

Incineration

Incinerating dead poultry and small animals is biologically the safest disposal method. The residue from properly incinerated mortality is largely harmless and does not attract rodents or insects. On the other hand, it may be slow, require fuel and expensive equipment, and generate nuisance complaints from particulate air pollution and odors even when highly efficient incinerators are used. Incineration generally requires an air pollution permit, and as such, requires that the unit meet state agency regulations. Local regulations may also require an installation permit. Therefore, incineration is not a casual or inexpensive undertaking. Barrels or other homemade vessels are unsatisfactory burners and may have serious consequences if they result in air pollution or unpleasant odors.

Commercial incineration units fired with gas or oil burners are available (Figure 51-11). When selecting an incinerator, consider its sturdiness and the type of controls. The unit selected should be able to operate under heavy loading conditions and withstand high operating temperatures. Consider purchasing a unit with automatic timer controls that shut off the fuel supply after predetermined time because of the convenience they provide in operating the unit.

The incinerator's capacity should be based on animal size and the expected daily mortality rate. The incinerator should be sited in a convenient

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Table 51-7. Mortality management by incineration.

Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Sanitary	1. Nutrients contained in the dead animals is
2. Final except for ashes wasted	2. Initial cost
	3. Fuel costs
	4. Equipment operation and maintenance costs
	5. Potential air quality impairment

The incinerator should be sited in a convenient location that will avoid potential problems and be downwind of livestock housing, farm residences, and neighbors.

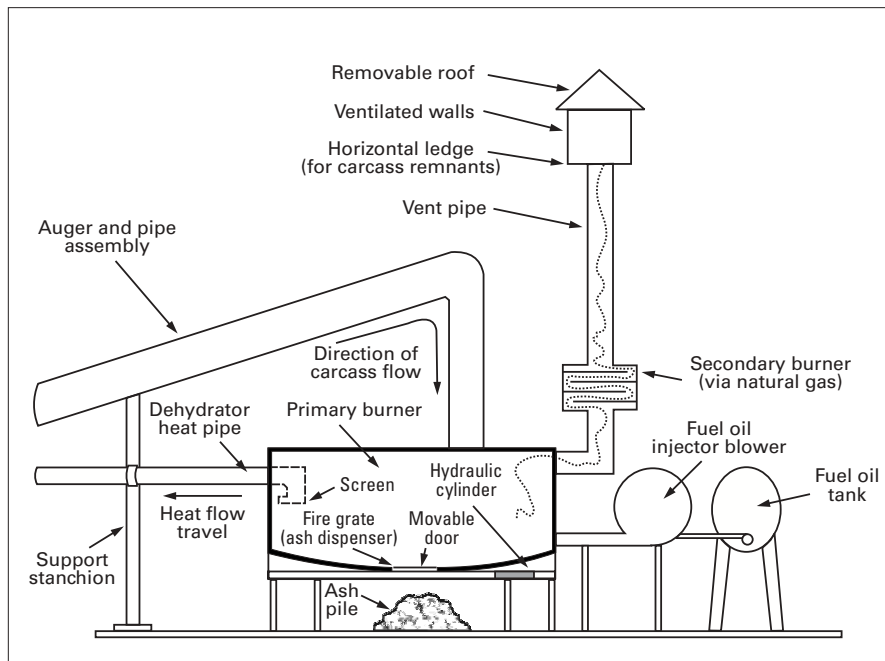


Figure 51-11. Incineration system.

Source: Severincinerator, GlobalWasteTransformation, Inc., Adairsville, GA.

location that will avoid potential problems and be downwind of livestock housing, farm residences, and neighbors. In most situations, the incinerator should be housed and placed on a concrete slab to extend its life. Maintenance costs include the replacement of expendable parts and grates every few years. The incinerator unit may need to be replaced or completely overhauled every 5 to 7 years.

To summarize, the incineration method for managing mortality has the following advantages and disadvantages (Table 51-7).