



Animal Welfare Institute

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August 1, 2024

NFPA Standards Council
National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169
Submitted via email to dbellis@nfpa.org

RE: Opposition to Appeal Filed by the National Pork Producers Council et al. Regarding NFPA 150

Dear Standards Council Members:

Pursuant to § 1.6.4 of the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards, the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) respectfully submits this letter in opposition to the appeal filed by the National Pork Producers Council and others (Appellants) regarding NFPA 150 following the 2024 Technical Meeting in Orlando, Florida.

(a) Name, affiliation, and address of the submitter

AWI was founded in 1951 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing the suffering of animals, including animals used in agriculture. As part of our efforts to improve animal welfare on farms, AWI monitors media reports documenting barn fire incidents across the country that impact hundreds of thousands of farmed animals each year. We have been a member of the NFPA Technical Committee on Animal Housing (Technical Committee) since 2018, have contributed to research on this issue conducted by the Fire Protection Research Foundation, and have published two comprehensive reports on the impacts of barn fires on farmed animals.¹ We have also advocated for both state-level adoption of, and industry-wide compliance with, NFPA 150 as a way to strengthen protections for animals on farms. AWI's address is 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003.

(b) Statement identifying the appeal to which the submission relates and stating whether the submitter supports or opposes the appeal

This submission relates to Appellants' appeal of their failed NFPA 150 certified amending motion (CAM 150-7/150-8/150-9/150-10/150-11/150-14) voted on during the 2024 Technical Meeting. The CAM sought to strike a revision to NFPA 150, Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities Code (Code) that

¹ Animal Welfare Institute, Barn Fires: A Deadly Threat to Farm Animals (Second Edition), Jan. 2022. Available at https://awionline.org/sites/default/files/publication/digital_download/22-Barn-Fire-Report.pdf; Animal Welfare Institute, Barn Fires: A Deadly Threat to Farm Animals, Oct. 2018. Available at <https://awionline.org/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/18-Barn-Fires-A-Deadly-Threat-to-Farm-Animals.pdf>.

would require automatic fire sprinklers in Class A animal agriculture facilities that meet a certain size threshold. For the reasons outlined below, we strongly oppose this effort to eliminate the requirement and request that the Standards Council reject this appeal.

(c) Argument setting forth the grounds for opposing or supporting the appeal

I. Issue Background and History

This is not the first time this matter has been brought before the Standards Council. In June 2012, a floor motion was adopted during the NFPA Technical Meeting that would have required sprinkler systems in essentially all animal housing facilities. A number of organizations representing agricultural interests—many of which are Appellants in the current proceeding—filed an appeal requesting that the Standards Council “revoke and remand the amendment to the NFPA 150 standard back to the Technical Committee.”² It does not appear that a hearing on this appeal was conducted; however, the Standards Council did ultimately weigh in on this matter by way of a related appeal filed by parties in favor of the requirement. The ultimate outcome was that the sprinkler requirement was not included in the 2013 edition of the Code. The arguments raised by Appellants in 2012 provide important context to this issue and their current positions, and are discussed in more detail below.

In the decade since this matter was last considered, several developments have occurred: 1) millions of animals have died in fires in commercial agriculture operations, 2) a greater understanding of the scope of the problem has been established (both in terms of the loss of life and the financial costs these fires inflict), and 3) Appellants have joined the Technical Committee as members and have had the opportunity to contribute to its work, including by weighing in on the sprinkler requirement at issue, which was properly adopted according to NFPA regulations and procedures. These facts, which are addressed in further detail below, demonstrate why there is no clear and substantial basis for overturning the results of the standards development process; on the contrary, they demonstrate the necessity for more aggressive efforts to protect life at animal agriculture operations.

II. Data gathered since 2013 demonstrates a significant and unacceptable loss of life and substantial financial costs as a result of fires in commercial animal agriculture facilities

AWI has tracked the number of animals that have been killed in barn fires since 2013. This data shows that fires at large commercial animal agriculture operations are not an anomaly. In fact, in just the short amount of time between the NFPA Technical Meeting on June 20th and the date this letter was filed on August 1st, three large fires occurred. On July 18th a fire took place in a 25,000-square-foot building at an egg farm in California, reportedly killing 70,000 chickens.³ This incident was followed by two additional

² Letter to the National Fire Protection Association Standards Council from the National Pork Producer’s Council, et al. (July 9, 2012). Available at <https://www.uspoultry.org/position-papers/docs/20120709-mf-Animal%20Agriculture%20NFPA%20Appeal.pdf>.

