

THE RISE OF CAFOs



Joyce Tischler, Professor of Practice, Animal Law



Pistachio,
Photo taken at
Animal Place
Sanctuary,
2023





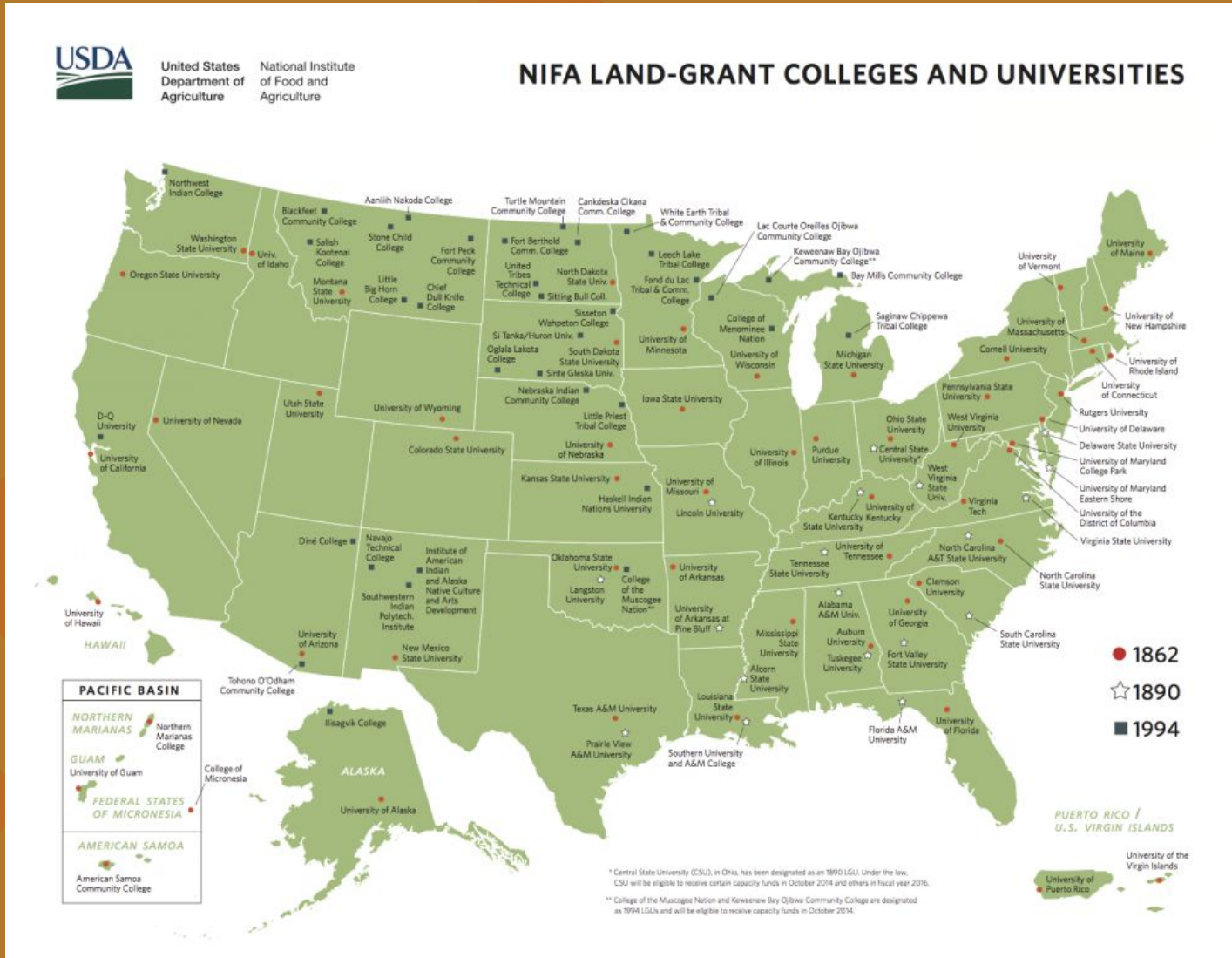
Source: Farm Sanctuary, Watkin's Glen N.Y. sanctuary, <https://www.farmsanctuary.org/>



Railroads of the U.S. in 1918, By Unknown author - History of the United States by Charles A. Beard and Mary R. Beard, Public Domain,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=553495>



