

Approved Practices
For
Pennsylvania
Supervised Agricultural
Experience
Record Book

Ver. June 1991

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR INTENSIVE AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select species appropriate for local conditions
2. Select animals which are healthy
3. Prepare an aquarium for holding, breeding or raising fish
4. Select appropriate physical and chemical filter systems
5. Provide for proper aeration in the aquarium
6. Select appropriate feeds
7. Construct a tank facility
8. Construct a mechanism for solid waste removal
9. Construct a mechanism for ammonia removal
10. Provide for manual or automatic feeding
11. Use water test kits to conduct periodic water tests in tank including dissolved oxygen, ammonia, nitrite and pH
12. Monitor water temperature
13. Properly sample and weigh fish
14. Calculate daily feed ration
15. Calculate fish growth
16. Properly tag fish to monitor individual growth
17. Properly treat water for salinity, disease or plant control
18. Check system for leaks, algae growth, etc.
19. Perform daily and weekly cleaning of the system
20. Perform necropsy on mortalities
21. Diagnose fish diseases and ailments
22. Provide breeding areas for brood fish
23. Control fish diseases and parasites
24. Care for fry and fingerlings
25. Properly kill and harvest fish
26. Properly prepare fish for retail and/or consumption
27. Complete a PA Fish Commission "Artificial Propagation Permit"
28. Market fish through local outlets
29. Keep accurate enterprise records
30. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR POND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select species appropriate for local conditions
2. Select animals which are healthy
3. Properly construct a pond
4. Stock pond with appropriate plant and animal species
5. Provide for proper aeration in the pond
6. Select appropriate feeds
7. Construct and/or purchase a vehicle for transporting fish
8. Monitor, water flow in and out of the pond
9. Calculate pond area in acres
10. Calculate pond volume in acre-feet
11. Provide for manual or automatic feeding
12. Use water test kits to conduct periodic water tests in tank including dissolved oxygen, ammonia, nitrite and pH
13. Monitor water temperature
14. Properly weigh and sample fish
15. Calculate daily feed ration
16. Calculate fish growth
17. Properly tag fish to monitor individual growth
18. Properly treat water for salinity, disease or plant control
19. Control algae growth in the pond by obtaining a herbicide permit through PFC/DER
20. Control predators around the pond
21. Perform necropsy on mortalities
22. Diagnose fish diseases and ailments
23. Provide breeding areas for brood fish
24. Control fish diseases and parasites
25. Care for fry and fingerlings
26. Properly kill and harvest fish
27. Properly prepare fish for retail and/or consumption
28. Complete a PA Fish Commission "Artificial Propagation Permit"
29. Market fish through local outlets
30. Keep accurate enterprise records
31. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR BEEF PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are healthy
2. Choose growthy, structurally sound animals
3. Choose an animal with a good performance pedigree
4. Prepare a clean, draft-free shelter
5. Weigh the calf crop at birth and weaning
6. Sanitize pens
7. Provide exercise lots at 200-300 square feet per animal unit
8. Feed a high-quality balanced ration
9. Provide adequate high-quality roughage
10. Supply a properly balanced mineral mix
11. Use lab analysis of forages
12. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
13. Develop and implement a sound health plan
14. Control internal and external parasites
15. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
16. Train animals for show (start early)
17. Clip and trim animals for show
18. Trim feet on animals as needed
19. Correctly fill out a show entry form
20. Properly wash an animal for show
21. Detect heat in cows
22. Select a genetically superior bull to mate with your cows
23. Use A.I. and estrus synchronization for best breeding improvement
24. Provide a good quality pasture management system
25. Pregnancy check cows 60-90 days after breeding season
26. Prepare a clean fresh calving area not in a building
27. Iodine calf's navel at birth
28. Provide newborn calves with proper shots
29. Dehorn calves
30. Castrate bull calves at less than 2 months of age
31. Blood test breeding animals
32. Replacement heifers should be at least 750 lbs. when bred and calf at 24-28 months of age
33. Cull any cows with low production or structural problems
34. Keep accurate production records on herd
35. Track market trends and habits
36. Market animals through optimum market outlets
37. Develop a permanent identification system
38. Complete a registration application
39. Keep accurate enterprise records
40. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR BEEKEEPING

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Purchase proper type bees
2. Buy package bees from an established producer
3. Buy strong, disease-free established colonies and/or nucs
4. Order package bees for April or early May delivery
5. Inspect bees before accepting delivery
6. Protect package bees from cold temperatures
7. Feed package bees immediately upon arrival
