



# ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM

## GUIDANCE: VEAL PRODUCERS

### Purpose

This guidance explains the requirements of 1) California veal producers<sup>1</sup> keeping a calf<sup>2</sup> for the purpose of producing<sup>3</sup> whole veal meat<sup>4</sup> and 2) veal producers outside of California keeping a calf for the purpose of producing whole veal meat for commercial sale<sup>5</sup> in California.

### Scope

All California veal producers and veal producers outside of California keeping calves for the purpose of producing whole veal meat for commercial sale in California must confine the covered animal<sup>6</sup> on a certified operation<sup>7</sup> (farm) in compliance with the [Animal Confinement regulations](#).

### Instructions

A veal producer must:

- 1) Meet the confinement requirements for keeping calves.
- 2) Have a valid Certificate of Compliance<sup>8</sup> for each farm location where calves are kept.
- 3) Renew Certificate of Compliance annually.

#### 1) Confinement of Calves

- Confine a calf in an enclosure<sup>9</sup> that does not prevent the calf from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs<sup>10</sup>, or turning around freely<sup>11</sup>.

### AND

- Confine a calf in an enclosure that provides a minimum of 43 square feet of usable<sup>12</sup> floorspace per calf.
- A calf is required to be kept in a compliant enclosure at all times except under the specific exceptions described in law.
- Exceptions<sup>13</sup> to these confinement requirements:
  - During examination, testing, individual treatment, or operation for veterinary purposes
  - During Transportation
  - During rodeo exhibitions, state or county fair exhibitions, 4-H programs, and similar exhibitions.
  - During slaughter.
  - During temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes for no more than six hours in any 24-hour period, and no more than 24 hours total in any 30-day period.

<sup>1</sup>Veal producer as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(dd\)](#).

<sup>2</sup>Calf as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(c\)](#).

<sup>3</sup>Kept for the purposes of producing as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(s\)](#).

<sup>4</sup>Whole veal meat as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(ee\)](#).

<sup>5</sup>Commercial sale as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(f\)](#).

<sup>6</sup>Covered animal as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(h\)](#).

<sup>7</sup>Certified operation as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(e\)](#).

<sup>8</sup>Certificate of compliance as described in [3 CCR § 1326\(d\)](#) and used throughout Animal Confinement regulations.

<sup>9</sup>Enclosure as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(n\)](#).

<sup>10</sup>Fully extending its limbs as defined in [HSC § 25991\(k\)](#).

<sup>11</sup>Turning around freely as defined in [HSC § 25991\(q\)](#).

<sup>12</sup>Usable floorspace as defined in [3 CCR § 1321\(bb\)](#).

<sup>13</sup>Exceptions as described in [3 CCR §§ 1324-1324.1](#).



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- Notes for compliance with requirements:
  - There is no requirement for calves to be kept in groups, but a veal producer may choose to keep calves in groups which is permitted provided all confinement requirements are met.
  - As a calf grows in size the enclosure must continue to meet the confinement standards required by law and described in this guidance document including turning around freely.

### 2) Obtain a Certificate of Compliance

- A valid certification in the form of a Certificate of Compliance issued by an accredited certifying agent<sup>14</sup>, CDFA, or another governmental entity<sup>15</sup>, identifies a farm as confining calves and maintaining production records in accordance with the Animal Confinement regulations.
- To initiate the process for certification, a veal producer must:

#### Apply for certification

- Certification may be obtained from an accredited certifying agent, CDFA, or another government entity. [Animal Care Program link to list of Certifying Agents.](#)
- Certification is required by January 1, 2024.

#### Pass an on-site inspection<sup>16</sup>

- The on-site inspection is used to assess whether each farm location complies with the Animal Confinement regulations and to verify information provided on the application for certification of the operation's activities is accurate and truthful.

#### Maintain records<sup>17</sup>

- For a period of 2 years from their creation to document the calves were kept in compliance with the Animal Confinement regulations.

### 3) Renew Certificate of Compliance Annually

- To continue certification and compliance with Animal Confinement regulations, a veal producer must annually submit renewal information<sup>18</sup> to the certifying agent for the purpose of renewing a Certificate of Compliance.
- An on-site inspection must be conducted by the certifying agent at least once every 12 months for each veal producer location keeping calves to determine whether certification of the veal producer should continue.

<sup>14</sup>Certifying agent as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(f\)](#).

<sup>15</sup>Governmental entity as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(n\)](#).

