

For: County Offices

Extreme Heat and Cold Eligibility for Livestock Indemnity Program in New Jersey

Approved by: State Executive Director



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1 Purpose

The purpose of this notice is to provide County Offices with guidance regarding eligibility requirements for Livestock Indemnity Program loss claims for Extreme Heat and Extreme Cold.

2 Background

Notice LDAP-81 required State Committees to establish specific criteria for Livestock Indemnity Program loss claims for Extreme Heat and Extreme Cold. New Jersey State Committee recommended the guidelines found in Exhibit 1 of this notice, which were subsequently approved by National Office and are in effect for 2016 and future years.

3 Action

A County Office Action

County Offices shall follow the guidance in this notice to determine eligibility of loss claims for Extreme Heat and Extreme Cold, and will ensure adequate documentation of these determinations and the reason (s) for them are also documented.

B Questions

Direct all questions concerning this notice to the Disaster program specialist.

Disposal Date: indefinite, until rescinded	Distribution: County Offices District Director County Operations Reviewer
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2014 Farm Bill - Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

NJ State Committee (STC) - Extreme Heat and Cold Criteria Revised 9/8/16

LIP procedure requires the STC to establish Extreme Heat and Cold Criteria as they are listed as eligible adverse weather events in the LIP procedural definition below:

Eligible adverse weather event means an extreme or abnormal damaging weather event that is not expected to occur during the loss period for which it occurred, which results in eligible livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality. Eligible adverse weather events include, but are not limited to, as determined by the Deputy Administrator or designee, earthquake; lightning; tornado; tropical storm; typhoon; vog, if directly related to a volcanic eruption; winter storm if the winter storm lasts for 3 consecutive days and is accompanied by high winds, freezing rain or sleet, heavy snowfall, and extremely cold temperatures; hurricanes; floods, blizzards; wild fires; extreme heat; extreme cold; anthrax; and disease if exacerbated by another eligible adverse weather event.

With the assistance of both the NJ and DE State Veterinarians, and through consultation with Extension and Industry, the STC has established Extreme Heat and Cold Criteria as follows:

In most situations, livestock death due to extreme heat or extreme cold in New Jersey is caused by lack of proper management, and therefore is not an eligible cause of loss. If animals are provided access to shade, shelter and fresh water, animals should not die from extreme heat or cold. There are two exceptions to this policy:

1. Animals in close confinement, such as poultry or swine, could be affected by Extreme Heat.
2. Lactating or pregnant dairy cattle could be affected by Extreme Heat.

For the above two exceptions, the COC will utilize the attached Livestock Weather Hazard Guide which establishes indices based on temperature and humidity. To be eligible for LIP for Extreme Heat, the index must exceed 83 for two consecutive days and not fall below 75 during the same two consecutive nights prior to death.

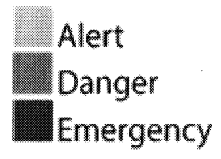
To be eligible for LIP for Extreme Cold, conditions must exist in which the absolute temperature or wind chill temperature does not go above -5 degrees F for two consecutive days.

County Committee Guidance

- For all adverse weather events, determine/document the management practices that were followed by the producer and utilize the attached guide, "Tips to Protect Livestock during Extreme Winter Weather", put out by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture to assess if the losses could have been prevented.
- Research and document the weather (temperature/humidity) to determine whether the temperature was extreme/abnormal/unseasonable for that time of year.
- Determine from the producer the age and health of the livestock when the extreme weather event occurred.

Livestock Weather Hazard Guide

		Relative Humidity (%)																			
		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100
Dry Bulb Temp. (F)	75									70	70	71	71	72	72	73	73	74	74	75	75
	76							70	70	70	71	72	72	72	73	74	74	74	75	76	76
	77						70	70	71	71	72	72	73	73	74	74	75	75	76	76	77
	78					70	70	71	71	72	72	73	74	74	75	75	76	76	77	78	78
	79				70	70	71	72	72	73	73	74	74	75	75	76	77	77	78	78	79
	80			70	70	71	72	72	73	73	74	74	75	76	76	77	78	78	79	79	80
	81		70	70	71	71	72	73	73	74	75	75	76	77	77	78	78	79	80	80	81
	82		70	71	71	72	73	73	74	75	75	76	77	77	78	79	79	80	81	81	82
	83	70	71	71	72	73	73	74	75	75	76	77	78	78	79	80	80	81	82	82	83
	84	70	71	72	72	73	74	75	75	76	77	78	78	79	80	80	81	82	83	83	84
	85	71	72	72	73	74	75	75	76	77	78	78	79	80	81	81	82	83	84	84	85
	86	71	72	73	74	74	75	76	77	78	78	79	80	81	81	82	83	84	84	85	86
	87	72	73	73	74	75	76	77	77	78	79	80	81	81	82	83	84	85	85	86	87
	88	72	73	74	75	76	76	77	78	79	80	81	81	82	83	84	85	85	86	87	88
	89	73	74	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	86	87	88	89
	90	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	87	88	89	90
	91	74	75	76	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	86	87	88	89	90	91
	92	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	84	85	86	87	88	89	90		
93	75	76	77	78	79	80	80	81	82	83	84	85	87	87	88	89	90				
94	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90					
95	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90						
96	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	84	84	86	87	88	89	90	91						
97	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	90	91							
98	77	78	79	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90								
99	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	86	87	88	88	90									
100	78	79	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	90	91									
105	80	82	83	84	86	87	89	90	91												