8. Introduce bee package to hive in evening hours
9. Have equipment ready prior to arrival of packages or nucs
10. Locate apiary on a level site with good drainage and wind protection
11. Use proper feeders
12. Feed colonies as necessary to prevent weakness
13. Provide source of water if necessary
14. Strengthen weak colonies as needed
15. Split strong colonies to make increases
16. Prevent swarming
17. Requeen colonies if necessary
18. Know proper procedure for introducing new queen
19. Know proper procedure for uniting colonies
20. Use proper honey extraction procedures
21. Diagnose and control diseases
22. Be able to identify varron mites
23. Know how to sample for and treat both varron and tracheal mites
24. Wear proper beekeeping attire
25. Use proper equipment for maintaining apiary
26. Know proper procedure for removing a bee sting
27. Inspect hives regularly
28. Keep accurate production records for each hive
29. Market and sell honey
30. Use attractive honey containers and labels
31. Properly label honey containers
32. Exhibit honey at a show
33. Properly fill out a show entry form
34. Keep accurate enterprise records
35. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR CAT PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Vaccinate for rabies at age determined intervals
3. Select a breed adapted to your situation
4. Prepare a clean, draft-free environment
5. Provide adequate number of feed dishes
6. Provide a diet of high quality cat food
7. Provide toys and/or treats
8. Clean feed and water dishes daily
9. Keep clean, fresh bedding in litter box
10. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
11. Empty litter box daily
12. Develop and implement a sound health plan
13. Consult with our veterinarian to prevent and control internal and external parasites
14. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
15. Train cats for show
16. Properly bathe a cat
17. Groom a cat for show
18. Use a proper carrier for transport
19. Use proper restraint procedures
20. Properly fill out a show entry form
21. Maintain accurate breeding records
22. Select a male to mate with your female
23. Use a superior proven male
24. Watch females for heat
25. Prepare a clean area for kittens
26. Keep accurate production records on each female
27. Properly train to litter box
28. Market and sell young kittens
29. Complete a registration application
30. Neuter animals not involved in a breeding operation
31. Keep accurate enterprise records
32. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR CHRISTMAS TREE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select a proper site for your size of operation
2. Select land as free of obstacles as possible
3. Consider availability of road system to site
4. Plan road system within site
5. Consider security precautions with site layout
6. Determine species which are adaptable to your climate
7. Choose a proper species for your market area
8. Properly till the site prior to planting
9. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
10. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
11. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
12. Apply fungicides when needed
13. Choose seedlings carefully from a quality nursery matching species to site characteristics
14. Plant seedlings upon arrival if possible
15. Heel in trees when they can not be planted immediately
16. Utilize cold storage of seedlings if necessary
17. Keep seedlings as moist as possible when planting
18. Plant trees at proper depth
19. Carefully fertilize seedling when planting
20. Use proper plant spacing
21. Control vegetation between trees
22. Replant weak or dead trees as needed
23. Shear trees to desired taper as necessary
24. Safely use proper shearing equipment
25. Fertilize established plantings as needed
26. Observe and check for problems regularly
27. Track market trends and habits
28. Market crop at optimum time
29. Develop direct markets
30. Harvest trees according to type of market
31. Cut trees close to ground to eliminate stump for replanting
32. Bale trees for shipping
33. Properly dig and ball live trees
34. Replant areas where trees have been harvested
35. Soil test then apply necessary lime fertilize then establish a permanent cover crop
36. Keep accurate enterprise records
37. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Plant only high-quality commercial seed
2. Purchase vigorous and healthy transplants
3. Transplant as soon as plants arrive or weather permits
4. Choose a crop suited to your climate
5. Select a variety adapted to your area
6. Select a fairly level site to avoid run-off and erosion or contour strip
7. Provide irrigation to site
8. Obtain a current soil test
9. Fertilize and lime for each crop according to soil test
10. Select a well-drained soil with at least moderate organic matter content
11. Prepare a proper seedbed
12. If you are irrigating, use the highest plant population recommend
13. Calibrate planter for proper plant population
14. Plant seed at proper depth
15. Use very shallow, timely cultivations to control weeds
16. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
17. Use selected herbicides recommended by crop for controlling problem weeds
18. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
19. Apply fungicides when needed as soon as a problem is anticipated
