



The high temperatures of Ontario's summer are fast approaching. Hot, humid weather creates dangerous conditions for all livestock, as it affects comfort and reduces production. This is why detection of heat stress in livestock is so important.

The University of Guelph and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Rural Affairs, have jointly developed a new free app available through Google Play or Blackberry Marketplace that lets you calculate the level of heat stress experienced by livestock. The app recommends actions to reduce heat stress and improve animal comfort to help maintain feed intake and productivity. This app provides producers with the information to make timely decisions on managing livestock environments and reducing animal stress and mortality.

The app features 7 types of livestock and is available in English, French and Spanish. It accepts a variety of ventilation systems and produces heat stress levels from No Heat Stress to Emergency. The app works in five percent increments for humidity and two degree increments for temperature changes. The values are available in either metric or imperial.

If you would like more information or have any questions about the Heat Stress in Livestock and Poultry App please contact Arlene Robertson, Education Coordinator, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Arlene.robertson@ontario.ca.