

Veterinarian Net Wrap Needs Assessment

Objective: In the Upper Midwest, stored forages bound with net wrap predominate winter feedstuffs on livestock operations. A recent concern expressed by livestock producers, is whether failure to remove the plastic prior to feeding can lead to its consumption and accumulation in the gastrointestinal tract, potentially negatively impacting animal performance and health. Therefore, SDSU Extension is conducting the following needs assessment to collect documentation on the effects of net wrap consumption on livestock health and performance from veterinary professionals.

As a veterinarian, do you believe net wrap poses a health risk for livestock? **Yes** **No**

Please explain why or why not:

Have you ever observed bale wrap accumulation in the rumen/stomach of livestock? **Yes** **No**

If Yes, document your findings in the table below to the best of your ability.

Animal type Circle all that apply	Wrap type observed (net wrap, plastic twine, sisal etc...)	# of Head found with ingested wrap over your time in practice	Comments
Feeder Calves			
Yearlings/fed cattle			
Mature Cows/Bulls			
Dairy Cattle			
Lambs/Ewes			
Horses			
Other			

In your estimation, how often was net wrap accumulation the main cause of death in these animals?

0% **25%** **50%** **75%** **100%** **Other** _____

Please explain:

What clinical signs (prior to death) have you associated with net wrap accumulation in livestock species?

Besides accumulation in the GI tract, what, if any, post-mortem findings have you associated with net wrap accumulation in livestock species?

What other health problems have you seen caused by livestock ingestion of net wrap?

In your opinion, is net wrap ingestion a **critical** issue to animal health that should be addressed?

Circle one: **Not critical** **Somewhat critical** **Very critical** **Extremely critical**

Please explain:

How many years have you practiced veterinary medicine? _____

Where do you practice veterinary medicine? State _____

Average herd size of clients: _____

Would your practice be interested in maintaining communication with SDSU Extension on the effects of net wrap on livestock health? Yes No

If yes, please provide your clinic name/address/email/phone number so we can send you materials to assist you in reporting any findings of net wrap ingestion back to SDSU.

Clinic Name: _____

Veterinarian/Primary contact: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

*Survey responses will remain confidential and data from this research will be reported only in the aggregate. Your information will only be used only for future communication on this project and will remain confidential. If you have questions at any time about the need assessment or the procedures, you may contact Taylor Grussing at (605) 995-7378 or taylor.grussing@sdstate.edu. Return surveys to: Mitchell Regional Center, 1800 E Spruce St., Mitchell, SD 57301