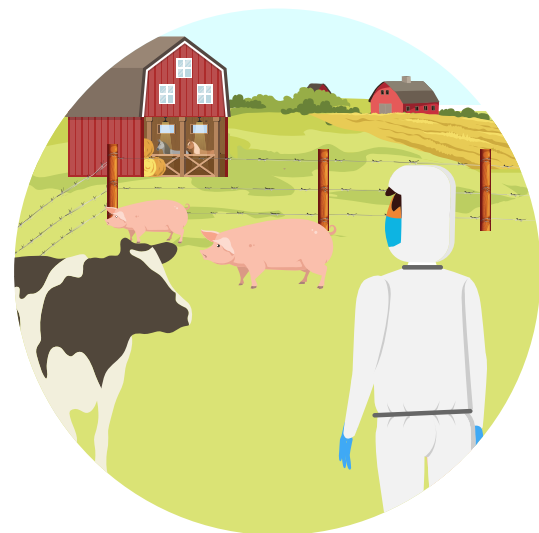


DEPOPULATION

Depopulation is a method by which large numbers of animals are destroyed quickly and efficiently with as much consideration given to the welfare of animals as practicable, given extenuating circumstances. Depopulation is used as a strategy for disease control when foreign and domestic animal disease threats cannot be contained by other techniques. The depopulation of animals must be authorized by federal and/or state animal health authorities and will be performed by the depopulation team assigned to the Incident Management Team (IMT) Operations Section.



1. SITE EVALUATION



The Incident Management Team (IMT) must evaluate the site to plan out the depopulation and to determine risks, species, and appropriate depopulation and disposal methods. Condition of facilities, availability of equipment and operators, and exposure to bystanders and uninfected animals are all important considerations during site evaluation.

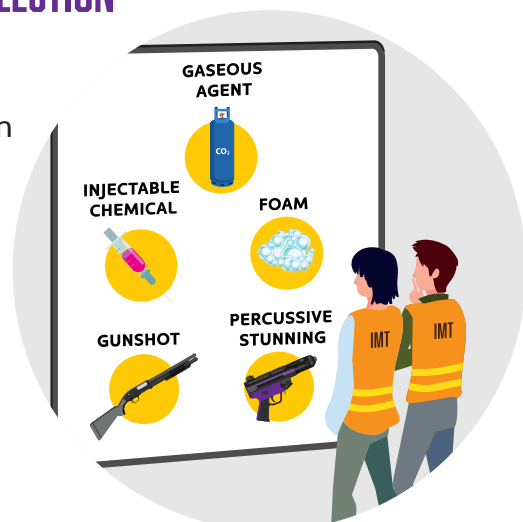
- ✓ Animal species
- ✓ Proximity to the public
- ✓ Accessibility of facilities
- ✓ Biosecurity practices
- ✓ Equipment for restraint



2. DEPOPULATION METHOD SELECTION

The selection of an appropriate humane depopulation method for a given situation involves consideration of several criteria.

- ✓ Personnel Skills
- ✓ Species
- ✓ Temperament
- ✓ Resources



3. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS



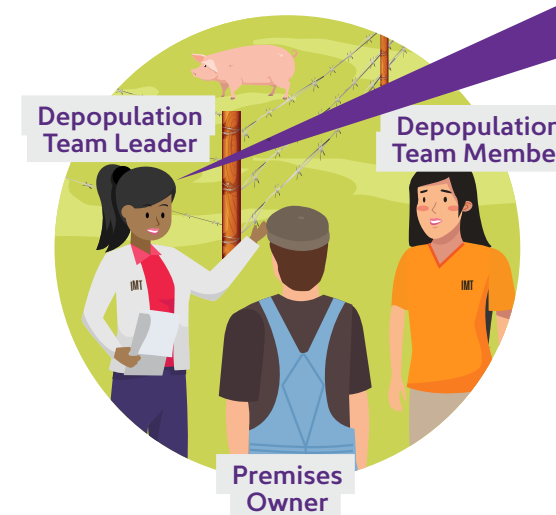
Depopulation steps should be clearly planned and communicated with the team. Veterinarians with species-specific expertise and experience should be consulted during the planning process. Having skilled, trained, and experienced members is essential to performing depopulation methods safely and efficiently.

Depopulation and disposal must be planned together to ensure the selected depopulation method can be supported by the disposal method.



4. RISK COMMUNICATION

The risk of disease spread during the depopulation process and hazards involved should be communicated effectively among the depopulation team members and to the premises owner and personnel.



- ✓ Depopulation methods
- ✓ Biosecurity measures
- ✓ Personnel and public safety during implementation of specific methods
- ✓ Any zoonotic concerns



5. DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURE

Details about infected premises and the depopulation process such as animal census, applicable methods, use of controlled substances, biosecurity measures, owner agreement, and indemnity records must be documented in the Emergency Management Response System (EMRS).