20. Observe and check for problems regularly
21. Harvest when crop is in highest quality grade of maturity
22. Harvest carefully to eliminate bruising and damage
23. Adjust harvester for proper harvesting
24. Market crop as quickly as possible
25. Track market trends and habits
26. Market crop at optimum time
27. Develop direct markets
28. Contract with a market prior to planting
29. Store crop in well-ventilated and humidity-controlled area
30. Keep accurate enterprise records
31. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR CORN AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select a hybrid which will mature during the growing season
2. Treat soybean variety seed with proper inoculant
3. Conduct a germination test if planting home grown soybeans
4. Obtain a current soil test
5. Lime & fertilize according to soil test and desired production
6. Select a field with deep, rich, well drained soil
7. Select the proper tillage method
8. Prepare a firm seedbed
9. Plant corn when soil temperature is 50 degrees or above
10. Plant soybeans when soil temperature is 60 degrees or above
11. Calibrate planter for proper plant population
12. Match plant population to soil yield potential
13. Adjust planter for proper depth of seed placement
14. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
15. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
16. Cultivate to help control weeds
17. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
18. Apply fungicides when needed
19. Make a yield check
20. Check moisture content when harvested
21. Harvest crop as soon as moisture permits to reduce losses
22. Take a forage analysis on ensiled corn
23. Store ensiled or high moisture corn in sound structure
24. Track market trends and habits
25. Market crop at optimum time
26. Keep accurate enterprise records
27. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR DAIRY PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Choose an animal with a good pedigree
3. Provide single pens
4. Prepare a clean, draft-free shelter
5. Control temperature and humidity
6. Confine calves for maximum growth
7. Sanitize pens after each move
8. Provide exercise for young replacements
9. Feed a high-quality grain ration
10. Provide adequate, high-quality roughage
11. Supply a properly balanced mineral mix
12. Feed the proper milk replacer
13. Mix milk replacer properly
14. Train calf to drink
15. Maintain clean, dry bedding
16. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
17. Develop and implement a sound health plan
18. Control internal and external parasites
19. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
20. Train calves and cows for show
21. Clip and trim calves and cows for show
22. Trim feet on animals regularly
23. Correctly fill out a show entry form
24. Properly wash a calf or cow for show
25. Detect heat in cows
26. Select a well proven bull to mate with your cows
27. Use A.I. for greater genetic improvement
28. Provide a good quality pasture inadequate amounts
29. Pregnancy check cows
30. Prepare a clean dry calving area
31. Dip calf's navel in iodine at birth
32. Provide newborn calves with proper shots
33. Dehorn calves
34. Remove extra teats
35. Keep milking area clean and sanitary
36. Keep milking equipment clean and sanitary
37. Wash and dry udder prior to milking
38. Dip and dry teats after each milking
39. Cool milk immediately after milking
40. Periodically check for udder infection or mastitis
41. Cull any cows with problems
42. Keep accurate production records on herd
43. Put cows on test with DHIA
44. Track market trends and habits
45. Develop a permanent identification system
46. Complete a registration application
47. Keep accurate enterprise records
1. 48. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR DOG PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Vaccinate for rabies at age determined levels
3. Select a breed adapted to your situation
4. Prepare a clean, draft-free kennel or house
5. Provide adequate number of feed dishes
6. Provide a diet of high quality dog food
7. Provide toys and/or treats
8. Clean feed and water dishes daily
9. Keep clean, fresh bedding in kennel or house
10. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
11. Clean kennel and exercise area daily
12. Develop and implement a sound health plan
13. Consult with your veterinarian to prevent and control internal and external parasites
14. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
15. Train dogs for show
16. Properly bathe a dog
17. Use a proper carrier for transport
18. Use proper restraint procedures
19. Properly fill out a show entry form
20. Maintain accurate breeding records
21. Select a male to mate with your female
22. Use a superior proven male
23. Watch females for heat
24. Prepare a clean area for whelping
25. Keep accurate production records on each female
26. Properly train for obedience
27. Market and sell young pups
28. Develop a private market for puppies
29. Complete a registration application
30. Neuter animals not involved in a breeding operation
31. Keep accurate enterprise records
32. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR EMPLOYMENT

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agricultural Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation).