³ J. Ramirez, Fire destroys building at Ramona egg farm that housed 70,000 chickens (July 19, 2024). Available at <https://www.cbs8.com/article/news/local/fire-destroys-ramona-egg-farm-70000-chickens/509-7a3493d4-aa5d-4b7c-bef3-f880dbb20a9c>

fires at egg farms in Arizona⁴ and Ohio⁵ on July 27th and July 30th respectively. Information on these fires, including the number of animals killed, was limited at the time of this submission; however, based on the size of the facilities impacted, losses were likely significant. Since 2013, over 8.2 million animals have been killed in these types of fires. This includes about 7.8 million chickens, 200,000 turkeys, 99,000 other birds (i.e., ducks, geese, quail, etc.), 153,000 pigs, 26,000 cattle, 5,000 goats and sheep, 930 horses, and 3,500 other animals (i.e., llamas, rabbits, cats, dogs, and unspecified species).^{6,7}

Due to gaps in reporting requirements—including under the voluntary National Fire Incident Reporting System, which does not require the reporting of animal deaths—and the fact that we have had to rely on media reports to track this information, AWI suspects that these totals represent an underestimate of the true number of losses.

Not only have these fires proven deadly, they are also extremely costly. For example, one of the largest fires AWI has identified that involved the deaths of 250,000 chickens also reportedly caused a staggering \$12 million in damage to the farm.⁸ According to NFPA research, fires caused upwards of \$37 million in damage to livestock or poultry storage properties from 2014 to 2018.⁹

III. An overwhelming majority (90%) of animals that have been killed in fires were housed in operations that meet the size threshold for which this new requirement would apply

⁴ Media reports confirmed that the building destroyed by the fire housed chickens, but the exact number of chickens killed was not disclosed. This was the third fire that took place at facilities owned by this company, Hickman's Family Farms, since 2019. In March 2021 a fire occurred at a Hickman's Family Farm facility in Arlington, AZ killing 165,000 hens and in April 2019 a fire occurred at what appears to be the same Tonopah, AZ facility impacted by the July 2024 fire, but the structure was vacant at that time. See K. O'Connor, Fire reported at Hickman's Egg Ranch, 700-foot chicken coop 'fully involved' authorities say, (July 27, 2024). Available at <https://www.12news.com/article/news/local/arizona/700-foot-chicken-coop-catches-fire-arizona/75-b6f3189d-fa06-4cbd-815d-ce89e476737c>. See also A. Moshtaghian and A. Elassar, Over 166,000 hens die in Arizona farm fire (March 7, 2021). Available at <https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/07/us/hickmans-family-farms-fires-chickens-killed/index.html>; ABC15 Arizona, Fire destroys building at Hickman's Family Farms in Tonopah (April 4, 2019). Available at <https://www.abc15.com/news/region-west-valley/buckeye/fire-destroys-building-at-hickmans-family-farms-in-tonopah>.

⁵ According to the media, this fire occurred at Ruth Farms in Harrod, OH. Previous articles suggest this facility was built within the past 8 years and contains two, large 2-story buildings housing 200,000 birds each. See C. Prince, Multiple departments battle fire at chicken farm, (July 30, 2024). Available at https://www.hometownstations.com/news/multiple-departments-battle-fire-at-chicken-farm/article_f6f1b03e-4ea2-11ef-9bea-a7924f5f1e91.html. See also R. Graber, Egg farm to house 400,000 layers proposed in Ohio, (November 3, 2016). Available at <https://www.wattagnet.com/broilers-turkeys/article/15519574/egg-farm-to-house-400000-layers-proposed-in-ohio-wattagnet>.

⁶ Animal Welfare Institute, Barn Fires (last updated August 1, 2024). Available at <https://awionline.org/content/barn-fires>. A full list of incidents that account for these totals is available upon request.

⁷ These tallies represent an estimate based on media reports, which don't always provide full information on the number of animals killed. In cases where a nonspecific number of animals was reported, the most conservative number was used when tallying animal deaths (e.g., "10-20 pigs" would be counted as 10; "multiple pigs" would be counted as 2). When the species of animals killed were not identified, or in cases where multiple species were involved and an exact numerical breakdown for the deaths was not provided (e.g., "numerous farm animals" or "40 chickens, ducks, rabbits, and pigs"), these incidents were recorded under the "Unspecified Species" category.

⁸ L. Hall, Lebanon County poultry farm fire causes \$12 million in damages, (December 13, 2022). Available at <https://www.fox43.com/article/news/local/crews-on-scene-of-active-lebanon-county-poultry-farm-fire-pennsylvania/521-3ee23396-ef47-40d5-8c83-443e0324a364>.

⁹ V. Soto Castro, Fire Protection Research Foundation, Fires in Animal Housing (August 2022).

