

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR ABOUT NEW LIVESTOCK BARN

LIVESTOCK FARMERS DO MORE THAN SERVE UP TASTY TREATS, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE, TRUSTED NEIGHBORS.

HONEST ANSWERS TO VALID QUESTIONS

New can be scary, and when you don't know what that something new *really* is, it's easy to get caught up in what you hear or see on the Internet.

Today's farms don't quite look like the pastoral images in children's books or the memories of our grandparents' farms. Just as you update your smartphone when new technology is available, farmers leverage the newest technology to make producing your food, fiber and fuel efficient and safe for the animals and the environment.



When it comes to new or growing livestock farms, the same five questions seem to arise, and we have some answers. But, you don't have to take our word for it — we've cited our resources and encourage you to do your own research. Visit www.farmersdeliver.com to take a look.

1 DOESN'T LIVESTOCK POLLUTE OUR WATER?¹

NOPE.

Large modern livestock buildings — also referred to as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) and confined feeding operations (CFOs) — are required to have environmental plans developed by engineers in compliance with federal and state rules. These documents include nutrient management plans, which are basically a calculation of how much manure will be produced, how it will be stored and how it will be managed until it can be appropriately applied to land as a highly effective fertilizer.

New livestock buildings are also sited per county zoning and designed and constructed according to state rules that specify set distances from waterways, wells, intakes and the like. By regulation, CAFOs and CFOs are not allowed to have any manure discharge — none, zero, zilch. *Source: IDEM Requirements*

2 DO LIVESTOCK BARN

LEAD TO DRUG-RESISTANT BACTERIA SUCH AS MRSA?²

NOPE.

Concerns over negative health impacts such as MRSA from animal agriculture aren't founded. One of the main reasons livestock are housed in barns is to protect *them* from outside diseases in order to keep the food chain safe. With strict biosecurity measures, the likelihood of animals in a regulated facility causing an out-break of disease is negligible.

Source: University of Minnesota, Food Policy Research Center; University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine

3 IF A NEW FARM GOES IN NEXT DOOR, WON'T NEIGHBORHOOD PROPERTY VALUES GO DOWN?³

RARELY.

When researching potential building sites, farmers consider many factors such as appropriate zoning, sufficient space, proximity of neighbors, location of public use areas like lakes and parks, land topography and prevailing wind direction. Because of these best management practices, property values should not be negatively impacted.

To support this finding, unbiased qualitative and quantitative research conducted in Indiana shows that in most cases — depending on the type of animals — new or expanded livestock farms have a neutral or positive impact on neighboring property values. *Source: Indiana Business Research Center*

4

WON'T EVERYTHING SMELL LIKE MANURE ALL THE TIME?⁴ NOPE.

While there is no denying that manure — and the smell — is an inevitable part of animal agriculture, livestock farmers do everything they can to mitigate odor and be good neighbors. It starts with choosing the correct building site and designing barns with sophisticated ventilation and manure-holding structures, but that's not all; here are some other smart tactics used to keep the air fresh:

- Planting windbreaks and shelterbelts (trees and shrubs)
- Implementing feed-management strategies
- Covering outside storage structures
- Aerating liquid storage structures
- Avoiding fertilizing fields with manure on weekends and holidays

Manure is a valuable resource that contains all the nutrients needed to keep the land rich and fertile for growing crops. Farmers don't like to waste this valuable resource.



Source: Purdue University

DOES ANYONE REGULATE THESE BARNs?^{1,5} YEP.

In fact, there are literally volumes of ever-changing rules and regulations that farmers must keep informed of and meet or exceed, and there are several agencies providing oversight. Think of it this way: Federal and state agencies regulate *how* barns are managed, and local agencies regulate *where* they are built.

Absolutely every detail from building site to the manure-storage system is reviewed and approved prior to construction. Once the approved building is ready for livestock, both the animals and the manure are subject to specific rules around things like transportation, application of manure as fertilizer, feeding practices and animal care.

Keep in mind, it's in a farmer's best interest to meet or exceed all standards to make sure their livestock and the land stay safe and sound.

Source: Indiana Department of Environmental Management Requirements, Board of Animal Health Requirements

Animal agriculture is more than hot wings, bacon and ice cream. It's doing what's right for communities and families.



Indiana's livestock farmers are a part of our community fabric, caring for the land and animals that feed their families, and yours.

As community leaders and economic contributors, Indiana's livestock farm families are responsible neighbors invested in their heritage, their future and the health of the community.

Learn more about Indiana's livestock farmers at www.farmersdeliver.com.

Funded with Indiana soybean and corn checkoff dollars.

¹ Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Confined Feeding Operations (CFOs/CAFOs). Accessed November 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www.in.gov/idem/4994.htm>.

² Davies, P. 2013. Pigs and MRSA: What are the human health risks and to whom? University of Minnesota, Food Policy Research Center and College of Veterinary Medicine. Accessed November 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www.foodpolicy.umn.edu/sites/foodpolicy.umn.edu/files/pigs-and-mrsa.pdf>.

³ Indiana Business Research Center. 2008. The Effect of Regulated Livestock Operations on Property Values in Selected Indiana Counties. Accessed November 2014. Retrieved from: http://www.ibrc.indiana.edu/studies/indiana_cfo_cfo_property_impact_2008.pdf.

⁴Heber, A., D. Jones and A. Sutton. Methods and Practices to Reduce Odor from Swine Facilities. Purdue University; Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering and Department of Animal Sciences. Accessed November 2014. Retrieved from: <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AE/AQ-2/AQ-2.html>.

⁵Board of Animal Health. Livestock and Poultry Care. Accessed November 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www.in.gov/boah/2592.htm>.

INSC LVST 32772-12
21-MC51-10/14



Indiana Farm Bureau.