1. Select an employment setting that matches your area of interests
2. Discuss and set employ goals with supervisor
3. Develop weekly work schedule
4. Notify supervisor if unable to work because of illness
5. Notify supervisor if injured on job, completing necessary forms
6. Plan time-off well in advance and request of supervisor
7. Wear proper clothing for job setting
8. Use necessary safety equipment
9. Immediately report any safety infractions to supervisor
10. Maintain a proper level of hygiene and grooming for job
11. Use proper means of communications within the job setting
12. Be punctual about arriving at work
13. Maintain a high quantity of quality production
14. Exhibit a pleasant personality
15. Maintain honesty, loyalty, and courtesy
16. Develop responsibilities within the work place
17. Develop a sense of humor and fair play
18. Keep work areas neat and clean
19. Prevent product loss and/or damage
20. Cooperate with other employees and customers
21. Be enthusiastic about the work place
22. Avoid absenteeism
23. Keep accurate enterprise records
24. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR FORAGE CROPS PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select a perennial species for long-term stands
2. Select a perennial or annual species for short-term stands
3. Buy certified seed of selected variety
4. Obtain a current soil test
5. Lime and fertilize according to soil test and desired production
6. Select a field with soils suitable for your forage choice
7. Select the proper tillage method to prepare a firm and smooth seedbed
8. Calibrate drill for proper plant population
9. Match plant population to soil yield potential
10. Adjust drill for proper depth of seed placement
11. Decide if forage will best be grown with a companion crop
12. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
13. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
14. Use insecticides if necessary
15. Decide the stage of maturity to harvest the crop
16. Make a yield check
17. Keep harvesting equipment in good repair to save down time
18. Check moisture content when harvested
19. Harvest crop as soon as moisture permits to reduce losses
20. Store hay in clean, dry structure
21. Store silage in structure best adapted to your situation
22. Obtain a forage analysis
23. Track market trends and habits
24. Market crop at optimum time
25. Keep accurate enterprise records
26. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR FURBEARER PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Select a species adapted to your situation
3. Prepare a clean, draft-free environment
4. Purchase animals from a reputable breeder
5. Provide adequate feed dishes
6. Feed a proper food diet
7. Clean feeders daily
8. Provide necessary cages
9. Keep clean, fresh bedding in cage
10. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
11. Empty and clean cage regularly
12. Develop and implement a sound health plan
13. Consult with your veterinarian to prevent and control internal and external parasites
14. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
15. Use proper restraint procedures
16. Develop a permanent identification system
17. Keep accurate production records on each female
18. Market and sell offspring
19. Properly tan and store furs
20. Track market trends
21. Market fur at optimum time
22. Keep accurate enterprise records
23. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR GOAT PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Purchase an animal with a good pedigree
3. Choose structurally sound animals
4. Choose a sharp dairy type animal
5. Prepare a clean, draft-free shelter
6. Confine kids for maximum growth
7. Provide exercise for show kids
8. Feed a high-quality grain ration
9. Provide adequate high-quality roughage
10. Supply a properly balanced mineral mix
11. Feed the proper milk replacer
12. Mix milk replacer properly
13. Maintain clean, fresh bedding
14. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
15. Develop and implement a sound health plan
16. Control internal and external parasites
17. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
18. Train goats for show
19. Clip and trim goats for show
20. Trim feet on animals regularly
21. Correctly fill out a show entry form
22. Properly wash a goat for show
23. Detect heat in does
24. Select a proven buck to mate with your does
25. Use A.I. for best breeding improvement
26. Provide a good-quality pasture
27. Prepare a clean, fresh kidding area
28. Iodine kid's navel at birth
29. Provide newborn kids with proper shots
30. Disbud kids
31. Keep milking area clean and sanitary
32. Keep milking equipment clean and sanitary
33. Dip teats after each milking
34. Cool milk immediately after milking
35. Periodically check for udder infection or mastitis
36. Cull any does with problems
37. Keep accurate production records on herd
38. Put does on test with DHIR
39. Track market trends and habits
40. Market kids at optimum time
41. Develop a private market for milk and kid sales
42. Develop a permanent identification system
43. Complete a registration application
44. Keep accurate enterprise records
45. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Plant only high quality commercial seed
2. Purchase vigorous and healthy transplants
3. Transplant as soon as possible
4. Use commercial soil preparation or steamed soil
5. Mix soil ingredients properly
6. Adequate amounts of water must be mixed with soil
7. Select varieties marketable in your area
8. Provide adequate watering during growing period
9. Control temperature and humidity during germination period
10. Fertilize as needed
11. Control lighting and shading for best results
12. Plant seed at proper depth
13. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
14. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
15. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
