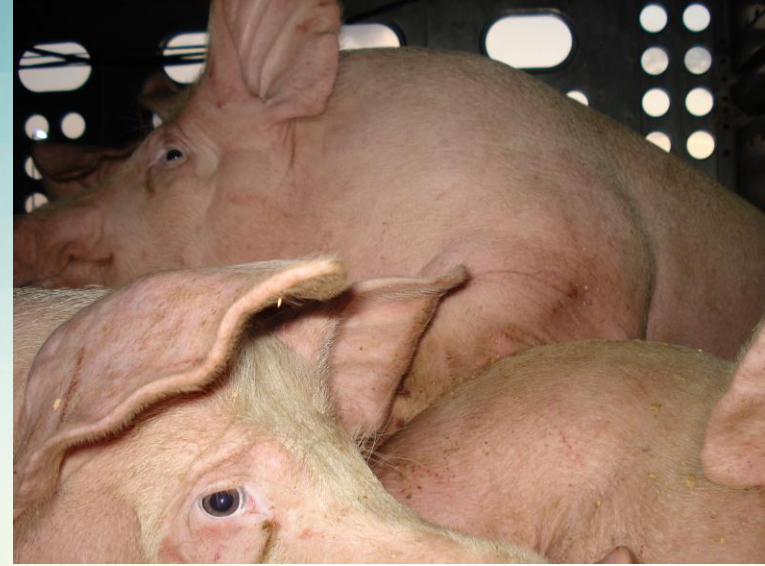


General Principles of Animal Welfare Audits



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Outline

- **What is animal welfare?**
- **What are the welfare issues at a processing plant?**
- **Plant tactics to do well on audits**
- **First, second and third-party audits**
- **Qualifications of auditors**
- **Sample size determination**
- **Conduct of the audit**
- **Reporting results**
- **Ethics**



What is Animal Welfare?

- A controversial topic for activists, scientists and for some consumers
- What is the basis of defining AW?
 - Emotions?
 - Anthropomorphism?
 - Science?
 - Objective data?
 - Subjective data?

What would 'regular' people think?



What is Animal Welfare?

- Welfare ranges from poor to adequate to good
- Adequate welfare is the minimum standard



What is Animal Welfare?

Adequate welfare includes:

- **Free from pain**
- **Free from distress including psychological distress**
- **Basic needs met for:**
 - **Space**
 - **Temperature**
 - **Feed & Water**
 - **Health**



What is Animal Welfare?

Adequate welfare
does *not* include:

- Access to entertainment/toys or 'fun'
- Excess eating or drinking
- Drugs that make animals 'feel' good
- Extraordinary comfort



What are the issues at a plant?

- Any event from arrival, unloading, resting, stun and exsanguination, including
- DOA and non-ambulatory animals
- Adequate space
- Access to water if resting
- Lack of physical abuse moving animals
- Facilities that do not injure animals
- Proper stun and stick



Plant tactics to do well on audits

- **Spread the word when the auditor arrives that the auditor is on site**
- **Slow down the line speed**
- **Change human behaviors to be less aggressive**
- **Do not keep internal records to avoid 'looking bad'**



First, Second, Third Party Audits

Consider processor and its customer

- **First party audit: Internal audit by processor**
- **Second party audit: customer audit or processor may bring in a consultant/auditor to look at its process**
- **Third party audit: Not the processor or the customer and not conflicted with either**