Norwegian immigrants in 1898 on their land claimed under the Homestead Act



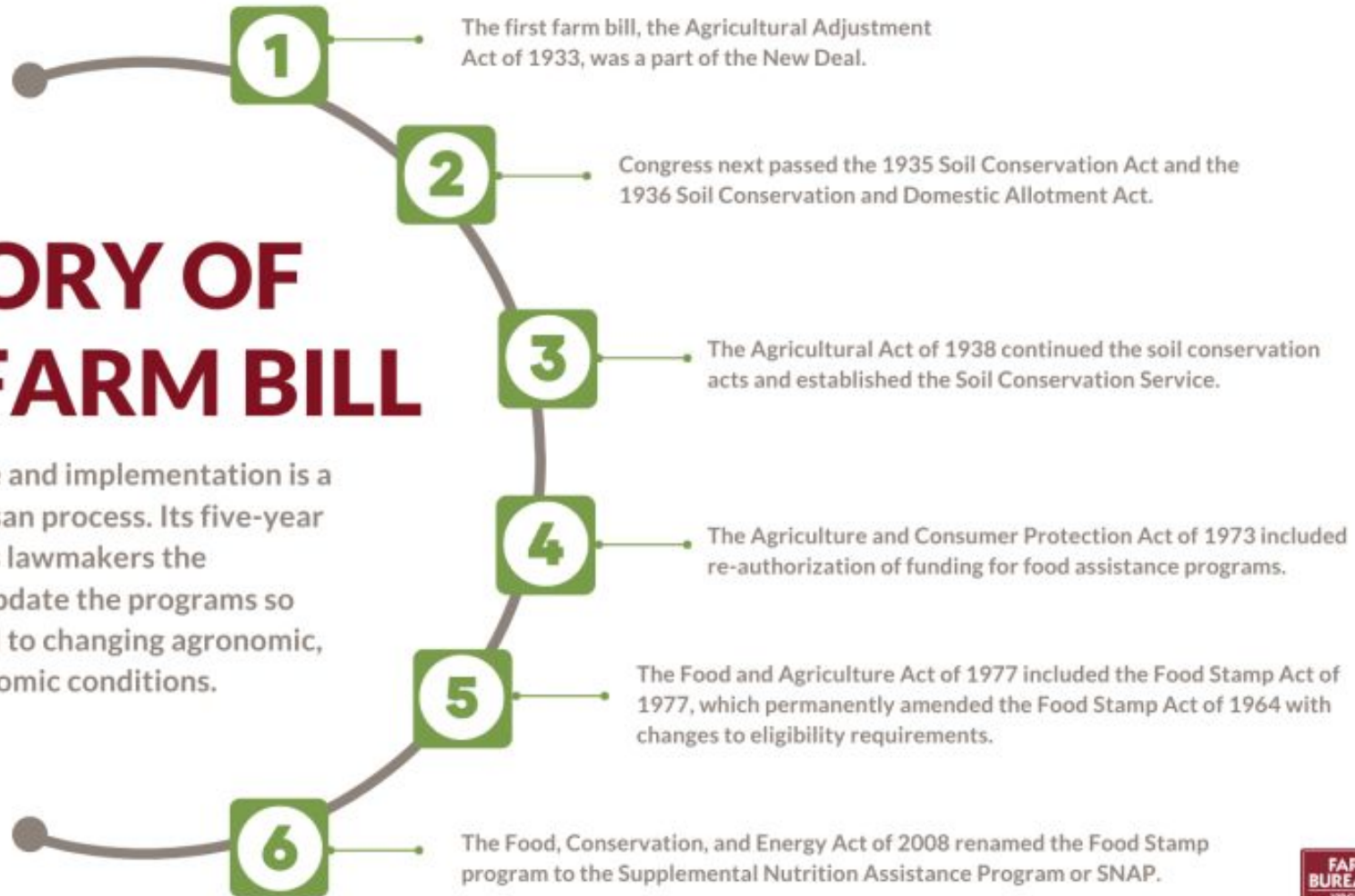
Chicago stockyards ca. 1900.
PHOTO: CORBIS IMAGES,
The Wall Street Journal, *The Bloodiest
Blocks in Chicago*, By
Robert K. Landers, Oct. 2, 2015,
[https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-bl
oodiest-blocks-in-chicago-144381550](https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-bloodiest-blocks-in-chicago-144381550)