16. Apply fungicides when needed
17. Apply growth regulators at proper time and intervals
18. Determine proper time for pinching and disbudding
19. Observe and check for problems regularly
20. Market when crop is in a high-quality grade
21. Market crop as quickly as possible
22. Track market trends and habits
23. Market crop at optimum time
24. Develop direct markets
25. Contract a market prior to planting
26. Use cold frames to aid in "hardening off"
27. Store seeds in airtight container
28. Store bulbs in cool, dry environment
29. Keep accurate enterprise records
30. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR HOME GARDEN PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Plant only high quality commercial seed
2. Purchase vigorous and healthy transplants
3. Transplant as soon as plants arrive or weather permits
4. Choose crops suited to your climate
5. Select varieties adapted to your area
6. Select a site free of shade or black walnut trees
7. Provide irrigation to site
8. Obtain a current soil test
9. Fertilize and lime according to soil test and crops
10. Select a well-drained soil with good organic matter content
11. Prepare a proper seedbed
12. If you are irrigating, use the highest plant population recommended
13. Plant seed at proper depth
14. Cover seeds properly
15. Use very shallow, frequent cultivations to control most weeds
16. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
17. Use selected herbicides only for controlling problem weeds
18. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
19. Apply fungicides when needed
20. Hill plants when necessary
21. Consider staking tall or viney plants to save space and improve crop quality
22. Observe and check for problems regularly
23. Harvest when crop is in highest quality grade of maturity
24. Harvest carefully to eliminate bruising and damage
25. Harvest early crops and double crop
26. Market crop as quickly as possible
27. Track market trends and habits
28. Market crop at optimum time
29. Develop direct markets for extra vegetables not used at home
30. Contract with a market prior to planting
31. Store crop in well ventilated and humidity-controlled area
32. Keep accurate enterprise records
33. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR HORSE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Select animals of proper size for purpose intended
3. Choose an animal with a good pedigree
4. Prepare a clean, draft-free shelter
5. Confine animals in tie or box stalls
6. Clean pens routinely
7. Provide exercise lots
8. Feed a high-quality grain ration
9. Provide adequate high-quality roughage
10. Supply a salt and mineral block
11. Maintain clean, fresh bedding
12. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
13. Develop and implement a sound health plan
14. Control internal and external parasites
15. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
16. Train animals for show
17. Clip and trim animals for show
18. Trim feet on animals regularly
19. Shoe horses regularly
20. Correctly fill out a show entry form
21. Properly wash an animal for show
22. Detect heat in mares
23. Select a proper stallion to mate with your mares
24. Provide a good-quality pasture
25. Pregnancy check mares
26. Prepare a clean, fresh foaling area
27. Iodine foal's navel at birth
28. Provide newborn foals with proper shots
29. Castrate young colts
30. Coggins test annually
31. Train and exercise animals daily
32. Periodically check for udder infection or mastitis
33. Cull mares with problems
34. Keep accurate production records on herd
35. Develop good market for foals
36. Groom animals daily
37. Keep tack neat and clean
38. Use a permanent identification system
39. Complete a registration application
40. Keep accurate enterprise records
41. Summarize and analyze records

**APPROVED PRACTICES FOR
LABORATORY AND/OR PET PRODUCTION**

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Get required shots
3. Select a species appropriate for your situation
4. Prepare a clean, draft-free environment
5. Provide adequate feed dishes
6. Feed a proper food diet for your species of pet
7. Clean feed and water dishes daily
8. Provide necessary cages and exercise equipment
9. Keep clean, fresh bedding in cage
10. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
11. Empty and clean cage regularly
12. Develop and implement a sound health plan
13. Consult with your veterinarian to prevent and control internal and external parasites
14. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
15. Use a proper carrier for transport
16. Use proper restraint procedures
17. Develop a permanent identification system
18. Maintain accurate laboratory records
19. Market and sell offspring
20. Keep accurate production records on each female
21. Learn how determine the sex of each animal
22. Do not overcrowd, provide the recommended space per animal
23. Keep males and females separated to prevent unwanted litters
24. Neuter animals not involved in a breeding program*
25. Keep accurate enterprise records
26. Summarize and analyze records

If pet is a ferret, it is imperative that a non-breeding female be neutered as she will stay in heat until she dies from estrogen toxicity

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Sanitize buckets and equipment
2. Service Power Tapper
3. Identify trees to be tapped
4. Tap to proper depth
5. Insert spile
6. Attach bucket and lid
7. Check equipment for leaks
8. Collect sap
9. Strain sap properly
10. Make sure it is running smoothly
11. Properly check Hydrometer
12. Clean and seal jugs

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR MUSHROOM PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select a well-constructed house
2. Control rainwater or surface water to prevent contamination
3. Clean and disinfect house prior to filling
4. Ventilate house properly