Under the new requirement, sprinkler systems would only be mandated in newly constructed operations that confine enough animals to be considered a “medium concentrated animal feeding operation” as defined by the US Environmental Protection Agency.¹⁰ While this definition was established in the context of compliance with the Clean Water Act, its use in this setting is merely to provide a threshold that would omit smaller operations from the requirement, while covering those large enough that, should a fire occur, the loss of life would be significant. This means that newly constructed facilities that are intended to confine anywhere from several hundred (in the case of larger animals such as cattle) to many thousands of animals or more would be required to have sprinkler systems that would lessen the impact in the case of a fire. This is reasonable given the number of animal lives at risk in these facilities. Under NFPA 150, almost every other category of animal housing is required to have sprinkler systems, yet those structures do not typically contain nearly as many animals as agriculture facilities.

Appellants have accused AWI of “continuously moving the goal posts,”¹¹ yet that seems to be exactly what they are doing in terms of identifying which operations should and should not be subject to sprinkler requirements. In their 2012 appeal, the same Appellants claimed that “the NFPA does not have an applicable, substantively rigorous documented record of fire issues at livestock and poultry operations,” essentially arguing that the NFPA erred in its original decision to require sprinklers in animal agriculture facilities, in part because it failed to “narrowly tailor the amended NFPA 150 language to just cover horse stables *and other facilities that actually remain at risk.*”¹² This claim has clearly not held up and is no longer applicable. By adopting the requirement at issue, the Technical Committee has now addressed the types of facilities where the overwhelming majority of animal deaths resulting from fires have occurred. According to AWI’s analysis, over 7.39 million animals have been killed in fires at facilities that meet the proposed size threshold.¹³ This equates to about 90% of all animals killed in these incidents since 2013.

Appellants may argue—perhaps even relying on AWI’s statistics—that of all the barn fires that have occurred over a given time period, a relatively small percentage have occurred on the larger operations to which this requirement would apply. While this may be the case, this perspective fails to consider the inherent risk and potential for a massive loss of life should a fire occur at a large-scale facility. Simply put, a fire at just one of these operations can, and has, resulted in a far greater loss of life than has resulted from fires at many smaller operations combined.

Appellants might also argue that while the number of animals killed may seem vast, it is actually insignificant in comparison to the total number of animals produced for food in this country, and it is therefore not worth the cost of installing sprinkler systems. This logic is fundamentally flawed because it suggests that the welfare of an individual animal only matters when a large enough number are

¹⁰ 40 CFR § 122.23. See also US Environmental Protection Agency, Regulatory Definitions of Large CAFOs, Medium CAFO, and Small CAFOs (accessed August 1, 2024). Available at https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/sector_table.pdf.

¹¹ Transcript of 2024 NFPA Technical Meeting held on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 79.

¹² Letter to the National Fire Protection Association Standards Council from the National Pork Producer’s Council, et al., *supra* note 2 (emphasis added).

¹³ In recognizing that the size threshold includes different ranges for the same species in certain cases, this analysis was conducted by identifying incidents that meet the higher range to eliminate any doubt that the operation meets the applicable size threshold. See Appendix A, *List of Barn Fires at Operations That Meet the Medium CAFO Threshold*.

impacted relative to the total. Under no circumstances or in any context—especially when discussing such an enormous loss of life from fires—should such an argument be deemed acceptable. It also directly contradicts the principles of Section A.1.1.1 of Annex A of NFPA 150 (as it will appear in the upcoming edition of the Code), which explicitly states, “The requirements of NFPA 150 are firmly rooted in the following fundamental principles: (1) Animals are sentient beings. As such, their protection has a humane component to it that does not exist in the protection requirements for inanimate storage or commodities. (2) Animals, both domesticated and feral, lack the ability of self-preservation when housed in buildings and other structures.” It is the responsibility of the owners of these operations to provide adequate protection against fires for each of the animals they keep.

IV. Fire suppression has proven to be a significant issue in many of the fires that have occurred, making response and attempts to reduce the loss of life challenging

A recent fire that took place at the end of May 2024—which happens to be the deadliest fire involving animals we are aware of—serves as a case study for why large commercial operations need fire suppression systems in place. Just three weeks before the vote on the Appellants’ CAM at the Technical Meeting, a fire occurred at a massive egg farm in Farina, Illinois that reportedly killed 1.2 million hens. According to media reports, at around 6:30pm when no one was on site, a fire started in one of several large buildings before rapidly spreading to a total of four buildings, each spanning 600-900 feet.¹⁴ Fire crews told reporters access to hydrants was an issue,¹⁵ which is a commonly cited problem. It is well known that this results in increased response times, on top of already generally longer average response times in rural settings. Significant damage might have been avoided had a sprinkler system been in place when the fire first broke out. Sprinklers act as a first line of defense in containing or even extinguishing a fire before it gets out of control and inflicts more damage and loss of life.¹⁶