4



HISTORY OF THE FARM BILL

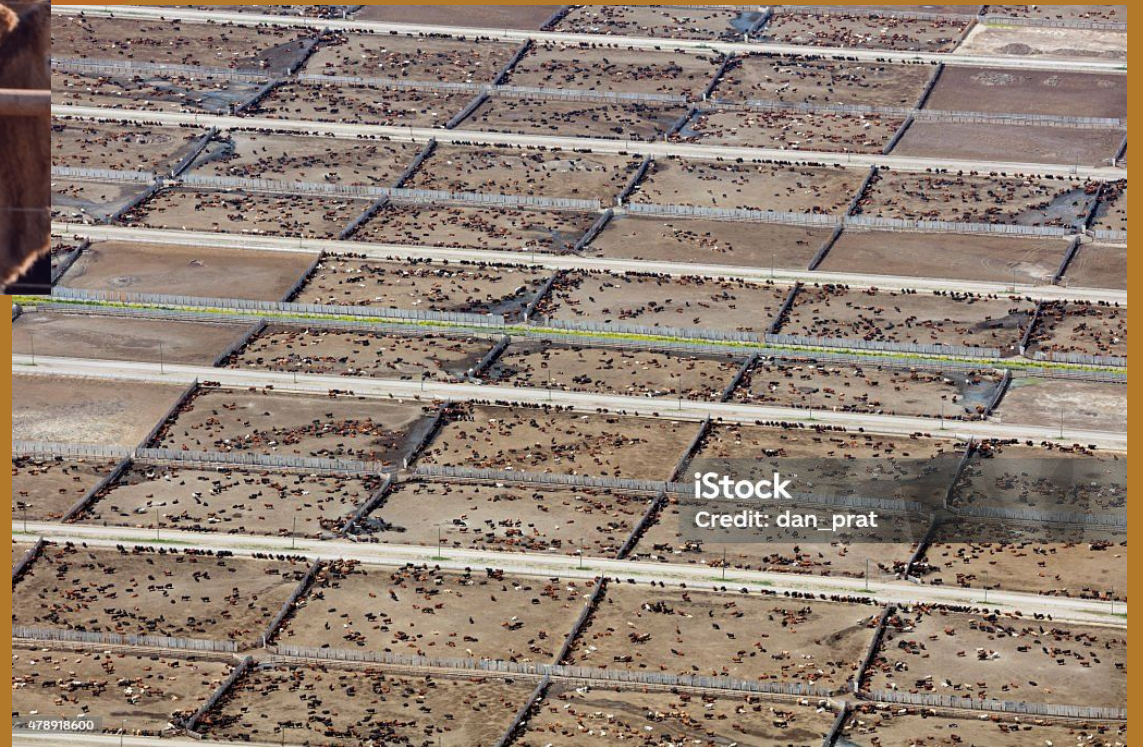
Farm bill passage and implementation is a complex, bipartisan process. Its five-year lifespan provides lawmakers the opportunity to update the programs so they can respond to changing agronomic, market and economic conditions.





