Animal BMP Excess

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May 2025 - Animal BMP Excess

Request a Review of Current Process in Model versus BMP Reporting:

- Animal Waste Management Systems
- Animal Mortality Disposal
- Riparian Fence – Reduction of Direct Deposition

Initial investigation: Background

- Jurisdiction submits a quantity
  - Can be:
    - number of systems,
    - animal count,
    - animal units,
    - percent of animals
- Conversions take place from the initial submission to convert to a common unit of AU in CAST

Some of the concerns that were found:

- System Conversions a weighting concern.
- System Conversions an update needed?
- Exclusion fencing default?

System Conversions: A weighting concern

Phase 6 issue with conversion of systems to AUs.

- Specifically animal waste management systems and mortality composters that are submitted as systems.

Causes a weighting towards the animal type that has the most animal per system

- Is broilers in almost all cases.

Should NOT be the case and will be fixed in P7

System Conversions: A weighting concern

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System Conversions: Animal Waste Management Systems (AWMS)

Each state has several Animal Waste Management System records that look like possible duplicates.

- We have met with state representative to better understand the reported data to rule out reporting errors.
- This work is on going.

Can we continue to use a conversion of systems to animal count that was developed for P6.

Is the animals per system based on an average system's capacity?

- Not all farms are at capacity. This could lead to excess.

System Conversions: Mortality Disposal (MD)

Each state has several records that look like possible duplicates.

- We have met with state representative to better understand the reported data to rule out reporting errors.
- This work is on going.

The same systems to animal count conversion is used for animal waste management systems. Is this appropriate?

Again, is this a system capacity number?

Exclusion fencing default

All States EXCEPT VA report fencing only and use a default value for AUs

- VA reports AU excluded along with length and width
- 1000ft of fencing = 17.6 Animal Units
- ***Do we need to revisit the default?***

You can report fencing as feet or acres

- When acres are reported and no length is supplied, length is calculated.
  - Assume a 10-foot width for narrow buffers and 35 for full buffers
    - IF buffers are wider this will overestimate the length fenced.
- ***Should default widths be wider?***

Summary

- Current progress:
  - Solved an error in conversion of systems to AU’s.
  - Looking into possible duplicate entries for:
    - Animal Waste Management Systems
    - Mortality Disposal

Questions?

Discussion

- Animal Waste Management Systems:
  - Do we need to update the conversion factor for P7?
- Mortality Disposal:
  - Do we need a unique conversion factor that differs from AWMS?
- Are animal submissions based on max capacity?
- Exclusion fencing:
  - Do we need to revisit the default conversion?
  - Should the default be wider?

AnimalName	Source	AverageAnimalCountPerSystem	MortalityFraction
pullets	Sales	9,734	0.08
turkeys	Production	3,744	0.15
hogs and pigs for breeding	Inventory	428	0.08
beef	Inventory	22	0.09
broilers	Production	198,096	0.05
dairy	Inventory	84	0.1
hogs for slaughter	Sales	74	0.05
horses	Inventory	7	0.01
layers	Inventory	1,720	0.08
other cattle	Inventory	43	0.03
sheep and lambs	Inventory	33	0.03
goats	Inventory	13	0.03

Next steps: Compile feedback

Green boxes = AMT decisions
Purple boxes = AMT recommendation

Question	Change required?	Suggested change
Do we need to update the AWMS conversion factor for P7?		
Do we need a unique conversion factor for MD that differs from AWMS?		
Are animal submissions based on max capacity?		
Do we need to revisit the default exclusion fencing conversion? (1000ft of fencing = 17.6 Animal Units)		
Should the default be wider? (10-foot width for narrow buffers and 35 for full buffers)		