

## AL 301 / CORRAL SYSTEM PRACTICE STANDARD

**PURPOSE** - A corral system, also known as a livestock pen or enclosure, is a designated area where livestock are gathered, contained, and managed. This system is designed for containment and control, handling and management, sorting and separation, breeding and reproduction, feeding and watering, herding, transportation and loading, safety and security, data collection and research, training, and behavioral conditioning.

Overall, corral systems play a crucial role in efficient and humane livestock management by providing a controlled environment for various tasks and activities that contribute to the well-being and productivity of the animals. The design and layout of a corral system can vary based on the specific needs of the livestock being managed, the management goals, and the available resources.

**RESOURCE CONCERN** - Ensuring the well-being of your cattle is not only important for their health and quality of life but also for the success of your operation. A herd health protocol involves a set of practices designed to monitor and maintain the health of your cattle. By implementing a well-defined herd health protocol, you can minimize the risk of sickness and death within your herd. Regular health assessments can help identify potential health issues early on, allowing for prompt intervention and treatment. Stress reduction and providing a comfortable environment also play a crucial role. Stressed cattle are more susceptible to diseases, so minimizing stress through good management practices can have a positive impact on the health of your herd. Healthy cattle are more productive, have better growth rates, and produce higher-quality products. Preventing diseases through effective management can also reduce veterinary expenses and losses due to illness or death.

**MANAGEMENT** - An efficient cattle-handling facility includes several critical factors that should be evaluated. One of the keys to maximizing returns from a commercial cow-calf enterprise is the timely application of basic management practices. Many of these practices require that the cattle be worked several times a year. Without adequate cattle-handling facilities, these practices are either delayed or completely neglected.

**REQUIREMENTS** - The minimum number of single type head of livestock, regardless of sex or age, at one time during the last 12 months is 20 head. There are general considerations and basic requirements for small herds. The containment area should be designed for safe and low-stress handling of animals. Space requirements will depend on the specific livestock, but it is recommended to provide enough space for animals to move around comfortably and avoid overcrowding. The materials needed for a corral system will depend on the size of the corral, the type of livestock you are managing, your specific goals, and your budget. Selecting appropriate materials based on cost, durability, and functionality is key to the longevity of this system. The corral system will include a holding pen, sweep tub, ally, and squeeze chute head catch. Here is a general list of required materials that are commonly used in building a corral system:

**Please know that all material must be New.**

All material must be Pre-Manufactured.

Minimum 1 3/4 inch – 16-gauge tubes

Minimum Length 8 foot

Minimum Height 60 inches

Minimum of 10 panels

Sweep Tub

Squeeze chute/head catch

