



## Emergency Mortality Disposal Advisory

*Supplemental: Friday February 28, 2020*

### Expanding Carcass Disposal Advisory to Include San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced and Madera Counties

Darling International reported to CDFA this morning that it had experienced major equipment failure at its Turlock/Crows Landing rendering facility. The company is temporarily suspending collection of livestock mortalities until at least Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The primary counties expected to be impacted are San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced and Madera. The Boards of Supervisors and Ag Commissioners in the affected counties have been notified and are considering emergency action. Because decomposition prevents the manual and machine processing used at rendering, even after the Darling resumes service it will not be able to collect the carcasses of animals that have died during the shutdown. This loss-of-service is unrelated to the similar Baker Commodities facility shut-down announced earlier this week. Baker also hopes to resume normal service sometime next week.

Central Valley producers whose normal mortality disposal was disrupted by the shutdown of either the Baker/Kerman or Darling/Turlock rendering plant have several options:

1. Directly transport the carcasses to an alternative rendering facility. Alternatively carcasses can be transported to a permitted landfill if one can be located which will accept them. An interactive map listing local landfills and their animal disposal permits is [available on-line](#). Information on carcass transport companies appears below. Kern County is only allowing disposal of carcasses in the Bena Landfill as described in a previous [supplemental advisory](#).
2. Temporarily store mortalities on their farm in composting piles for later transport to a permitted landfill. *This option is only available in counties that have declared emergencies.* Fresno, Tulare and Kings Counties have made such declarations. San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced and Madera Counties are considering declarations. CDQAP will provide updates as to which counties take such action. Producers temporarily storing mortalities should follow guidance outlined in Monday's [original mortality advisory](#).
3. Permanently bury mortalities on farm in an emergency landfill- this process requires [permit](#) application, fees and paperwork with the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The permit process is described below.

#### Burial on the farm?

Producers in any Central Valley county may NOT permanently bury mortalities on farm unless they obtain a [permit](#) from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Such a permit includes a copy of the county's emergency declaration, an annotated map, photographs and management plan for the site. The current fee for such a permit is approximately \$4,000 dollars.

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## Records

Both CDFA and RB5 require that producers record the final disposition of each carcass not sent to rendering. This will help protect producers from regulatory confusion and potential fines. Records must be maintained for at least five years.

## Carcass Transportation

Some producers wanting to transport carcasses to either an alternative rendering facility or a permitted landfill may not have suitable equipment. CDFA has provided a [current list](#) of licensed dead haulers. While we can't endorse any particular company, contact information for several dead haulers with dairy clients appears in the table below.

CDQAP will provide updates as new information becomes available.

## Partial list of dead haulers currently working with dairies.\*

Company / Contact	Phone	Region
Dairyman Hide Company Eric Tatham	559-994-3226	Based out of Madera, carcasses are transported to Sacramento Rendering. Producers can drop off carcasses at his collection center for half the price.
Sisk Tallow Manuel Cunha	209-667-1451	Based out of Turlock, transported to Sacramento Rendering. Drop-off facilities in Turlock and Oakdale
Branco Cattle Joe Branco	209-777-4695	Based out of Merced could probably serve impacted Baker clients Madera in as well.
Moniz Tallow Company Maurice Moniz	209-259-9134 209-595-9084	Based out of Hilmar, serving Stanislaus, San Joaquin and Merced. Carcasses transported to Darling Inc. No drop off.
Direct Dairy Transport Brad Nyman	209-678-0044	Based out of Hilmar. Operates north of Fresno including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced & Madera Counties.
RT Deceased Animal Transport Richard Toland	661-301-2477	Based out of Bakersfield, usually does horses but is equipped to pick up multiple cow carcasses. No drop off.
Stiles Animal Removal Stephen Stiles	909-390-9828	Based out of Ontario. No longer serving Kern County. Transported to Darling.

\* CDQAP is providing this information for use by producers does not represent a recommendation or endorsement of any particular company. Companies usually request notice in advance of drop-offs. Drop off at collection center may be half the price of pick up on dairy, say \$75 vs \$150 /cow. There may be additional charges for carcasses with more advanced decomposition.

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