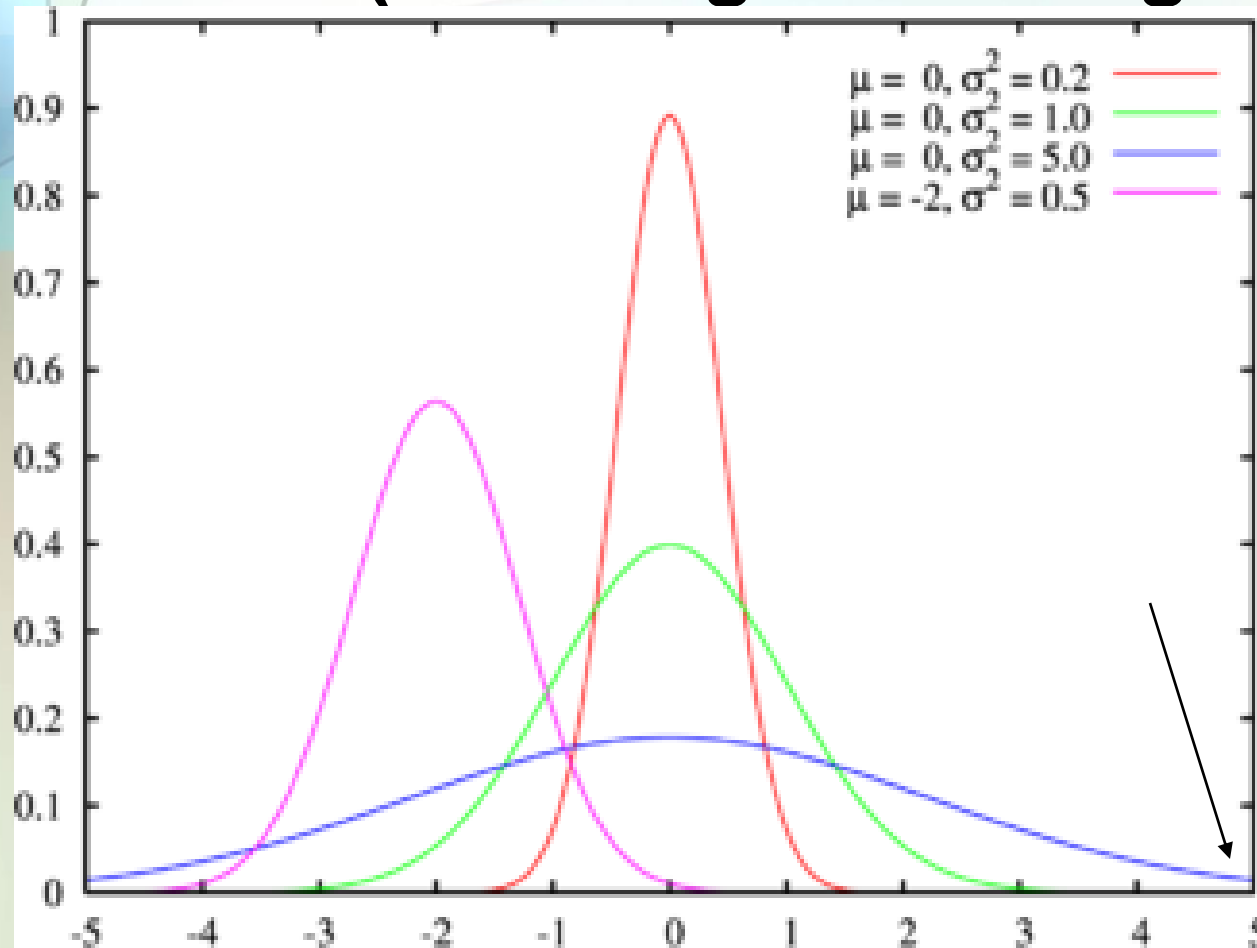
Qualifications of Auditors

- They should be trained in quality audit techniques
- They must have enough experience to use some professional judgment (ex., nipple waterers are not a sharp-protruding object)
- Eventually, all AW auditors will be PAACO-certified



Selecting a sample size

- Start with the normal distribution of animals; mostly fine, some excessive (to the right on the graphs).



- Some populations are variable (see blue line) and some are uniform (see red line).
- The extreme values fall on one end of the curve (see arrow on blue line)
- Those are 'errors' or problem values or non-compliant values based on the standards selected

