

- [Legal Glossary](#)
- [2015 ORS](#)
- 
- 

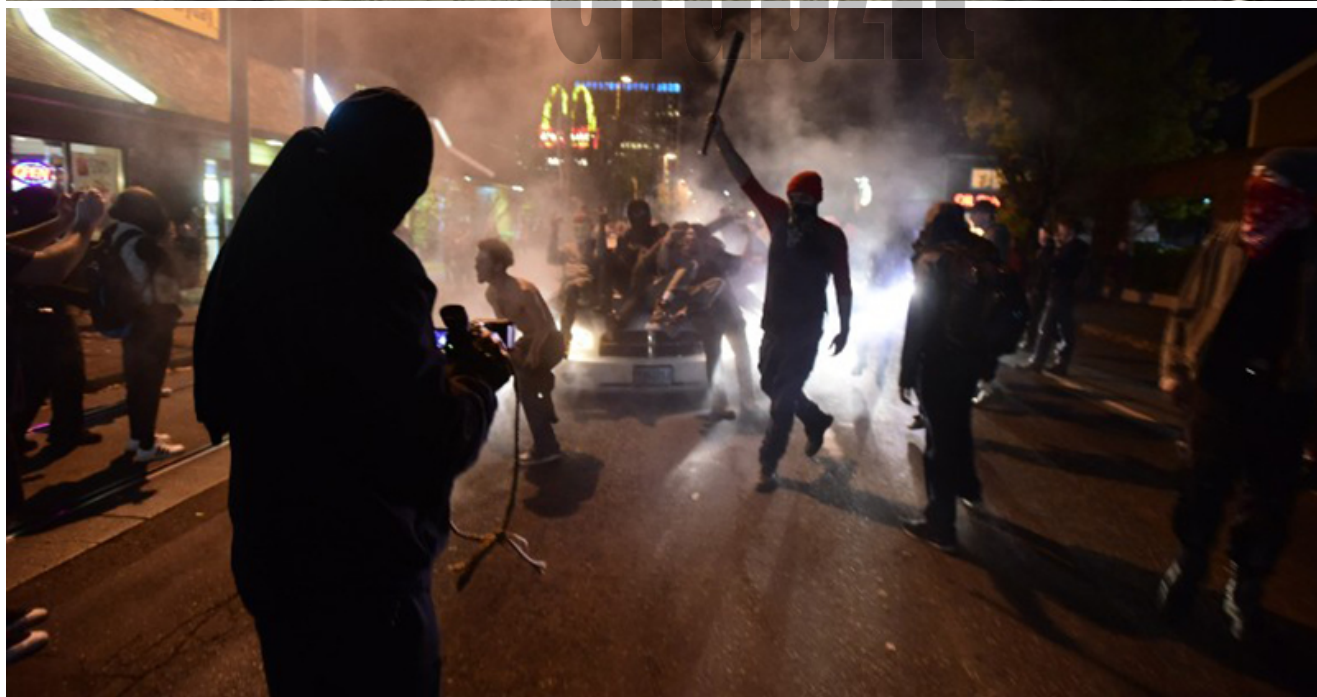
[Home](#) > [2015 ORS](#) > [Vol. 13](#) > [Chapter 609](#) > Dogs Harming Livestock

[Support the Portland Police](#)

# Grabzt





- [609.125](#)  
[Definition of livestock](#)
- [609.135](#)  
[Applicability of ORS 609.156, 609.162 and 609.168](#)
- 609.140  
Right of action by owner of damaged livestock
- [609.150](#)  
[Right to kill dog that harms or chases livestock](#)
- [609.153](#)  
[Dog owner education program](#)
- [609.155](#)  
[Impoundment for harming or chasing livestock](#)
- [609.156](#)  
[Opportunity to request hearing](#)

- [609.158  
Hearing process](#)
- [609.161  
Disputable presumption that dog harms or chases livestock](#)
- [609.162  
Guidelines for imposing remedial measures, civil penalties or other sanctions](#)
- [609.163  
Enhanced civil penalties for habitual violators](#)
- [609.165  
Judicial review of county determination](#)
- [609.166  
Record of penalized owners](#)
- [609.167  
Conversion of civil penalty into lien](#)
- [609.168  
Microchip identification of dog](#)
- [609.169  
Keeping dog with knowledge that it has harmed livestock](#)
- [609.170  
Claim by owner of livestock](#)
- [609.180  
Hearing and payment of claims](#)
- [609.190  
Subrogation of county paying claim](#)