5. Provide adequate temperature and humidity control
6. Select appropriate site for wharf
7. Disinfect wharf regularly
8. Keep wharf area free of weeds and trash
9. Select a readily available compost source
10. Maintain adequate moisture level in compost
11. Control nitrogen level in compost
12. Provide sufficient aeration in compost
13. Turn compost on a regular basis
14. Break compost clumps prior to filling
15. Purchase spawn from reputable producers
16. Apply spawn carefully
17. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
18. Use spawn supplement
19. Select a proper casing material
20. Pasteurize all casing materials
21. Observe pinheads and breaks carefully
22. Manage proper timing for harvesting
23. Harvest carefully to eliminate bruising and damage
24. Track market trends and habits
25. Market crop at optimum time
26. Develop direct markets
27. Plan crop to avoid market gluts
28. Contract a market prior to planting
29. Maintain accurate and complete production records
30. Keep accurate enterprise records
31. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR POTATO PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Plant certified seed potatoes
2. Use whole seed (size B) if available
3. Be sure seed pieces contain at least one eye
4. Treat seed pieces with a fungicide
5. Store seed pieces in proper environment
6. Obtain a current soil test
7. Fertilize according to soil test
8. Select a well-drained soil with high organic matter content
9. Prepare a proper seedbed
10. Match plant population to the variety soil yield potential and desired tuber size
11. Plant seed at proper depth
12. Hill plants for best results
13. Cultivate to control weeds
14. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
15. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
16. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
17. Apply fungicides when needed
18. Irrigate during dry periods
19. Apply sprout inhibitors during growing season, in storage or before shipment
20. Make a yield check
21. Harvest crop after all vines are dead
22. Use vine killers according to directions
23. Harvest carefully to eliminate skinning and bruising
24. Track market trends and habits
25. Market crop at optimum time
26. Develop direct markets
27. Contract a market prior to planting
28. Store crop in well ventilated and humidity controlled area
29. Check the quality of your stored crop
30. Clean, grade, and package properly
31. Keep accurate enterprise records
32. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR POULTRY

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Purchase chicks or pullets immune to and free of disease
2. Buy from a reputable hatchery that blood test
3. Select the proper bird for the purpose desired
4. Consider pinfeather color and amounts for specific market
5. Clean, disinfect, and fumigate housing facility
6. Provide adequate nesting space
7. Supply adequate brooder space
8. Maintain good ventilation with no damaging toxic gases
9. Maintain proper temperature
10. Control humidity as much as possible
11. Debeak when recommended
12. Vaccinate as necessary
13. Encourage early roosting of females
14. Clip or notch wings
15. Handle poults gently and only when necessary
16. Maintain proper lighting for maximum production
17. Provide proper feed storage
18. Supply a high-quality feed ration
19. Provide adequate amounts and types of grit
20. Feed birds to prime condition
21. Maintain a good medication program if necessary
22. Provide adequate feeder space
23. Locate feeders at proper height
24. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
25. Use adequate amounts of clean litter
26. Utilize good manure handling procedures
27. Develop a disease prevention and control program
28. Develop a parasite prevention and control program
29. Restrict visits to your facility
30. Cull unhealthy birds or non-layers
31. Collect eggs regularly and clean if necessary
32. Store eggs in proper temperature and humidity
33. Properly candle eggs if necessary
34. Grade eggs for size
35. Package eggs for marketing
36. Study market trends and habits
37. Market birds at optimum time
38. Slaughter and process birds for retail market
39. Develop a regular market
40. Maintain accurate egg production records
41. Keep accurate enterprise records
42. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR RABBIT PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Choose long, thick, meat-type animals
3. Prepare a clean, draft-free hutch with ample room
4. Confine bunnies for maximum growth
5. Provide adequate feeder space
6. Feed a high-quality rabbit ration
7. Provide adequate roughage
8. Supply a salt cake
9. Use feeders which will keep fur clean
10. Keep clean, fresh bedding
11. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
12. Clean hutch or pens routinely
13. Develop and implement a sound health plan
14. Control internal and external parasites
15. Train rabbits for show
16. Correctly carry and handle a rabbit
17. Use proper restraint procedures
18. Properly fill out a show entry form
19. Maintain accurate breeding records
20. Select a buck to mate with your does
21. Use a proven buck
22. Palpate does
23. Prepare a clean, properly-sized nesting box
24. Learn how to sex young bunnies
25. Make feed available to young at several weeks
26. Cull any does with problems or bad temperament
27. Keep accurate production records on each doe
28. Use proper procedure for slaughtering
29. Properly tan hide for market
30. Collect Angora fur routinely
31. Track market trends and habits
32. Market and sell young does
33. Market bunnies at optimum time
34. Develop a private market for bunnies and fur
35. Complete a registration application
36. Keep accurate enterprise records
37. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR SHEEP PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Choose long, thick, meat-type animals
