

Animal Care Checklist



Here's an animal care checklist that outlines daily tasks for feeding, cleaning, and health monitoring. This checklist will help you maintain a structured routine and ensure your livestock stays healthy and productive.

Daily Feeding Checklist

Morning (First Feeding):

- ☐ Ensure fresh water is available to all animals
- ☐ Feed livestock according to their dietary needs (e.g., hay, grains, feed, supplements)
- ☐ **Ruminants (e.g., cows, goats, sheep):** Provide fresh hay, alfalfa, and access to pasture where applicable
- ☐ **Poultry (e.g., chickens):** Provide layer feed, grains, and freshwater
- ☐ **Pigs:** Provide balanced pig feed and check the water supply
- ☐ **Dairy Animals:** Check and provide any required nutritional supplements for milk production

Midday (Optional for Grazing Animals or Large Herds):

- ☐ Ensure grazing animals have access to fresh pasture or supplemental feeding (e.g., silage or grains)
- ☐ Check water levels and top up if needed

Evening (Second/Third Feeding):

- ☐ Provide a final feeding for the day, adjusting portions for animals that require weight monitoring or extra nutrition
- ☐ Ensure all water troughs are clean and filled
- ☐ **Poultry:** Check for eggs and collect them before dark

Daily Cleaning Checklist

Morning Cleaning:

- ☐ Clean water troughs and feeding stations to prevent contamination
- ☐ Clean out any soiled bedding in pens or barns, particularly for poultry, pigs, and other stall-kept animals
- ☐ Ensure that pasture animals have clean access to the barn or shelter

Evening Cleaning:

- ☐ Remove any leftover food from feeding areas to avoid attracting pests
- ☐ Spot-clean animal shelters, coops, and barns to maintain cleanliness

- ☐ Sweep or rake any loose hay or feed that has fallen on the ground

Additional Weekly/Monthly Cleaning Tasks:

- ☐ Replace all bedding in stalls, barns, or coops (once a week)
 - ☐ Disinfect waterers, feeders, and animal housing (monthly)
 - ☐ Rotate pastures to prevent overgrazing and ensure clean grazing areas
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Daily Health Monitoring Checklist

Morning Health Check:

- ☐ Visually inspect animals for signs of illness or distress (lethargy, limping, abnormal behavior)
- ☐ **Eyes:** Ensure they are clear and bright, with no discharge or cloudiness
- ☐ **Nose/Mouth:** Check for any signs of nasal discharge or coughing
- ☐ **Hooves/Feet:** Ensure hooves are in good condition (particularly for goats, sheep, and cows)
- ☐ **Poultry:** Look for any signs of feather loss, lethargy, or poor egg production

General Health Monitoring:

- ☐ Monitor feed and water intake (reduced intake can indicate health problems)
- ☐ Check body condition and weight (especially for animals in breeding or lactating)
- ☐ Look for signs of injury, such as cuts, scrapes, or swelling
- ☐ Check for signs of heat or pregnancy in breeding animals (behavioral changes)

Evening Health Check:

- ☐ Observe all animals for any changes in behavior from the morning (e.g., limping, refusal to eat)
 - ☐ Ensure animals are securely housed for the night and protected from predators
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Other Important Tasks:

Weekly/Monthly Tasks:

- ☐ **Hoof Trimming:** For goats, sheep, and cows, schedule regular hoof trimming to prevent lameness
- ☐ **Vaccinations and Deworming:** Follow the vaccination schedule specific to each type of livestock
- ☐ **Parasite Control:** Inspect for signs of parasites (ticks, mites, worms) and treat as needed
- ☐ **Record Keeping:** Update feeding, health, and breeding records weekly

- ☐ **Breeding:** Monitor breeding schedules, and pregnancy, and plan for expected births

Pasture Management:

- ☐ Rotate pastures every 1-2 weeks to ensure grass regrowth and reduce parasite load
- ☐ Inspect fences and shelters regularly for damage

Additional Considerations:

- **Weather Adjustments:** Adjust feeding and sheltering for extreme weather (extra hay in winter, shade in summer).
- **Emergency Kit:** Keep an emergency kit with essential supplies like wound ointments, bandages, medications, and a thermometer.
- **Biosecurity:** Prevent the spread of disease by cleaning footwear, tools, and equipment before entering different animal enclosures.



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