

ASA Presentation Notes

Unit Name: [Unit 3 Animal Handling and Safety](#)

Lesson Topic: [Lesson 3.3 Home Sweet Home](#)

Presentation on: [Creature Comforts](#)

Notes from Presentation:

What are your basic needs?

Shelter.

- Provides protection from environmental extremes.
 - Sun.
 - Wind.
 - Rain.
 - Snow.
- Pole barns.
 - Can be open sided.
- Confinement style.
 - Controlled environment.
 - Temperature.
 - Humidity.
 - Air flow.

Temperature.

- Primary consideration when providing shelter.
- Warm-blooded animals rely on thermoregulation to maintain a constant body temperature.
- Outside of the optimal temperature range, animals must expend additional energy on maintaining homeostasis.

Comfort Zone.

- Also called thermoneutral zone.
- A range of temperatures in which an animal is the most comfortable.
- This often correlates with production efficiency.
 - If an animal does not expend surplus energy maintaining body temperature that energy can be used for growth and production.

Heat Stress vs. Cold Stress.

- **Heat.**
 - Reduced feed intake ~ decreases heat from digestion.
 - Panting.
 - Sweating.
 - Blood vessels dilate.
 - Decreased growth rate.
- **Cold**

- Higher energy requirement to maintain body temp.
- Bunching.
- Hair provides air insulation.
- Blood vessels constrict.
- Reduces feed efficiency.

Wet Conditions.

- Evaporative cooling.
 - Air evaporates water and in the process the air loses heat to the water.
- Beneficial in the summer.
 - Misters and wallows can help moderate high temperatures.
- Harmful in the winter.
 - Uses body heat for drying, magnifies cold temperatures and wind chill.

Ventilation.

- Varies on style of shelter.
- Provides:
 - Temperature control.
 - Fresh air.
 - Odor removal.

Sanitation.

- Manure management.
 - How will stalls and barns be cleaned?
 - In confinement, how will manure be disposed of?
- Disease control.
 - Cleaning pens between groups of animals.
 - Minimizing dust and airborne contagions.

Water.

- Major considerations.
 - Clean and fresh.
 - Constant and adequate supply.
 - Automatic waterers.
 - Accessibility.

Feed.

- Major Considerations.
 - Designating a feeding area.
 - Planning for feed equipment.
 - Bunk space requirements per head in group feeding arrangements.
 - Feeding on the ground is not efficient or sanitary.

ASA Reflection Page

List 5 key points that are important to remember from this presentation.

1.

- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List 3 ideas or concepts that this new information has in common with previous things learned.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List questions or ideas that remain unclear about the information presented that should be asked for clarity at the appropriate time.