PURPOSE
To ensure that all livestock are housed and maintained in a manner consistent with the AWA, Ag Guide and to ensure personnel handling livestock perform their duties in a manner that complies with all current laws regulations and guidelines.

RESPONSIBILITY
A. The TTU Animal Care Services (ACS) veterinarians shall oversee all aspects of animal health and are assisted by program staff. In the case of animal welfare negligence, the University Veterinarian has the authority to intervene immediately.
B. Facility Managers, Rodeo Coach and staff ensures implementation of all procedures.
C. Students are responsible for the daily care of their personally owned animals.

PROCEDURE
All staff and student workers are required to complete generic IACUC training and to participate in the Occupational Health & Safety Program. Students are required to leave contact information in case of emergency.

Training
All students and staff will be trained via Texas Tech Equestrian Center/ Animal and Food Sciences in:
A. Animal Husbandry
B. Handling and Restraint
C. Methods for minimizing pain, distress, and infection will be discussed during general care training.
D. Proper use of equipment/ facilities.

Occupational Health
To promote the safety of the staff
A. Animal caretakers should be aware of the options available to minimize the risks associated with the care and use of livestock and horses as defined in the Occupational Health & Safety Program.
B. Animal Caretakers should have a tetanus vaccine every 5-10 years.
C. First Aid kits are available in designated areas on site.

FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENT

Housing
All pens, pastures, barns and feed storage areas will have vegetation overgrowth kept to a minimum.
A. All species will be separately housed.
1. In accordance with the Ag Guide, different species of animals will not be housed together.

B. Stalls
1. Stalls are sized in accordance with the Ag Guide. Stalls will have adequate ventilation and appropriate bedding. Stalled horses will be turned out in a paddock or run or exercised frequently (permitting health and weather) and stalls will be cleaned at least every other day.

C. Noise:
1. Loud or sudden noises will be kept to a minimum, however, white noise, such as a radio, may be kept in barns to mask or accustom the horses to startling sounds.

D. Dry lot pens
1. Pens and pastures will be free of harmful objects, have access to shade, water and will be cleaned in accordance with the Ag Guide.

Cattle
A. Dry lot pen areas will provide access to clean water, feed, and shelter/shade and will meet the size requirements for cattle according to the Ag Guide.
B. Pasture areas, if available, will be provided for cattle enrichment. Areas for grazing will provide access to clean water and shade in accordance with the Ag Guide, and will be fenced (permanent or temporary) in a manner to keep livestock secured on the TTEC property.

Goats
A. Goat pens will provide access to clean water, feed, and shelter/shade and will meet the size requirements for goats according to the Ag Guide.
B. Goat pen fencing will ensure that goats are secured from escape and will minimize access by predators.

Pest Control
A. The offices, feed, and tack rooms will be fogged or treated regularly for flies and mice as needed.
B. Fly masks will be kept on horses that show sensitivity to flies or the sun during summer months. Fly masks will be removed nightly and washed once a week.
C. Animals will be treated for flies and other external parasites using spray, pour-on, wipe or spot-on application products approved for appropriate species use.
D. The Department of Vector Control will be consulted and will spray regularly during the mosquito season.
E. Feedstuffs will be kept in closed containers to prevent contamination from vermin.
F. Efforts will be made to eliminate standing water on the grounds to minimize mosquito breeding.
FEEDING & WATERING
A. Feeding troughs, pails and hay rings will be kept clean and free of sharp edges.
B. Livestock will either have access to safe pasture for grazing, free choice hay, or fed twice per day.
C. Water containers will be kept clean, full of fresh water and free of sharp edges.
D. Feed storage containers will be vermin proof (i.e. plastic trash containers with a lid).
E. Feed and hay will be stored off the ground in some form.

HERD HEALTH
TTU OWNED ANIMALS (leased, donated or used for TTU purposes)
Records
Records will be kept on all animals housed on TTEC property in a file in the Rodeo Coach’s office.

