

## Farm & Ranch Inspection

Farms and ranch properties face a unique set of challenges in Texas. Most buildings that are constructed outside of major municipalities or are outside the 100-year flood plain are exempt from building codes. Therefore, many residential and other structures on farms and ranches were built without the oversight of any building code inspections at all, other than what the builder or owner provided.

Current or prospective owners of farms and ranches will do well to increase their knowledge about the structures on their property. It is not unknown for builders and subcontractors to take significant shortcuts to cut costs when no governmental authority is inspecting their work.

Farm and ranch inspections do not include machinery, vehicles or equipment. However, commercial equipment dealers may be contacted to provide feedback on the condition of these items.

Even when property is not mortgaged or financed, the additional knowledge gained through a complete inspection can only serve to increase the safety, security, and longevity of the buildings. The knowledge gained through a more complete understanding of the condition and safety issues with your property will pay dividends far into the future, both in terms of cost savings, cost avoidance, and increased safety of persons, property, and livestock.



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