



# livestock emergency response

Jennifer Woods, B. Sc., Animal Science  
Reflected J Livestock Consulting

*Planning for and handling livestock in emergency or disaster situations.*

Alberta Farm Animal Care

## History



- In 1998 Alberta Farm Animal Care determined a need for Livestock Emergency Response Training

1. Alberta Livestock Transportation Report
2. History of problems with response to accidents
3. Approached by RCMP for need for training.

- In January of 1998, Jennifer Woods was approached by the training officer for the MD of Foothills to put together a training program for the firefighters for dealing with incidents involving livestock.

## In response to the need -

- AFAC teamed up with Jennifer Woods to develop a program to train first responders in dealing with Livestock Incidents.
- Program was designed to provide a comprehensive training for firefighters, police, producers and truck drivers.



## Training Program -

1. Handling and behavior distressed livestock.
2. Responding to MVA's involving livestock.
3. What to expect on scene.
3. Team Resourcing.
4. Trailer design.
5. Extrication.
6. Barn Fires
7. Loose Livestock
6. Livestock First Aid
7. Euthanasia
8. Laws, ethics and Liabilities



- The pilot course was launched in January 1999.

## Alberta reach since 1998 -

- Since 1998, over 1,000 first responders, producers and truck drivers have been trained in Alberta.
- Become part of regular training in some fire districts.
- Numerous conference presentations.
- Assisted at accident scenes.



## AFAC Livestock Incident Tracking Program

- In 2002, AFAC officially started documenting all incidents involving livestock.

- Benefits:
  1. Validate need for training.
  2. Document response problems.
  3. Increase knowledge of incidents.

## Alberta Livestock Incident Response Plan



- A partnership between Jennifer Woods, AFAC, livestock insurance companies and truckers.
- Establish trained response teams throughout the province to assist with livestock incidents.
- One call program made available to 911 dispatch, fire departments, police, insurance companies and trucking companies.
- Goals:
  1. Improve safety of accident scenes and those responding.
  2. Increase efficiency of response.
  3. Decrease cost of response for owners and insurance.
  4. Effectively track incident response in Alberta.

## Outside Reach



- Delivered LERC across Canada and down into the United States.
- Consulted with European countries on program development.
- Developed a program focusing on disaster planning for livestock.