies
- Mass Carcass Disposal Planning Guide
- Livestock Response Trailers
 - [Lakeland College Livestock Emergency Response Course](#).
- FireSmart for Farms and Acreages
- Guide for First Responders to accidents involving bee's.
- Farm Damage Assessment Tool
 - [Supporting damage assessment and collection for insurance and Disaster Recovery Program follow-up](#) .
- Resources for dealing with evacuated/abandoned animals

- What else do you need?

QUESTIONS



Questions?

Brad Andres
Director - Emergency Program
(780) 638 – 3204
brad.andres@gov.ab.ca