Feedlot photo: Sentient Media,
<https://sentientmedia.org/cattle-feedlot/>

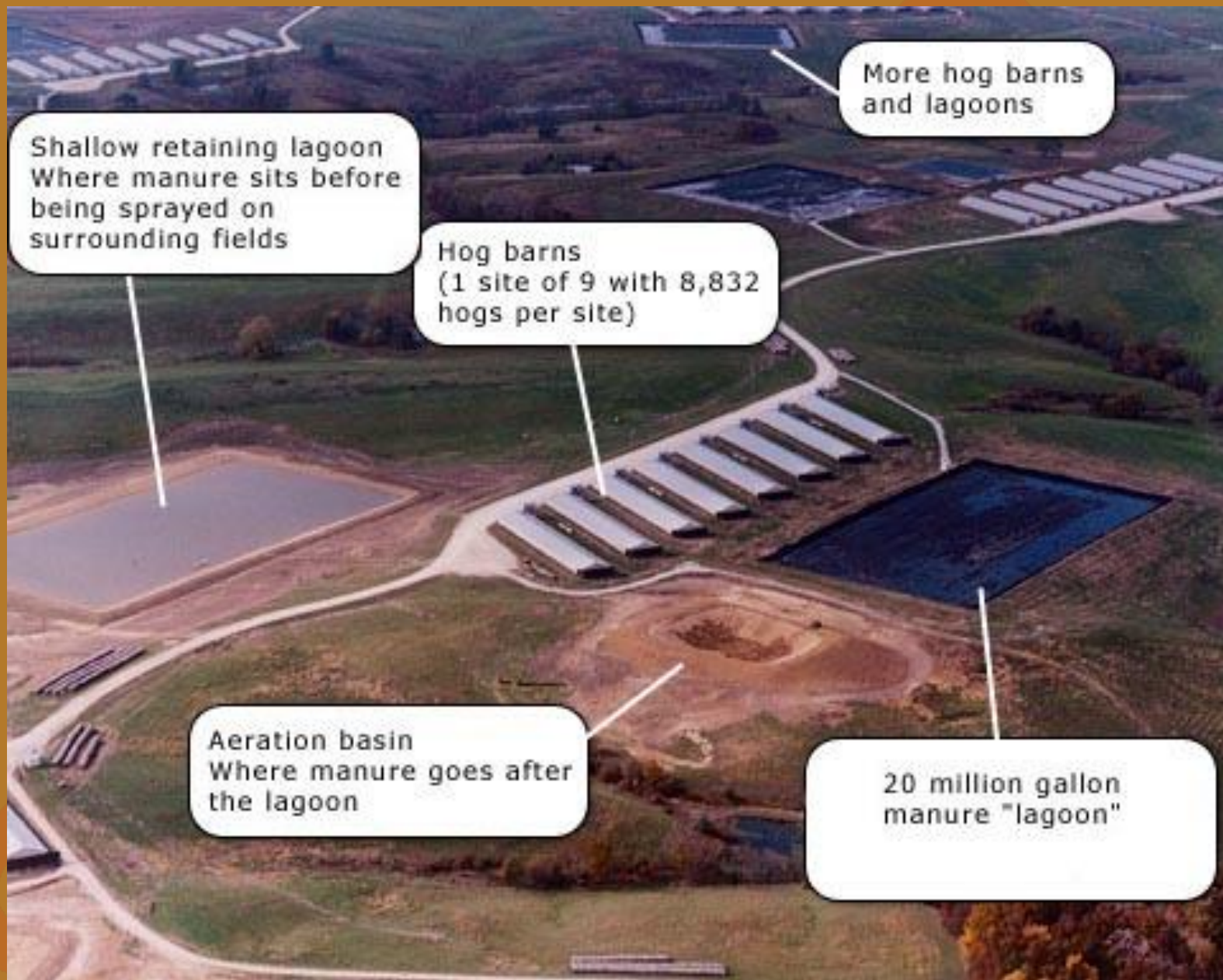
Feedlots



Aerial photo of feedlot: dan-prat

“Get big or get out!”





Shallow retaining lagoon
Where manure sits before
being sprayed on
surrounding fields

Hog barns
(1 site of 9 with 8,832
hogs per site)

More hog barns
and lagoons

Aeration basin
Where manure goes after
the lagoon

20 million gallon
manure "lagoon"

“Broiler” chickens



Photo: http://www.cafothebook.org/theissue_2.htm#up



“The environmental costs of CAFO production have been well-documented. Manure spills and leakages have contaminated waterways, killing fish and fouling fisheries. . . . environmental laws governing CAFO pollution are still not fully enforced in many states and regions of the country and the industry continually lobbies for less regulation.”

Source: CAFO: The Tragedy of Industrial Animal Factories,
http://www.cafothebook.org/thebook_myths_6.htm



ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE

Respiratory diseases

Asthma

Nausea

Gastro-intestinal problems

Headaches

Noise at all hours

Odors

Can no longer sit outdoors

Lower home values

Local economy suffers

“The home of a minority family in Kenansville, North Carolina, situated next to a concentrated animal feeding operation, or CAFO. Dust, odors, and manure from CAFOs can reach nearby residents’ homes, including their laundry.”

©2013 Donn Young Photography

Some key recommendations from The Pew Commission, *Putting Meat on the Table: Industrial Farm Animal Production in America* (2008)

- “Restrict the use of antimicrobials in food animal production to reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance to medically important antibiotics.”
- **“Develop and implement a new system to deal with farm waste (that will replace the inflexible and broken system that exists today) to protect Americans from the adverse environmental and human health hazards of improperly handled IFAP waste.”**
- “Phase out the most intensive and inhumane production practices within a decade to reduce IFAP risks to public health and improve animal well-being;”
- “Implement better animal husbandry practices to improve public health and animal well-being.”
- **“Implement policies to allow for a competitive marketplace in animal agriculture to reduce the environmental and public health impacts of IFAP.”**

https://www.pewtrusts.org//media/legacy/uploadedfiles/phg/content_level_pages/reports/pcifapfinalpdf.pdf

2013: Pew Commission follow up report:

Robert S. Lawrence, MD, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future, which produced the report, said,

“There has been an appalling lack of progress. The failure to act by the USDA and FDA, the lack of action or concern by the Congress, and continued intransigence of the animal agriculture industry have made all of our problems worse.”

John Carlin, the Chair of the Pew Commission and former governor of Kansas stated:

“If the last five years has shown us anything, it is that the public is more engaged than ever in the food system,” . . . “The results of this analysis show that our policymakers are really not listening to their constituents.”