For TTU owned animals:
A. Identification/number of all animals
B. Registration papers if available
C. Negative EIA (Coggins) test for horses
D. Daily observation records
E. Medical treatment records/Preventative care
F. Acquisition and Disposition records
   1. Health papers (CVI) for incoming animals and/or health history stating vaccination history, castration status, deworming history, and appropriate surveillance testing results.
   2. ACS Veterinarian will examine the appropriate documentation and health status of the animals before entry is permitted.
   3. Animals arriving from sources of unknown health status will not be allowed to enter the premises until an appropriate quarantine period is observed and any appropriate testing and vaccinations and deworming products are given.
   4. Within 48 hours upon arrival, an ACS veterinarian will inspect all incoming animals and will fill out the large animal receiving record that will be kept with the protocol records.
   5. All animals will be visually inspected before being returned to legal owners, or at the end of the lease period, before being removed from TTU-TTEC property.
   6. Inspections of animals will need to be scheduled no less than 72 hours prior to departure. Animals travelling out of state will require a Health certificate (CVI).
   7. Animals will only be permitted to leave TTU premises, with prior inspection by the Veterinary staff or designee, and observed by a TTU veterinarian within 48 hours of arrival back on TTU/TTEC premises.
TTU OWNED ANIMALS:

General Health
Animals will be observed daily.
A. Hoof care will be also be monitored by staff, owner, and professional farrier.
B. Horses will maintain a target body condition score of 5.
   1. If it is determined by an ACS veterinarian that a horse is unable to maintain a body condition score of 3.5, therapeutic action will be taken to ensure the animal is receiving the best care.

Vaccinations & Deworming
Cattle
A. Ideally, animals will be procured from a supplier that has a preconditioning program that includes 2 sets of vaccines, started on feed and dewormed
B. Will be vaccinated with a modified live virus (MLV) or killed virus vaccine that includes:
   1. IBR, BVD type I & II, BRSV & PI3
   2. 7 or 8-way clostridial vaccine
   3. Pasturella
C. Oral, topical or injectable deworming product
Horses
A. Will be annually vaccinated with a combination product that includes:
   1. Equine Influenza (Flu), equine herpes virus (Rhino), eastern, western and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (EEE), (WEE), (VEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV) and tetanus
B. Oral deworming products to be determined with the input of Animal Care Services veterinarians
Goats
A. Ideally, animals will be procured from a supplier that has a program that includes vaccinations and deworming
B. Will be vaccinated, on arrival, with Clostridium perfringens type C + D and tetanus (CDT), unless records verify previously done.
C. Will receive oral drench of amprolium (i.e. Corrid) product on arrival
   1. Oral deworming products to be determined with the input of ACS veterinarians
D. Periodic fecal egg counts to determine quantity and type of parasite

Illness or Injury
1. Rodeo coach, TTEC director, trained staff or student workers will evaluate and the illness or injury, if minor.
   i. Abrasion
   ii. Ringworm
   iii. Loose stool
2. Major injuries and sick animals must be reported immediately to the University veterinarians, and will be treated with consultation, or stabilized until treatment may be rendered.
   i. Fracture
   ii. Bloat
   iii. Respiratory distress
   iv. Inability to rise/eat
   v. Excessive or bloody diarrhea
3. All assessments, communications, treatments, and outcomes must be recorded in the treatment records book.

B. Temperature sensitive medications will be kept in a refrigerator designated for animal medications located in the supply room.
C. All outdated or expired materials will be disposed of properly.
D. Sharps containers will be located in the rodeo coach’s office and will be disposed of properly when full.

NON-TTU OWNED ANIMALS
For non-TTU, student-owned animals
1. The owner will be notified immediately for an illness or injury, unless a prescribed, pre-arrangement has been provided.
2. If the owner is unable to be reached immediately, trained staff or student workers will treat minor injuries and record the treatment.
3. If it is a major injury or illness immediate assistance should be provided to the animal by the student’s veterinarian of record and owner will be notified.
4. If the owner cannot be reached, veterinary care wishes will be followed as per stated on boarding/lease contract.

Health Records
A. Owner information including emergency contact numbers
B. Identification of all animals.
C. Registration papers if available
D. Negative EIA (Coggins) test
E. Information provided by the owner for de-worming, and other health-related information.
F. Identification and emergency contact will be posted on the wall across from each horse’s stall or pen, and in the Rodeo Coach office.

Monitoring System
Trained staff will observe all TTU stock and student-owned horses daily.
A. Negligence will be recorded, and the owner will be notified.
   1. Lack of feed or water,
   2. Refusal to address injuries or sickness or
3. unacceptable living conditions
4. The owner MUST respond IN WRITING as to how the problem is being addressed.

B. If a pattern occurs, (three notices), the owner will be asked to leave.
   1. All records, notices and correspondence will be kept in a file with the Rodeo Coach.
   2. If the negligence is an animal welfare issue the IACUC committee and the veterinarians will be notified, who have the authority to intervene immediately.