3. Prepare a clean, draft-free shelter
4. Confine lambs for maximum growth
5. Provide jumps and exercise for show lambs
6. Feed a high quality grain ration
7. Provide adequate forage
8. Supply a properly balanced mineral mix
9. Keep clean, fresh bedding
10. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
11. Shear animals for maximum growth
12. Develop and implement a sound health plan
13. Control internal and external parasites
14. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
15. Train lambs for show
16. Shear and trim lambs for best appearance
17. Trim feet on animals regularly
18. Correctly fill out a show entry form
19. Properly wash a lamb for show
20. Blanket a lamb after it has been washed
21. Select a ram to mate with your ewes
22. Use a breeding harness and check daily
23. Flush ewes before placing ram with ewes
24. Provide a good-quality pasture
25. Prepare a clean, fresh lambing area
26. Iodine lamb's navel at birth
27. Provide newborn lambs with proper shots
28. Place ewe and lambs in "jugs" for good bonding
29. Make creep area for lambs as soon after birth as possible
30. Remove grain from ewes prior to weaning
31. Palpate ewe's udder after weaning - check for problems
32. Cull any sheep with problems
33. Keep accurate production records on flock
34. Market and sell wool
35. Use feeders which will keep wool clean
36. Track market trends and habits
37. Market lambs at optimum time
38. Develop a private market for lamb and wool sales
39. Complete a registration application
40. Keep accurate enterprise records
41. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR SMALL FRUIT PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Plant vigorous and healthy transplants
2. Transplant as soon as possible
3. Heel in plants when needed
4. Choose fruits suited to your climate
5. Select varieties adapted to your area
6. Select a site compatible with your fruit
7. Obtain a current soil test
8. Fertilize according to soil test
9. Select a well-drained soil
10. Match plant population to soil yield potential
11. Plant at proper depth
12. Hill plants when necessary
13. Use proper plant spacing
14. Properly remove brush
15. Construct proper trellis
16. Keep wires tight and replace broken posts
17. Train vines and runners
18. Properly tie vines
19. Cultivate to control weeds
20. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
21. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
22. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
23. Apply fungicides when needed
24. Observe and check for problems regularly
25. Harvest when fruit is in highest quality grade
26. Harvest carefully to eliminate bruising and damage
27. Discard injured or over-ripe fruit
28. Market fruit as quickly as possible
29. Track market trends and habits
30. Market fruit at optimum time
31. Develop direct markets
32. Contract a market prior to planting
33. Store fruit in a cool dry area
34. Prune and trim as necessary
35. Mulch plants during winter
36. Keep accurate enterprise records
37. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select a variety adapted to your conditions
2. Buy certified seed
3. Conduct a germination test if planting home grown seed
4. Obtain a current soil test
5. Lime and fertilize according to soil test and desired production
6. Select a field suitable for your grain choice
7. Select the proper tillage method
8. Prepare a firm and smooth seedbed
9. Calibrate drill for proper plant population
10. Match plant population to soil yield potential
11. Adjust drill for proper depth of seed placement
12. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
13. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
14. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
15. Apply fungicides when needed
16. Make a yield check
17. Adjust combine for proper harvesting
18. Check moisture content when harvested
19. Harvest crop as soon as moisture permits to reduce losses
20. Store grains in disinfected grain storage tanks
21. Bale straw as soon as moisture levels allow
22. Track market trends and habits
23. Market crop at optimum time
24. Keep accurate enterprise records
25. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR SWINE PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select animals which are alert and healthy
2. Choose long, thick, meaty animals
3. Prepare a well-ventilated shelter
4. Confine pigs for maximum growth
5. Use a covered self-feeder
6. Feed a high quality balanced ration
7. Keep a hurdle in the pen area
8. Maintain clean feeding and watering equipment
9. Provide plenty of clean, fresh water
10. Develop and implement a sound health plan
11. Control internal and external parasites
12. Vaccinate animals routinely at proper times
13. Train pigs for show
14. Clip and shave pigs for best appearance
15. Correctly fill out a show entry form
16. Properly wash a pig for show
17. Apply show oil or powder to make pig shine
18. Select a healthy boar of desirable conformation to mate with your sows
19. Observe for signs of heat if hand breeding
20. Prepare a clean, fresh farrowing area
21. Treat pig's navel with iodine at birth
22. Provide piglets with proper shots
23. Use farrowing crate for sows and gilts
24. Place sows and gilts in farrowing crates at least two days prior to farrowing
25. Provide creep area for piglets as soon after birth as possible
26. Use ear notches or other identification system
27. Remove needle teeth
28. Dock tails
29. Castrate young boar piglets
30. Cull any sows or gilts with problems
31. Keep accurate production records on herd
32. Track market trends and habits
33. Market pigs at optimum weight
34. Develop a private market for pig sales
35. Complete a registration application
36. Keep accurate enterprise records
37. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Gather soil samples to determine nutrient needs