Appellants have pointed to progress that has been made and the need for continued innovation regarding passive fire protection measures in animal agriculture facilities. We agree, commend this progress, and recognize these types of tools are equally important to utilize. However, that does not mean there should be a complete disregard for suppression measures; both types of protections must be prioritized. There is general consensus among fire protection officials and experts that sprinklers work and are lifesaving. If this wasn’t the case, they would not be required for almost every other category of animal housing under NFPA 150, as well as for countless large human occupancies, such as apartment buildings, arenas, hospitals, commercial buildings and more.

¹⁴ K. Anderson, J. Somers, and H. Kurwicky, Firefighters battle massive fire at chicken farm in Marion County, Illinois, (May 29, 2024). Available at <https://www.ksdk.com/article/news/local/chicken-farm-fire-marion-county/63-ba50a1a3-2e70-436d-aa90-e58ea0fcbe2d>. See also B. Kropp, State Fire Marshal investigating cause of fire that destroyed much of the chicken housing units at Wabash Valley Produce south of Farina (11:30 am update), (May 30, 2024). Available at <https://southernillinoisnow.com/2024/05/30/chicken-housing-units-at-wabash-valley-produce-in-farina-destroyed-in-large-wednesday-night-fire/#>.

¹⁵ KSDK News, Massive fire at chicken farm in Marion County, Illinois (video recording) (May 30, 2024). Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1twceRCXE&t=16s>.

¹⁶ National Fire Sprinkler Association, PenJerDel Chapter, Fire Sprinklers in Rural Areas (June 26, 2024). Available at <https://njfsab.org/2024/06/26/fire-sprinklers-in-rural-areas/>.

In opposing this requirement, Appellants have shared concerns that purposeful or accidental discharges may cause damage to buildings and animals and create legal liabilities (i.e., under the Clean Water Act). In our view, these risks are exaggerated. First, accidental discharges are extremely rare. Second, the scenarios that have been described seem to imply that should the sprinklers discharge, either purposefully or accidentally, it would result in a huge flood of water into and outside of the facility, wreaking havoc and potentially causing mass suffocation of animals. This is simply not the case. Sprinkler heads are typically individually activated, and most fires are controlled with six or fewer heads.¹⁷ Additionally, high pressure firehoses spraying massive amounts of water into and around the building would surely cause more damage than a sprinkler system (in the case of the aforementioned Illinois fire, one tanker alone brought 30,000 gallons of water to be used and this was just one of 20 to 30 tankers hauling water to the scene¹⁸).¹⁹

V. This requirement, once again, has a majority of support within the NFPA

This requirement has clearly received the support it needed within the NFPA to make it through the standards development process. It was overwhelmingly approved by the Technical Committee during the second draft ballot and survived further challenges during the 2024 Technical Meeting, where it was again supported and affirmed by many stakeholders, including the American Fire Sprinkler Association.²⁰

It is also worth noting that one of the main arguments raised by the Appellants in 2012 revolved around procedural issues and what they viewed as a lack of due process in developing and ultimately approving the requirement. Appellants stressed that they did not have the opportunity to weigh in, particularly given their lack of representation on the Technical Committee.²¹ This is no longer applicable as two of the Appellants—the National Pork Producers Council and the US Poultry and Egg Association—have had seats on the Technical Committee for several years with the ability to weigh in on all aspects of the standards development process.

In response to specific concerns raised by industry stakeholders during the deliberation process, the Technical Committee produced compromise language that provides flexibility and allows for exemptions to the requirement should an authority having jurisdiction (i.e., a local fire authority) decide one is warranted and permits alternative measures in place of sprinklers. This exemption was approved as a component of the new sprinkler requirement; however, as shown by the Appellants' CAM and now their appeal, they are still unsatisfied with the compromise language.

¹⁷ American Fire Sprinkler Association, Myths About Automatic Fire Sprinklers (accessed August 1, 2024). Available at <https://www.firesprinkler.org/facts-figures/>.

¹⁸ Firefighters battle massive fire at chicken farm in Marion County, Illinois, *supra* note 14.

¹⁹ Myths About Automatic Fire Sprinklers, *supra* note 17.

²⁰ American Fire Sprinkler Association, Technical Advisory Council, Voting Guide for the 2024 NFPA Technical Meeting (May 28, 2024). Available at <https://www.sprinklerage.com/voting-guide-for-the-2024-nfpa-technical-meeting/>.

²¹ Letter to the National Fire Protection Association Standards Council from the National Pork Producer's Council, et al., *supra* note 2, at 5-7.

