

AUG 12 2021

Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission
Agency No. _____
Effective _____

BUREAU OF
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

DISPOSAL OF LARGE ANIMAL AND POULTRY CARCASSES

I. Definitions. As used in this rule:

“State Animal Health Official” means the State Veterinarian or designee.

“Incineration” means the destruction of animal carcass soft tissue and most of the hard tissue by means of controlled combustion.

“Composting” means the natural biological degradation of plant and animal matter in a controlled, well aerated system. Composting for disposal should contain carcasses, a carbon source and moisture in order to reach temperatures that will destroy pathogenic organisms.

“Rendering” means to process mortality by machinery, device or system designed and operated for the purpose of making an animal feed or feed supplement from animal carcasses or parts.

“Burial” means to dispose of mortality by covering carcasses with soil; either by placing carcasses in an excavated area or on the soil surface.

“On Farm freezing” means to dispose of poultry mortality by placing carcasses in a leak proof freezer unit capable of maintaining a subfreezing temperature for the duration of the flock or when the unit is full.

“Carbon Source” means a biodegradable material used to aid in the decomposition process of mortality which includes but not limited to wood shavings, sawdust, hay and rice hulls.

“Catastrophic mortality” means an event where a large number of animals die, other than from a reportable disease, and the normal method of disposal is inadequate.

“Large animal” means cattle, horses, domesticated swine, sheep, goats, cervidae, bison, llamas, alpacas, ostriches, emus, rheas, and other native or nonnative animals, excluding dogs, cats, and feral hogs.

“Poultry” means a class of domesticated fowl (birds) farmed for their meat or eggs which include but not limited chickens, turkeys and ducks.

II. DISPOSAL OF LARGE ANIMAL CARCASSES

A. Large animal carcasses must be disposed of in the following manner unless specified directly by the State Animal Health Official.

1. Rendering.

Large animal carcasses may be submitted to a rendering facility in a sealed vehicle that does not allow drainage while being moved.

2. Burial

Carcasses may be buried at a site at least 100 yards away from a well and in a place where a stream cannot be contaminated. Carcasses may be covered with lime, particularly when needed to control odors. All carcasses are to be covered with at least 2 feet of soil. Carcasses are not to be buried in a landfill.

Anthrax carcasses should be sited as far as possible (at least 100 yards) from a well or water source and disposed of by incineration. The burn site should be acidified and then buried under 2 feet of soil.

3. Composting

Carcasses or portions of carcasses may be composted in compliance with the following guidelines.

a. General Requirements

(1) The composting process must be managed at all times to be practically odorless, prevent fly larvae development, prevent animal depredation and stop leaching of waste material thereby becoming a source of water/soil contamination.

(2) The carcass(es) must be reduced to brittle/easily broken bone.

(3) A minimal temperature of 130 F and a minimal 110 F maintenance temperature must be achieved during the composting process to where the finished product is pathogen free.

b. Composting – Exposed to Weather

(1) Compost material (carbon source such as sawdust, hay, etc.) may not contain manure if exposed to rain or water.

(2) The carcass(es) must be placed on at least a 24-inch-thick pad of compost material that is large enough so that when the carcass(es) is placed there it will be at least 24 inches from the carcass(es) to the edge of the pad.

(3) A layer of compost material that completely covers the carcass(es) and is at least 24 inches thick must be maintained throughout the composting process.

c. Composting – Protected from Weather

Compost material (carbon source such as saw dust, hay etc.) may contain manure.

d. Composting must be done in a bin(s) that has a concrete floor to provide an all-weather base, roof to exclude excess moisture and rot resistant bin construction to support the compost material and withstand stresses applied by tractor loader.

e. Carcass(es) must be placed in the compost bin on at least a 12 inch thick base pad of compost material and carcass(es) cannot be placed within 8 inches of the sides, front or rear of the compost bin.

f. A layer of compost material that completely covers the carcass(es) must be maintained throughout the composting process.

4. Incineration (burning)

Incineration or open burning may be used as long as carcass is reduced to ash.

B. Other disposal issues

1. This rule does not apply to any animal products meant for human consumption.

2. If carcasses or parts are handled or transported off-site the carcass or product must be in a sealed vehicle or leak-proof containers. Carcasses must be covered by a tarp or other materials when transported.

3. Large animal carcasses found on Public roadways where proof of ownership is unknown, shall be disposed of in the most practical manner to prevent a public health problem.

III. DISPOSAL OF POULTRY CARCASSES

A. Acceptable Methods

1. Incineration

When used for the purpose of carcass disposal, the carcass must be reduced to ash.

2. Composting

a. The composting process must be managed at all times to be practically odorless, prevent fly larvae development, prevent animal depredation and stop leaching of waste material thereby becoming a source of water/soil contamination.

b. The carcass(es) must be reduced to brittle/easily broken bone and feathers.

c. A temperature must be achieved during the composting process to reduce pathogen load.

3. On-Farm Freezing

a. Carcasses will be frozen to a solid state before being removed from the farm.

b. Frozen carcasses will be placed in a container that will not leak when thawing begins.

c. Frozen carcasses will be transported from the farm in a sealed, leak-proof vehicle.