**Extreme
Animal Abuse**

**Environmental
Injustice-
Harms to Neighbors/
Low Income Communities
Of Color**

Environmental Harms:

- **Water Pollution**
- **Air Pollution**
- **Soil Degradation**
- **Climate Change**

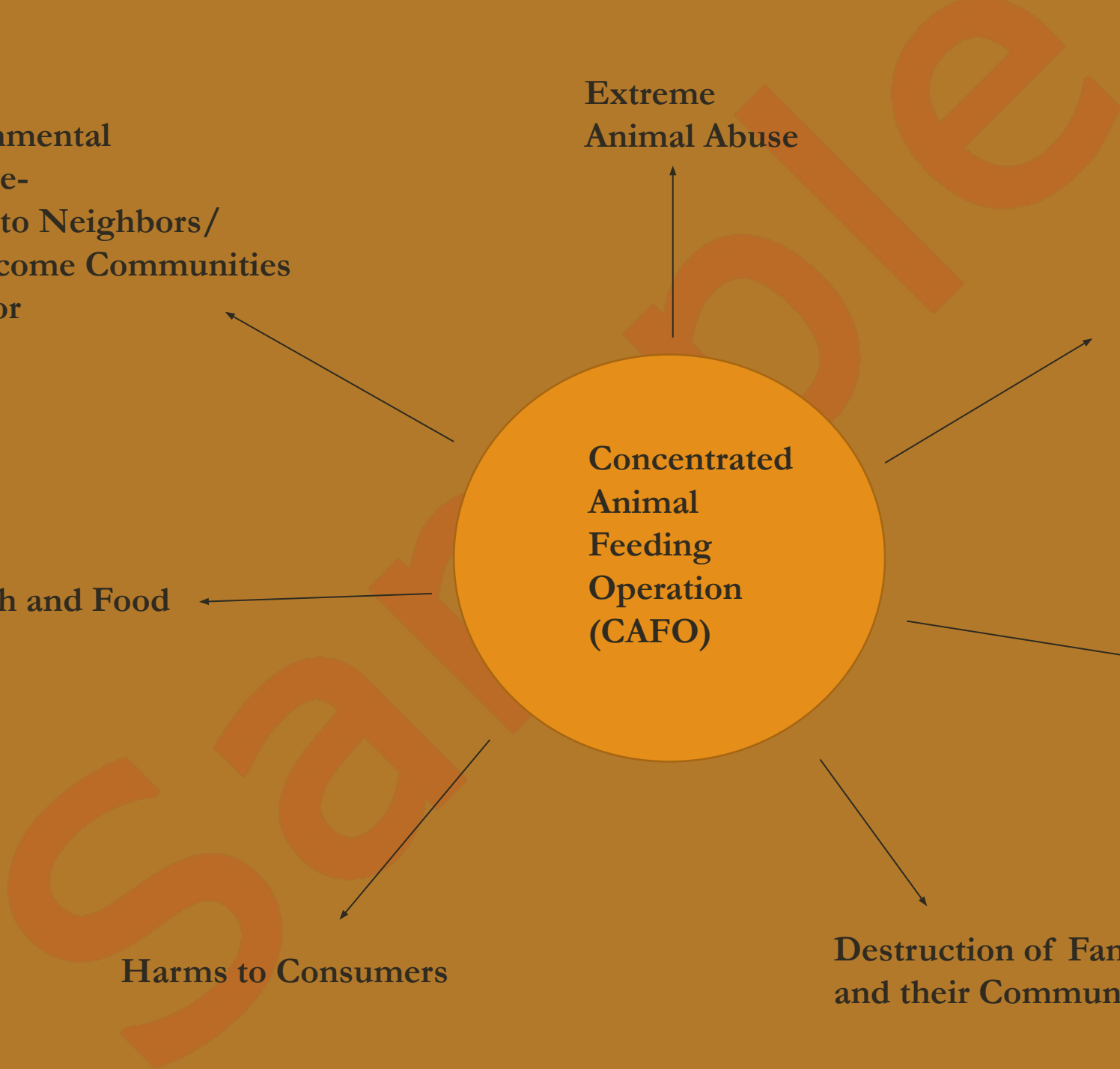
**Concentrated
Animal
Feeding
Operation
(CAFO)**

**Public Health and Food
Safety Issues**

**Harms to CAFO and
Slaughterhouse
Workers**

Harms to Consumers

**Destruction of Family Farms
and their Communities**





Thank You

Joyce Tischler

jtischler@lclark.edu



CENTER FOR
ANIMAL LAW STUDIES

Lewis & Clark Law School

Joyce and Belle, Wildwood Farm Sanctuary, OR