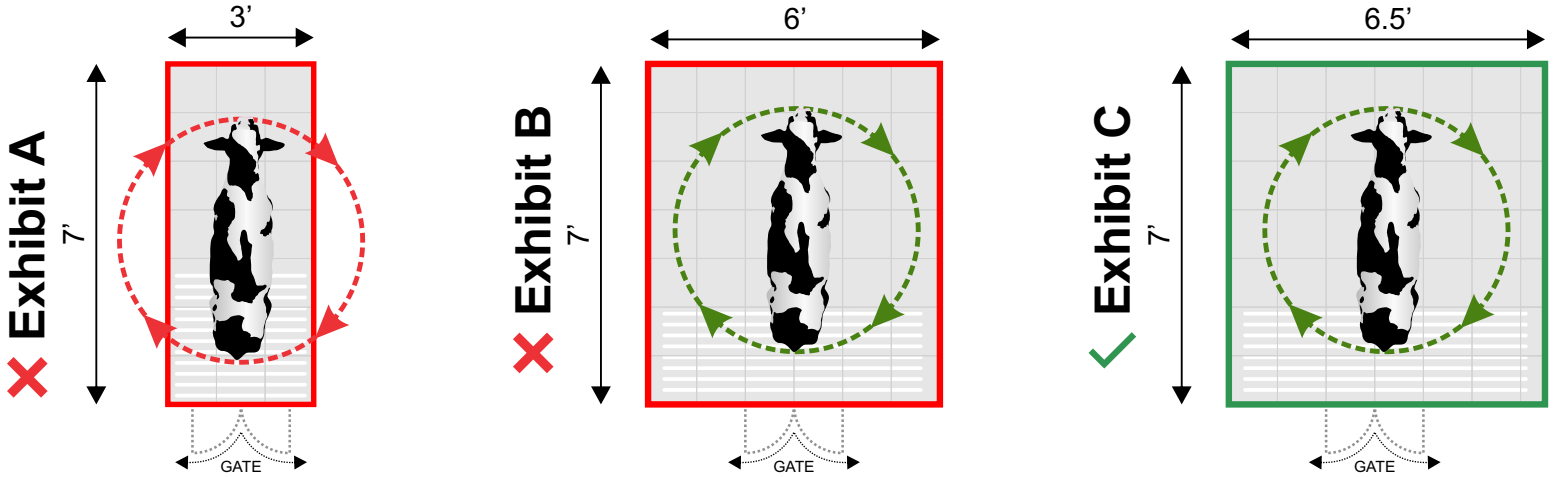
<sup>16</sup>On-site inspection as described in [3 CCR § 1326.5](#).

<sup>17</sup>Records as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(w\)](#) and described in [3 CCR § 1326.2](#).

<sup>18</sup>Renewal information as described in [3 CCR § 1326.8\(a\)](#).

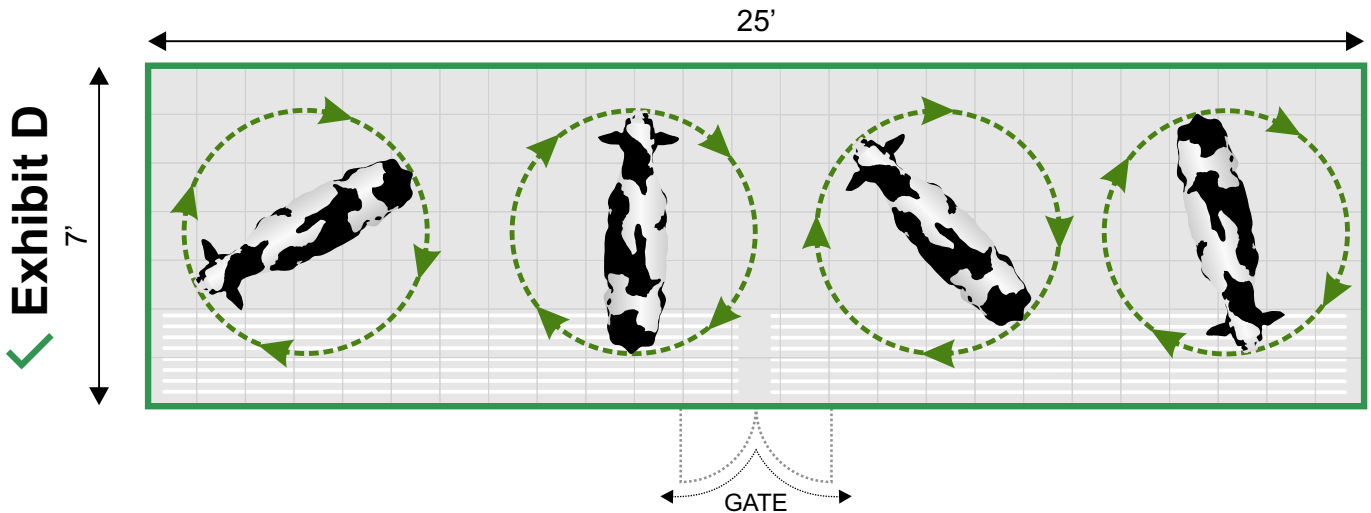
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Exhibits A - C illustrate veal calves housed in individual housing systems that confine a calf to an enclosure that is locked and can only be opened by a person. Exhibit A illustrates an individual stall allowing only 21 ft<sup>2</sup>. Exhibit A is a noncompliant enclosure. Exhibit B illustrates a similar style stall that allows the calf to turn around freely, however it falls short of the required 43ft<sup>2</sup> of usable floorspace. Exhibit B is a noncompliant enclosure. Exhibit C illustrates an individual pen with 45.5 ft<sup>2</sup> of usable floorspace and allows the calf to turn around freely. Exhibit C is a compliant enclosure.

Exhibit D illustrates a group pen with 175 ft<sup>2</sup> of usable floorspace and allows each calf to turn around freely. Because each calf is given at least 43.75 ft<sup>2</sup> of usable floorspace, Exhibit D illustrates a compliant group housing system.



**VEAL HOUSING GUIDE - SYMBOL KEY**

						<p><b>FOR MORE INFO</b> SCAN THE QR CODE</p>
Veal Calf	1 Square Foot	Compliant Enclosure Area	Noncompliant Enclosure Area	Calf is able to turn around freely	Calf is unable to turn around freely	