2. Decide on acreage and arrange field layout for effective ingress/egress
3. Use certified tobacco seed and a good variety for your area
4. Monitor soil temperature for optimum planting dates
5. Keep plants cool before planting
6. Utilize optimum row width for equipment purposes and plant growth
7. Cultivate and establish plant according to establish practices
8. Provide water source for plant beds
9. Distribute fertilizer and seeds evenly over plant beds
10. Use appropriate herbicides for initial growth stages of the tobacco plant
11. Monitor emerging plants for signs of stress and disease
12. Monitor temperature in order to protect plants as needed
13. Remove plants from bed area when correct size
14. Transplant plants less than 24 hours after removal from beds
15. Cultivate field and establish rows according to proper management practices
16. Follow transplanting by field inspection and manual retransplanting of dead or wilted plants
17. Apply appropriate herbicides and pesticides to counter weeds and harmful insects
18. Establish sucker control program
19. Remove suckers manually when necessary
20. Correctly implement chemical sucker control
21. Fertilize following soil test recommendations
22. Use appropriate fertilizer application methods for field size and plant maturity stage
23. Maintain tobacco production equipment in proper working order
24. Monitor entire crop for insect problems
25. Place drainage ditches around field ends for water removal to allow for greater equipment maneuverability
26. Harvest at maximum stage of ripeness
27. Top plants at proper height (12-15 leaves left per stalk)
28. After topping plants, allow them to grow for an additional three to four weeks to ripen
29. Cut and allow tobacco to wilt
30. Space tobacco evenly in curing barn for optimum drying
31. Disc fields within one week of harvesting
32. Drop, lath, and spear in a safe manner, without bruising tobacco, 5 to 6 plants per lath
33. Place lath at proper spacing in tobacco shed. Spacing should be 4 to 6 inches.
34. Allow tobacco to cure about 12 weeks until dry
35. Remove tobacco from the barn when it is damp and place in stripping room
36. When tobacco is damp and pliable remove from stalk and bale
37. Check local markets and negotiate price
38. Monitor curing and drying process for potential problems
39. Maintain curing and drying facilities in proper condition
40. Perform harvesting carefully to prevent damage to leaves
41. Properly calibrate sprayers for all chemical applications to tobacco in field
42. Apply fungicides when needed
43. Develop marketing strategy regarding time and location.
44. Correctly package for marketing.
45. Keep accurate enterprise records.
46. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR TREE FRUIT PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Buy trees from a state-inspected nursery
2. Establish a cover crop prior to tree planting
3. Plant trees as early as soil conditions allow
4. Choose fruits suited to your climate
5. Select varieties adapted to your area
6. Select a site with good elevation
7. Be sure that cold air can drain from orchard
8. Obtain a current soil test
9. Fertilize and lime according to soil test
10. Select a well drained soil
11. Determine root stock best suited to your situation
12. Plan orchard layout prior to planting
13. Arrange pollinator varieties properly
14. Control vegetation in established orchard
15. Heel in trees when they can not be planted immediately
16. Plant trees at proper depth
17. Provide water and actual nitrogen when planting trees
18. Use proper plant spacing
19. Construct proper trellis
20. Keep wires tight and replace broken posts
21. Train all branches according to recommendations
22. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
23. Use insecticides necessary for proper control
24. Apply fungicides when needed
25. Observe and check for problems regularly
26. Thin fruit as needed
27. Protect bark on trees
28. Prune and trim as necessary
29. Use honeybees to aid in pollination
30. Harvest when fruit is in highest quality grade
31. Harvest carefully to eliminate bruising and damage
32. Discard injured or over-ripe fruit
33. Market fruit as quickly as possible
34. Track market trends and habits
35. Market fruit at optimum time
36. Develop direct markets
37. Store fruit in a cool dry area
38. Keep accurate enterprise records
39. Summarize and analyze records

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Establish agreement with landowner
2. Map property boundaries and natural features
3. Inventory existing plant and animal species
4. Develop appropriate management objectives
5. Observe and/or photograph wildlife species
6. Use a dichotomous key and/or field guide to identify species
7. Prepare a written management plan
8. Establish contour strip cropping
9. Mow strips through retired fields after June 15 (minimum width 6 ft.)
10. Install flushing bars on mowers
11. Make border cuttings of 30 ft. or more in woodland edges
12. Plant appropriate tree and shrub seedlings
13. Construct living brush piles at least 15' diameter and one/acre
14. Seed odd areas with leguminous cover
15. Mark and/or conserve den trees from cutting
16. Properly release fruit/mast trees in a woodland
17. Construct ponds of at least 1/4 acre
18. Seed pond/stream banks with appropriate cover
19. Construct marshland area of at least one acre
20. Seed forest clearing with appropriate cover
21. Conserve large mast-producing trees
22. Promote species diversity in otherwise monoculture areas
23. Create irregular field edges
24. Construct feeders and nesting boxes and place appropriately
25. Create den trees through careful girdling of appropriate trees
26. Conduct a wildlife occurrence study
27. Control undesirable and destructive species after consultation with District Wildlife Conservation officer
28. Rear and release appropriate species of game animals
29. Conduct a stream improvement plan
30. Assist with state stocking programs
31. Complete the PA Game Commission Hunter-Trapper Education Program
32. Participate with PA Game Commission "Sport" Program
33. Develop a hunter education safety trail
34. Participate in a county and/or state conservation school
35. Prepare a wildlife conservation speech, exhibit or demonstration
36. Compete in the FFA Wildlife Contest
37. Compete in a county and/or state Envirothon
38. Assist with PA Game Commission "Working Together for Wildlife" program
39. Fence streams within pastures to keep cattle out of the stream
40. Install a bird bath or ground watering device
41. Allow strips of grain near cover to go unharvested
42. Participate in National Hunting and Fishing Day activities
43. Keep accurate enterprise records
44. Summarize and analyze records