Finally, it is important to correct inaccurate comments made by some of the Appellants during the Technical Meeting²² and in the media.²³ Appellants have suggested that AWI's work on this issue is disingenuous and that we are engaged in a nefarious plot to deprive the country of animal food products.²⁴ The Appellants have also misrepresented the dynamics within the committee by suggesting that the committee is made up of "three major camps" consisting of "animal welfare folks,....farmers" and "those who are caught in the middle." Further, appellants have implied that the passage of the requirement was an "anomaly" due to confusion and members not returning their ballot.²⁵

These assertions are false. First, AWI has spent years researching and reporting on barn fires in order to develop recommendations and solutions. In doing so, we have engaged and collaborated in good faith with Technical Committee members, NFPA staff and professionals, and the Fire Protection Research Foundation to address the issue at hand. Second, AWI is the sole animal welfare organization on the Technical Committee; other than AWI and the Appellants, the committee is comprised of fire protection experts, officials, and engineers, all of whom voted in favor of the requirement. And third, while there was some confusion at the Technical Committee Second Draft meeting in October when this requirement was deliberated as a public comment, to suggest it led to an unintended voting outcome is incorrect; afterwards the language of the requirement was circulated on a ballot, all committee members had the text directly in front of them, and the requirement passed accordingly with a vote of 19-3. Even if all nine members who didn't return their ballot did so and voted against the requirement, it still would have passed.

(d) Statement of recommended Standards Council action

For all the reasons mentioned above, we encourage the Standards Council to reject this appeal and allow for the new sprinkler requirement to remain in the Code for the 2025 edition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Allie Granger
Policy Advisor, Farmed Animal Program
Animal Welfare Institute

²² Transcript of 2024 NFPA Technical Meeting, *supra* note 11.

²³ Farms.com, NPPC Leads Coalition Against Sprinkler Mandate Pushed by Animal Rights Extremists (July 1, 2024). Available at <https://m.farms.com/news/nppc-leads-coalition-against-sprinkler-mandate-pushed-by-animal-rights-extremists-212502.aspx>.

²⁴ Transcript of 2024 NFPA Technical Meeting, *supra* note 11 at 77-79.

²⁵ *Id.*

APPENDIX A

List of Barn Fires at Operations That Meet the Medium CAFO Threshold
(Organized by Species & Chronologically)

Date	Location	Animal Deaths	Link to Media Report
7/30/24	Harrod, OH	*full details not available at the time of this submission; based on size of facility, if deaths occurred it would likely far exceed 10,000	https://www.hometownstations.com/news/multiple-departments-battle-fire-at-chicken-farm/article_f6f1b03e-4ea2-11ef-9bea-a7924f5f1e91.html
7/27/24	Tonopah, AZ <i>(second fire to occur here since 2019 according to media reports)</i>	*exact number not disclosed; based on size of facility, the number of deaths likely far exceeds 10,000	https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/southwest-valley-breaking/2024/07/29/hickmans-family-farms-chicken-coop-fire-tonopah-arizona/74592879007/
7/19/24	Ramona, CA	70,000 chickens	https://www.cbs8.com/article/news/local/fire-destroys-ramona-egg-farm-70000-chickens/509-7a3493d4-aa5d-4b7c-bef3-f880dbb20a9c
5/29/24	Farina, IL	1,300,000 chickens	https://www.ksdk.com/article/news/local/chicken-farm-fire-marion-county/63-ba50a1a3-2e70-436d-aa90-e58ea0fcbe2d
4/23/24	Lewiston, UT	120,000 chickens	https://ksltv.com/639517/egg-farm-catches-fire-in-lewiston-prompting-a-fire-response-from-as-far-as-franklin-idaho/
1/29/24	Bryan, TX	10,000 chickens *exact number not disclosed; likely an underestimate based on size of facility	https://abc7amarillo.com/news/local/massive-fire-engulfs-farm-in-texas-farm-crest-chicken-feather-plant-emergency-response-firefighters-flames-smoke-plumes-bryant-fire-department-animals-cows
12/20/23	Pocomoke City, MD	18,000 chickens	https://www.wmdt.com/2023/12/18000-chickens-perish-in-pocomoke-city-fire-wednesday-morning/
12/16/23	Middletown, DE	200,000 chickens	https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/200000-chickens-die-in-fire-at-delaware-farm-fire-marshals-office/
10/17/23	Wakefield, NE	1,000 chickens *exact number not disclosed; likely an underestimate based on size of facility	https://www.wattagnet.com/egg/article/15636855/michael-foods-egg-farm-fire-causes-damage-claims-layers?utm_source=Omeda&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=NL-Trending+Topics+Weekly+Ag&utm_campaign=NL-Trending+Topics+Weekly+Ag_20231022_0800&oly_enc_id=9352G5945923I6T
10/1/23	Bremen, KY <i>(second fire to occur here in 20 years according to media reports)</i>	100,000 chickens	https://www.wattagnet.com/egg/article/15635560/us-calmaine-foods-fire-claims-100000-layers-in-kentucky
1/28/23	Bozrah, CT <i>(facility owned by same company as 2016 fire in CT referenced below)</i>	100,000 chickens	https://www.yahoo.com/news/100-000-chickens-die-coop-174800108.html