4. Rendering

a. Carcasses may be submitted to a rendering facility in a sealed vehicle that does not allow drainage while being moved.

b. All requirements of Section III. B. 2 must be followed.

B. Other Poultry Carcass Disposal Issues

1. Catastrophic Event (not including when mortality is caused by a reportable disease.)

a. On-site burial may be used. The trench must be 2 to 4 feet deep and the carcasses covered by at least 2 feet of soil. Lime may be used to control odor if needed.

b. Permit required from the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Division.

2. Transport of Carcasses from Farm

a. If carcasses or parts are handled or transported off-site, they must be in a sealed vehicle or leak-proof containers. Carcasses must be covered by a tarp or other materials when transported.

b. May be cancelled in cases of reportable disease incidents, or when the State Animal Health Official deems necessary to stop disease spread.

c. Permit required from Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Division.

IV. Any further exemptions from this rule must be approved in writing by the State Animal Health Official.

V. AUTHORITY

A.C.A. § 2-33-107 (c); A.C.A. § 2-40-403, 404; A.C.A. § 2-40-1302(a)(1)

**REPEAL RULE
AGENCY NO. 209.01**

Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission
Effective September 1, 1992
Taylor H. Woods, D.V.M., Director

~~Act 87 of 1963, Act 150 of 1985, Act 168 of 1985, and Act 20 of 1989~~

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~~CARCASS DISPOSAL - POULTRY~~

Acceptable Methods

- ~~1. Cremation or incineration~~
- ~~2. Composting of carcasses~~
- ~~3. Extrusion~~
- ~~4. Rendering~~
- ~~5. Cooking for swine feed~~
- ~~6. On farm freezing~~

~~Cremation or Incineration as a Method of Carcass Disposal~~

~~Controlled burn machine for the purpose of cooking carcass so as not to disseminate disease.
This means cooking carcass until meat is rendered to ash.~~

~~Composting as a Method of Carcass Disposal~~

- ~~1. Must be practically odorless~~
- ~~2. Must be to where pathogenic bacteria are destroyed (150 degrees F)~~
- ~~3. Carcasses must be reduced to nothing, only feathers, and bones remaining. This takes about 10-14 days~~
- ~~4. Operated to where fly larvae are not a problem~~

~~Extrusion as a Method of Carcass Disposal~~

- ~~1. Enough heat must be generated to render finished product pathogen free.~~
- ~~2. Carcasses, if moved off the farm, must be moved under "Carcass Moving Guidelines".~~

~~3. Permit required from the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission~~

Rendering as a Method of Carcass Disposal

- ~~1. Shall be done without odor contamination~~
- ~~2. Area around rendering unit shall be maintained in a sanitary manner; that is,
 - ~~(a) No carcasses of any type being held over 24 hours~~
 - ~~(b) No pools of contaminated material allowed~~
 - ~~(c) Carcasses must be ground and temperature must reach 230 degrees F.~~
 - ~~(d) End product stored in a clean area that is varmint proof.~~~~
- ~~3. Carcasses, if moved off the farm, must be moved under "Carcass Moving Guidelines".~~
- ~~4. Permit required from the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.~~

Cooking for Swine Feed as a Method of Carcass Disposal

- ~~1. Temperature of 212 degrees F must be maintained for 30 minutes.~~
- ~~2. Shall be done without odor contamination~~
- ~~3. Area around cooking unit shall be maintained in a sanitary manner, that is,
 - ~~(a) No carcasses of any type being held over 24 hours~~
 - ~~(b) No pools of contaminated material allowed~~
 - ~~(c) End product stored in a clean area that is varmint proof~~~~
- ~~4. Carcasses, if moved off the farm, must be moved under "Carcass Moving Guidelines".~~
- ~~5. Permit required from the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.~~

On-Farm Freezing as a Method of Carcass Disposal

- ~~1. Carcasses will be frozen to a solid state before being removed from the farm.~~
- ~~2. Frozen carcasses will be placed in a container that will not leak when thawing begins.~~
- ~~3. Frozen carcasses will be transported from the farm in a sealed, leak-proof vehicle.~~

Major Die-Off

- ~~1. In the event of a major die-off, rendering will be the method of choice for disposal, except when death is caused by a disease entity.~~
- ~~2. A ditch may be used when dug 2 to 4 feet deep and covered by at least 2 feet of dirt. Lime may be used to control odor if needed.~~

Poultry Carcass Moving Guidelines from Farm

- ~~1. Anytime poultry carcasses are removed from the farm, they must be moved under the "Poultry Carcass Moving Guidelines".~~
- ~~2. May be cancelled in times of LT, AI, or anytime state veterinarian deems necessary to stop disease spread.~~
- ~~3. Poultry carcasses must be placed in a leak proof garbage dumpster that remains on the farm, then dumped into a sealed, leak proof garbage truck; or can be sealed in leak proof plastic containers to be placed in a sealed, leak proof vehicle to be moved to the site of destruction.~~
- ~~4. Frozen poultry carcasses must be placed in a sealed, leak proof vehicle or container and covered before being transported to point of destination.~~

Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission ~~_____~~ **FINAL RULE**
Effective: May 1, 2004
Phil Wyrick, Executive Director

~~Act 87 of 1963 Code 2-33-101 and Act 150 of 1985 Code 19-6-448~~

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**~~REGULATION FOR THE DISPOSAL OF LARGE ANIMAL CARCASSES,
EXCLUDING DOGS AND CATS~~**

~~Large animal carcasses (excluding dogs and cats) may be disposed of in the following manner unless specified directly by the state veterinarian.~~

~~1. Rendering~~

~~Large animal carcasses may be submitted to a rendering facility in a sealed vehicle that does not allow drainage while being moved.~~

~~2. Burial~~

~~Carcasses may be buried at a site at least 100 yards away from a well and in a place where a stream cannot be contaminated. Anthrax carcasses are to be covered with 1 inch of lime. Other carcasses may be covered with lime, particularly when needed to control odors. All carcasses are to be covered with at least 2 feet of dirt. Carcasses are not to be buried in a landfill, without prior approval of the State Veterinarian.~~

~~3. Extrusion~~

~~Extrusion is an acceptable method to recover the protein for animal food, when possible.~~

~~4. Cooking Carcasses for Swine Food~~

~~Carcasses may be cooked for swine food. The internal temperature of the batch must reach 212 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 minutes. Federal permit required through USDA APHIS, Veterinary Services.~~

5. ~~Composting~~

~~Carcasses or portions of carcasses may be composted in compliance with the following guidelines:~~

~~a. General Requirements~~

- ~~1. The composting process must be managed at all times to be practically odorless, prevent fly larvae development, prevent animal depredation and stop leaching of waste material thereby becoming a source of water/soil contamination.~~
- ~~2. The carcass(es) must be reduced to brittle/easily broken bone.~~
- ~~3. A minimal peak temperature of 130 F and a minimal 110 F maintenance temperature must be achieved during the composting process to where the finished product is pathogen free.~~

~~b. Composting Exposed to Weather~~

- ~~1. Approved for all large animals (swine, ruminants, horses etc.).~~
- ~~2. Compost material (carbon source) may be sawdust, hay, etc. **but may not contain manure.**~~
- ~~3. The carcass(es) must be placed on at least a 24 inch thick pad of compost material that is large enough so that when the carcass(es) is placed there will be at least 24 inches from the carcass(es) to the edge of the pad.~~
- ~~4. A layer of compost material that completely covers the carcass(es) and is at least 24 inches thick must be maintained throughout the composting process.~~

~~e. Composting Protected from Weather~~

- ~~1. Approved for all large animals (swine, ruminants, horses etc.)~~
- ~~2. Compost material (carbon source) may be saw dust, hay etc. **and may contain manure.**~~
- ~~3. Composting must be done in a bin(s) that has a concrete floor to provide an all weather base, roof to exclude excess moisture and rot resistant bin construction to support the compost material and withstand stresses applied by tractor loader.~~

- ~~4. Carcass(es) are to be placed in the compost bin on at least a 12 inch thick base pad of compost material and carcass(es) can not be placed within 8 inches of the sides, front or rear of the compost bin.~~
- ~~5. A layer of compost material that completely covers the carcass(es) must be maintained throughout the composting process.~~

~~6. Incineration (burning)~~

~~Incineration or open burning may be used as long as carcass is reduced to ash.~~

~~7. Carcasses to be buried on special order of state veterinarian~~

~~a. Anthrax—Animals that die due to this disease shall be buried on site.~~

~~Carcass is to be covered with 1 inch of lime after being placed in ground.~~

~~8. The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission shall have the responsibility of following up complaints on improper large animal carcass disposal.~~

~~9. This regulation has no jurisdiction on any animals or parts thereof that are designed as a food item for humans.~~

~~10. If carcasses or parts are handled or moved on a road, (gravel or paved) the carcass or product must be in a sealed vehicle or contained where no leakage occurs. Carcasses are to be covered by tarp or other materials when transported on roads so that wind may not carry disease organisms into surrounding area.~~

~~11. Large animal carcasses found on County or Highway property where the identity is unknown, shall be disposed of in the best (most practical) manner to prevent a public health problem.~~

~~Issued in Little Rock, Arkansas on March 4, 2004.~~

~~Phil Wyrick, Executive Director
AR Livestock & Poultry Commission~~

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H3/16/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1575

5 By: Representative Eubanks
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATED TO THE DISPOSAL OF
9 FOWL CARCASSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
10

Subtitle

11 TO AMEND THE LAW RELATED TO THE DISPOSAL
12 OF FOWL CARCASSES.
13

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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 2-40-403 is amended to read as follows:
20 2-40-403. Requirements.

21 The Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission shall, by rule, specify
22 acceptable methods for the disposal of fowl carcasses, including, but not
23 limited to:

- 24 (1) Composting of carcasses;
25 (2) Cremation or incineration;
26 (3) ~~Extrusion;~~
27 ~~(4) On-farm freezing; and~~
28 ~~(5)(4) Rendering; and~~
29 ~~(6) Cooking for swine feed.~~
30

31 /s/Eubanks
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34 APPROVED: 4/14/21
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