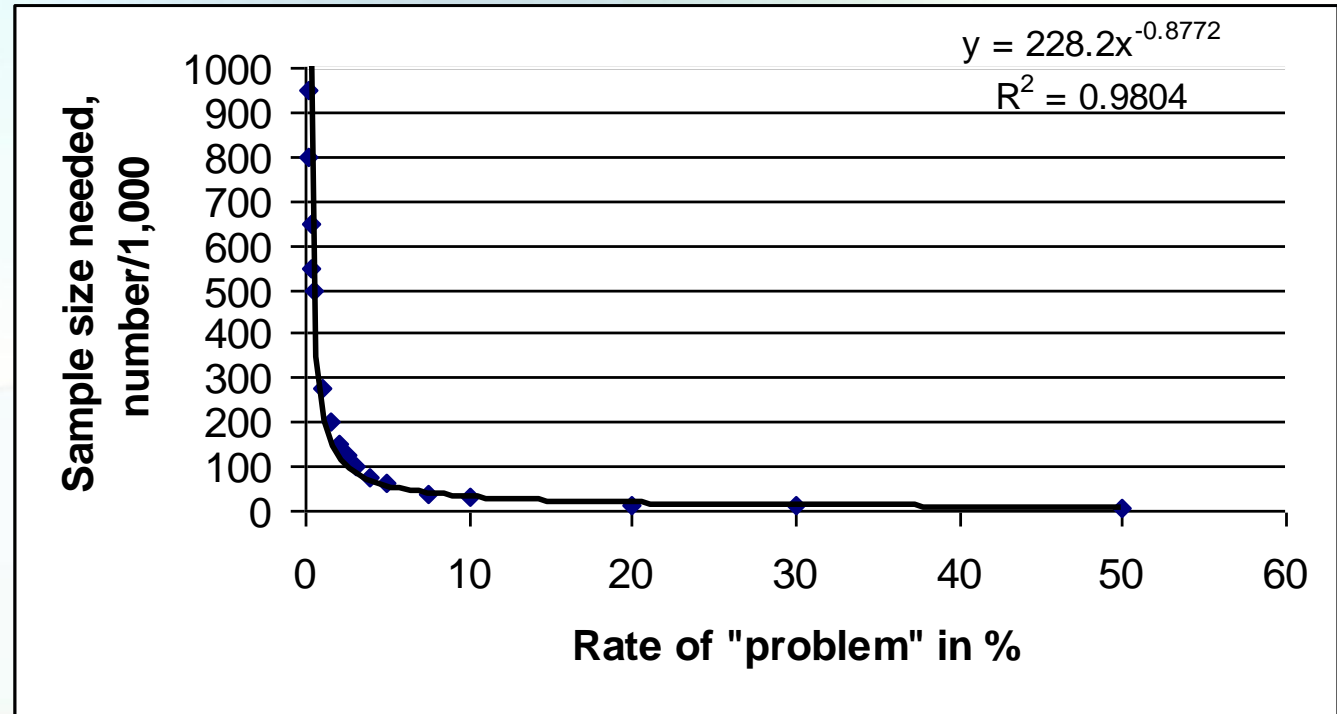
Selecting a sample size

- The sample size needed is determined by the rate of 'error' in the product
- The audit is attempting to find errors or out of compliance issues as a way of addressing if the minimum standards are met
- The lower the error rate (or in our case, AW issues), the larger the sample size must be

Sample Size Calculation

Graph shows sample size needed to find errors with a population of 1,000 items (or animals)

(Sawyer, 1996)



- Consider here a plant that processes 1,000 animals per hour
- With a high error rate, fewer samples are needed
- If the error rate is 1%, 275 animals must be observed
- A sample of 100 animals can detect an error rate over 3% on average
- A 0.1% (1/1,000) error rate means 950 must be observed

Conduct of the Audit

- **Auditor must be professional at all times**
- **Audit must be well documented using numbers if possible**
- **Auditor must be non-intrusive**
- **Auditor should be not visible to staff being audited if at all possible**
- **A person in a white lab coat carrying a clipboard changes human behaviors**

Reporting results

- **Results are reported to the person paying for the audit, unless other arrangements have been made ahead of time**
- **Results must always be confidential**
- **Third party audit results should be shared with processor and customer**
- **After the audit, if all agree, the results may be shared with others**

Ethics

- **A quality audit can only be effective if all three parties are honest and ethical**
- **Auditors should refrain from accepting gifts or food from either party unless it is socially negative to refuse (this should be rare)**
- **All parties should avoid telling others the outcome of audits unless all parties agree**

The End

Derogende opstanding