12/13/22	Lebanon, PA	250,000 chickens	https://www.fox43.com/article/news/local/crews-on-scene-of-active-lebanon-county-poultry-farm-fire-pennsylvania/521-3ee23396-ef47-40d5-8c83-443e0324a364
5/29/2022	Howard Lake, MN	200,000 chickens	https://www.kare11.com/article/news/local/farm-with-roughly-200000-chickens-burns-down-wright-county/89-f450f4c6-d297-4586-95dc-e9bd1b9063d1
11/27/21	Clearfield, IA	200,000 chickens *exact number not disclosed; estimate made based on media report and size of operation	https://www.kmaland.com/news/clearfield-mayor-hen-haven-fire-a-scary-deal/article_b819c7e0-514b-11ec-b27c-2b76ca62f5d8.html
3/6/21	Arlington, AZ <i>(facility owned by same company as 2024 fire in AZ referenced above)</i>	166,000 chickens	https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/07/us/hickmans-family-farms-fires-chickens-killed/index.html
2/22/21	Gainesville, GA	17,000 chickens	https://accesswdun.com/article/2021/2/982193/poultry-farm-fire-kills-near-17000-chickens
1/21/21	Upper Bern Township, PA <i>(third fire to occur here in recent years according to media reports)</i>	67,000 chickens	https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/70-000-chickens-dead-after-fire-at-upper-bern-farm/article_c092db30-5bcb-11eb-a687-971a51ba9cda.html
12/17/20	Dade City, FL	250,000 chickens	https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/region-pasco/fire-destroys-three-barns-in-dade-city-containing-tens-of-thousands-of-chickens
7/28/20	Martic Township, PA	42,000 chickens	https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/poultry/4-alarm-martic-township-blaze-killed-42-000-chickens-firefighters-saved-2-attached-buildings-chief/article_1b54ab01-1b64-5e44-a09e-ebbe40ed0951.html
7/20/20	Pilesgrove, NJ	280,000 chickens	https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/nearly-300000-chickens-killed-following-massive-fire-at-red-bird-egg-farm-in-pilesgrove/
6/5/20	Upper Tulpehocken Township, PA	64,000 chickens	https://www.firehouse.com/operations-training/news/21141212/64k-chickens-perish-in-pa-poultry-farm-blaze
4/23/20	Stanislaus County, CA	280,000 chickens	https://www.wattagnet.com/egg/egg-production/article/15530864/fire-causes-loss-of-280000-gemperle-farms-hens-wattagnet
2/27/20	Bloomfield, NE	400,000 chickens	https://www.omaha.com/news/chickens-killed-in-bloomfield-nebraska-poultry-plant-fire/article_d6f4a95a-e2ad-5ca9-840c-9c5d5e34b33a.html
1/3/20	Ostego Township, MI	300,000 chickens	https://kfor.com/news/about-300000-hens-were-killed-in-a-fire-at-a-michigan-egg-farm/
4/30/19	Ionia County, MI	250,000 chickens	https://www.wilx.com/content/news/NEWS-ALERT-Fire-at-farm-in-lona-509296521.html
12/4/18	Grant Park, IL	50,000 chickens	https://abc7chicago.com/mussmans-back-acres-fire-egg-farm-grant-park/4829385/