## 2015 ORS § 609.140<sup>1</sup>

### Right of action by owner of damaged livestock

(1) The owner of any livestock which has been damaged by being injured, chased, wounded or killed by any dog shall have a cause of action against the owner of such dog for the damages resulting therefrom, including double the value of any livestock killed and double the amount of any damage to the livestock.

(2) If one or more of several dogs owned by different persons participate in damaging any livestock, the owners of the respective dogs shall be jointly and severally liable under this section. The owners of dogs jointly or severally liable under this section have a right of contribution among themselves. The right exists only in favor of an owner who has paid more than the pro rata share of the owner, determined by dividing the total damage by the number of dogs involved, of the common liability, and the total recovery of the owner is limited to the amount paid by the owner in excess of the pro rata share of the owner.

(3) An action brought under this section may be tried as an action at law in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(4) As used in this section:

(a) Owner means the head of the family of the home where the dog is cared for at the time of the damage.

(b) Head of the family means any person who has charge or manages the affairs of a collective body of persons residing together, the relations between whom are of a permanent and domestic character. [Amended by 1973 c.655 §7; 1975 c.749 §1]

• • •

[News Annotations Related](#)

## Notes of Decisions

Injured livestock refers to situation where there is no physical contact between dog and livestock but livestock damage results from dogs action. *Roach v. Jackson County*, 151 Or App 33, 949 P2d 1227 (1997), Sup Ct review denied

Chased livestock does not require that dog had predatory intent or that livestock suffered damage as result. *Roach v. Jackson County*, 151 Or App 33, 949 P2d 1227 (1997), Sup Ct review denied

Double damages provision is not subject to three-year statute of limitations under ORS [12.100 \(Action on official act or penalty\)](#). *Diaz v. Coyle*, 152 Or App 250, 953 P2d 773 (1998)

Livestock owner need not prove negligence, recklessness or other state of mind of dog owner. *Parker v. Parker*, 223 Or App 137, 195 P3d 428 (2008)

Dog owner may be found liable for injury to livestock occurring on property of dog owner. *Parker v. Parker*, 223 Or App 137, 195 P3d 428 (2008)

Chapter 609

## Atty. Gen. Opinions

Possession and administration of sodium pentobarbital by county animal control program, (1982) Vol 42, p 297

## News Reports

### [Dog issues persist in Selma](#)

Illinois Valley News / Scott Jorgensen, Apr 14, 2010

“Since a horse and unborn foal in Selma were killed by a pack of dogs on March 26, there have been at least two other reported complaints regarding similar incidents. . . . There are a series of statutes under Oregon law that codify the responsibilities of dog owners. . . .”

[http://www.illinois-valley-news.com/archive/2010/04/14/dog\\_issues/](http://www.illinois-valley-news.com/archive/2010/04/14/dog_issues/)

## Related Statutes<sup>3</sup>

- [609.167](#)  
[Conversion of civil penalty into lien](#)

---

<sup>1</sup> Legislative Counsel Committee, *CHAPTER 609—Dogs; Exotic Animals; Dealers*, [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/ors/-ors609.html](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/-ors609.html) (2015) (last accessed Jul. 16, 2016).

<sup>2</sup> Legislative Counsel Committee, *Annotations to the Oregon Revised Statutes, Cumulative Supplement - 2015, Chapter 609*, [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/ors/ano609.html](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ano609.html) (2015) (last accessed Jul. 16, 2016).

<sup>3</sup> OregonLaws.org assembles these lists by analyzing references between Sections. Each listed item refers back to the current Section in its own text. The result reveals relationships in the code that may not have otherwise been apparent.

[Feedback](#) · [Press](#) · [Blog](#) · [About](#)

---

Compiled by [Robb Shecter](#), [robb@oregonlaws.org](mailto:robb@oregonlaws.org)