TIPS TO PROTECT LIVESTOCK DURING EXTREME WINTER WEATHER

Although most livestock animals are well adapted to cold weather, severe wind and cold can cause significant problems for livestock and their owners. Under extreme winter storm conditions, simple shelters alone may not be effective in protecting livestock. The following is a list of recommendations for livestock owners and caretakers to protect their animals during extreme cold:

- ✓ Having abundant and accessible feed will help animals maintain body temperature and survive cold temperatures.
- ✓ Make sure stored winter feed is of good nutrient quality for the type of livestock you are feeding.
- ✓ Rations of hay/forage/feed must be increased in order for livestock to maintain body temperature. Some cold and wet weather fronts may result in a 100 percent increase in energy requirements to help animals maintain normal body temperature and function. The nutritional needs of gestating livestock increase during cold temperatures. Failing to meet these needs may result in stunted animals, poor milk production and weak or dead fetuses.
- ✓ Animals' water consumption increases because of elevated metabolic rates necessary to maintain warmth. Don't assume livestock can meet their water needs by eating snow or licking ice. Make sure water is clean, free of ice, and in adequate supply. Make sure you have portable watering equipment or a way to maintain water for your livestock in case of extreme cold and ice.
- ✓ If possible, shelter animals indoors during extreme weather events and storms.
- ✓ Increased time spent indoors will increase the amount of soiled bedding material needing removal. Keep bedding as dry and clean as possible in order to avoid increased ammonia fumes which can irritate the respiratory lining of livestock thereby increasing susceptibility to pneumonia causing bacteria and viruses.
- ✓ Shelter animals from the wind. Trees, land windbreaks, other natural weather barriers and constructed shelters will assist in blocking winds. These protected areas should provide all animals enough space to lie down safely without being trampled or smothered. Evergreen trees such as fir, pine, and juniper are effective types of trees for windbreaks. Trees without leaves during winter are relatively ineffective windbreaks.
- ✓ Consider where snow will drift under different wind conditions and plan how to clear gates, shelter openings, barn doors, and roads when snow begins to accumulate.
- ✓ The time livestock spend in muddy pens and areas should be limited to avoid the development of foot problems and injuries incurred while moving across slippery ground. Stay alert to problem areas and resolve future problems with the use of geotextiles, gravel, tiles, gutters, sand or woodchips.
- ✓ Extremities that become wet or are normally damp are particularly subject to frostbite and freezing during sub-zero weather. Livestock may lose or have damaged ears and/or tails. Male livestock may suffer cold damage to reproductive organs, which can impair fertility or the animal's ability to breed.
- ✓ During cold, driving rains or freezing rain, animals should be monitored often. Shivering animals should be brought inside, if possible, to warm up. Be cautious; a sudden significant change in temperature can lead to respiratory problems, including pneumonia.
- ✓ Blankets can be used on individual animals. However, the animal's coat as well as the blanket material touching the animal's coat must remain dry. Change as necessary.
- ✓ Small animals such as rabbits and poultry as well as very young and old livestock may need supplemental heat and/or protection. Monitor their status often.
- ✓ Stay alert: young/smaller animals are more at risk to cold temperatures and are at greater risk of becoming buried by snow.
- ✓ Care for young animals first, since they are more vulnerable than larger animals.
- ✓ Make sure animals are in good body condition and vaccinated. Livestock that are larger and in good body condition can handle winter weather and extreme conditions better than smaller or weaker animals.

Livestock owners should check with their veterinarian, county agriculture extension agent, or the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health at 609-671-6400 for additional information and assistance.