10/2/17	North Manchester, IN	1,000,000 chickens	https://www.wane.com/news/official-1-million-chickens-killed-in-fire-at-egg-producing-facility/
9/5/17	Toole County, UT	300,000 chickens	https://www.farms.com/ag-industry-news/barn-fire-claims-300-000-chickens-912.aspx
7/2/17	York Springs, PA	110,000 chickens	https://www.ydr.com/story/news/2017/07/01/barn-fire-reported-adams-county/445527001/
6/12/17	Lake Park, MN	134,000 chickens	https://www.dl-online.com/news/134-000-chicks-believed-dead-in-poultry-barn-blaze-near-hawley
4/26/16	Lebanon, CT <i>(facility owned by same company as 2023 fire in CT referenced above)</i>	100,000 chickens	https://www.nydailynews.com/2016/04/27/more-than-100000-chickens-killed-in-fire-at-connecticut-farm/
10/28/15	Monroe, NH	36,000 chickens	https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/oct/28/barn-catches-fire-at-egg-farm-in-monroe/
6/9/15	Bronson Township, MI	10,000 chickens	https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/2015/06/12/authorities-chickens-die-michigan-barn-fire/71115248/
4/8/15	Lebanon County, PA	32,000 chickens	https://www.thereporteronline.com/2015/04/08/thousands-of-chickens-killed-in-barn-fire-in-lebanon-county-for-second-time-in-a-week/
4/1/15	Gumboro, DE	21,000 chickens	https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/fire-in-delaware-poultry-house-kills-21000-chickens/
3/19/15	Chazy, NY	50,000 chickens	https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/27830/20150319/giroux-s-poultry-loses-barn-hens-in-blaze
7/28/14	Warsaw, IN	65,000 chickens	https://www.southbendtribune.com/story/news/local/2014/07/29/65000-chickens-die-in-warsaw-fire/46215217/
3/30/14	Galt, IA	150,000 chickens	https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/2014/04/01/egg-facility-fire-kills-chickens/7146895/
1/31/14	La Grange, WI	280,000 chickens	https://www.wisn.com/article/thousands-of-chickens-dead-in-egg-farm-fire/6319732
3/28/13	Lebanon County, PA <i>(another fire occurred here two years later killing 20,000 chickens according to media reports)</i>	40,000 chickens	https://www.pennlive.com/midstate/2013/03/40000_hatchling_chickens_die_i.html
9/29/22	Beaver Falls Township, MN	30,000 turkeys	https://www.wctrib.com/news/local/estimated-30-000-turkeys-dead-after-structure-fire-in-beaver-falls-township
12/23/21	Newport, PA	17,000 turkeys	https://www.wattagnet.com/broilers-turkeys/article/15534908/barn-17000-turkeys-lost-in-pennsylvania-fire
8/18/21	Beaver Falls Township, MN	26,500 turkeys	https://www.keyc.com/2021/08/19/over-26000-young-turkeys-killed-barn-fire/
2/17/21	Coopersville, MI <i>(second fire to occur here since 2016 according to media reports)</i>	16,500 turkeys	https://money.yahoo.com/fighting-frozen-firefighters-battle-blaze-190400127.html
4/4/19	Thurmont, MD	10,000 turkeys	https://www.cbsnews.com/baltimore/news/turkeys-killed-barn-fire-frederick-county/

1/18/15	Swanville, MN	19,000 turkeys	https://www.kare11.com/article/news/19000-turkey-chicks-lost-in-mn-barn-fire/89-105609274
4/12/22	Millersburg, IN	15,000 ducks	https://www.wthr.com/article/news/local/indiana/thousands-of-ducks-die-in-millersburg-elkhart-county-barn-farm-fire/531-e554d3d4-8b75-4c95-bbdb-165019df460b
4/9/19	Millersburg, IN	11,000 ducks	https://www.953mnc.com/2019/04/10/11000-birds-killed-in-duck-farm-barn-fire-near-millersburg/
10/20/18	Quincy Township, PA	26,000 ducks	https://www.heraldmillmedia.com/story/news/local/2018/10/21/wenty-six-thousand-ducks-die-in-quincy-township-barn-fire/116573682/
10/28/17	Middlebury, IN	12,500 ducks	https://www.goshennews.com/news/local_news/barn-fire-kills-thousands-of-ducks/article_94545303-49e1-5e2c-8c77-1062909222b2.html
7/12/23	Clarksburg, IN	1,200 pigs	https://wrbiradio.com/1200-hogs-perish-in-clarksburg-barn-fire/?epik=1689344742552
3/24/22	Eyota Township, MN	2,500 pigs	https://kstp.com/kstp-news/local-news/2500-hogs-killed-in-southeast-minnesota-barn-fire/
3/3/22	Darke County, OH	2,000 pigs	https://www.cleveland.com/nation/2022/03/barn-fire-in-western-ohio-kills-2000-hogs.html
1/12/21	Gila, IL	10,000 pigs	https://www.porkbusiness.com/news/industry/barn-fire-kills-nearly-10000-pigs-illinois-farm
5/12/21	Boone County, NE	10,000 pigs	https://www.nebraska.tv/newsletter-daily/10000-hogs-died-in-fire-at-pillen-family-farms-near-albion
5/16/21	Waseca County, MN	12,000 pigs	https://www.12onyourside.com/2021/05/18/minnesota-barn-fire-kills-an-estimated-pigs/
7/9/21	Frazee, MN	7,000 pigs	https://www.parkrapidsenterprise.com/news/up-to-7-500-hogs-killed-in-frazee-farm-fire
12/3/20	Blooming Prairie, MN	2,000 pigs	https://www.postbulletin.com/news/update-2-000-pigs-killed-in-dodge-county-barn-fire
8/7/20	Pipestone County	4,800 pigs	https://www.pipestonestar.com/articles/fire_at_heartland_colony/
9/21/19	Lynn Township, PA	4,000 pigs	https://www.firehouse.com/community-risk/news/21106747/pa-barn-fires-kills-as-many-as-4000-hogs
3/13/19	Naples, WI	4,000 pigs	https://www.wiproud.com/news/barn-fire-near-mondovi-kills-nearly-4000-swine/
10/2/18	Brookfield Township, MN	1,200 pigs	https://www.nujournal.com/news/local-news/2018/10/05/sows-gilts-die-in-rural-hector-fire/
6/19/18	Fayette County, OH	5,000 pigs	https://ocj.com/2018/06/fire-overtakes-hog-barn-in-fayette-county/
5/26/17	Kingsley, IA	2,400 pigs	https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/iowa/articles/2017-05-27/2-400-hogs-killed-in-confinement-fire-in-northwestern-iowa
12/14/17	Emmet County, IA	6,500 pigs	https://www.radioiowa.com/2017/12/14/thousands-of-hogs-died-in-emmet-county-fire/
6/6/17	Long Island, KS	9,000 pigs	https://www.farmtalknews.com/news/northwest-kansas-farm-loses-hogs-in-barn-fire/article_4051674e-20c7-11e8-8fc3-83c7c96826f2.html
1/7/17	Hartland, MN	7,500 pigs	https://www.albertleatribune.com/2017/01/7500-to-8000-pigs-perish-in-hartland-fire/

