Veterinary Science
Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant
Floron C. Faries, Jr., DVM, MS
Objectives

- Discuss why disposal of carcasses is regulated
- Discuss who is responsible for making sure the carcasses are properly disposed
- Discuss how farmers can dispose of livestock and poultry carcasses
- Discuss where farmers can bury livestock and poultry carcasses
- Discuss where farmers can burn livestock and poultry carcasses
Disposal of Dead Animals

- Proper disposal
  - Protects public health and safety

- Improper disposal
  - Creates public nuisance
  - Allows disease spread
  - Allows water contamination

- Regulations and guidelines
  - State environmental regulatory agency
  - State animal health regulatory agency
Methods of Carcass Disposal

- Burning
- Burial
- Composting
- Waste burial landfill
- Waste burning incinerator
- Renderer plant
Carcass Burning

- No public nuisance
- No traffic hazard
- No wildfire risk
- No diesel
- No crankcase oil
- No treated timber
Carcass Burial

- Right soil
  - Not in highly permeable soils (sandy)
    - Plastic pit liners
- Right site
  - Not high water levels
  - Not within 100 year floodplain
  - Not discharge to ground and surface waters
  - Not within minimal distances
    - Drinking water wells
    - Surface waters
    - Neighbors
- Right cover
  - Not less than 2 feet soil cover
Mass Carcass Burials

- Assistance for burial sites
  - Natural resources or soil conservation district offices
- Assistance for burial instructions
  - Environmental quality district offices
- Notify state environmental quality control agency
  - Prior to burial
  - Animal type
  - Animal numbers
  - Site locations
- More than 10 animals – deed recordation
Carcass Burial and Burning at Veterinary Clinics

- Property must be owned by veterinarian
- Property located outside corporate boundaries of a municipality
- Property located within corporate boundaries of a municipality by annexation
Communicable Diseased Carcass

- Burial or burning required within 24 hours
- Burning most effective means
  - Required for anthrax carcass
State Laws

- Prohibit leaving carcass in open
  - Wild animals spread disease
  - Rainfall runoff spreads disease
  - Carcasses contaminate surface water
  - Carcasses contaminate ground water
  - Carcasses cause nuisance odors

- Allow natural decomposition
  - Not public nuisance
  - Not environmental hazard