6/15/17	Albany, MO	1,000 pigs *exact number not disclosed; estimate made based on media report and size of operation	https://www.newspressnow.com/news/local_news/hog-farm-catches-fire/article_bd9ecfe6-534a-5310-92a9-02104eb540d0.html
5/28/16	Hawarden, IA	5,000 pigs	https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/2016/05/29/northwest-iowa-fire-kills-5000-pigs-destroys-2-buildings/85128582/
4/18/16	Great Falls, MT	3,100 pigs	https://www.capitalpress.com/ag_sectors/livestock/barn-fire-kills-an-estimated-3-100-pigs/article_1e26ce75-3760-5112-8747-441a41a643e9.html
12/1/15	Wellman, IA	4,000 pigs	https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2015/12/02/estimated-4000-pigs-killed-southeast-iowa-fire/76660404/
11/23/15	Poinsett Hutterite Colony, SD	2,500 pigs	https://www.argusleader.com/story/news/crime/2015/11/20/thousands-hogs-killed-when-hutterite-barns-burn/76107300/
12/15/14	Austin, MN	1,000 pigs	https://www.austindailyherald.com/2014/12/fire-claims-hog-barn-hundreds-of-pigs-perish-cause-of-blaze-unknown/
10/25/14	Truman, MN	11,000 pigs	https://www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/swine-farm-plans-to-rebuild-after-massive-fire/
10/2/14	Eagle Springs, NC	4,000 pigs	https://www.wral.com/4-200-hogs-killed-in-fire-at-moore-county-farm/14036325/
2/28/14	Lafayette, MN	960 pigs (sows)	https://www.twincities.com/2014/02/27/southern-minnesota-barn-fire-kills-nearly-1000-pigs/
1/5/14	Hardwick, MN	3,700 pigs	https://www.wctrib.com/news/thousands-of-pigs-killed-in-southwest-minn-fire
4/10/23	Dimmitt, TX	18,000 dairy cattle	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2023/12/27/18000-cows-dead-fire-south-fork-dairy-dimmitt-texas/72005659007/
10/5/20	Beekmantown, NY	400 dairy cattle	https://www.mynbc5.com/article/hundreds-of-cattle-die-in-beekmantown-barn-fire/34293043#
9/29/20	Adrian, MN	200 cattle	https://www.aberdeennews.com/story/news/local/farm-forum/2020/10/08/barn-fire-claims-more-than-200-cattle-on-minnesota-farm/115769824/
4/25/19	Copenhagen, NY	548 dairy cattle	https://insurancenewsnet.com/oarticle/fire-in-copenhagen-kills-more-than-500-cows#.XMCAqLdKiM8
1/6/19	Trenton, NY	250 dairy cattle	https://www.romesentinel.com/news/electrical-issue-blamed-in-barn-fire/article_6361adab-c21e-5309-9932-2e89db46f374.html