

RULES OF THUMB IN TRANSPORT

1. TRUELY FIT FOR TRANSPORT

ULTIMATE GOAL: Load, transport, or cause one to load or transport animals that are **FIT for transport** and unload them or cause one to unload them with all the necessary measures to avoid them from unnecessary suffering, injury or death.

EACH ANIMAL MUST BE ASSESSED BEFORE BEING TRANSPORTED.

3 possibilities may arise:

1. **Animal fit for transport:** the animal can be transported
2. **Compromised animal:** Can be transported under **CERTAIN CONDITIONS**
3. **Unfit animal:** cannot be transported unless a veterinarian recommends that the animal be transported to receive veterinary care.
THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE TRANSPORT TO THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE



2. KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Every person who loads or transports an animal in or unloads an animal from a vehicle shall have the necessary knowledge and skills to conduct those activities. (laws & regulations, animal welfare, handling, risk factors)

3. SHARED RESPONSABILITY

Animal transport: A shared responsibility between ALL the stakeholders who take part in the decision making process or the actions involved in the transport of an animal.

4. ASSESS ALL RISK FACTORS

Obligation to assess the animal's capacity to withstand the transport process without causing it unnecessary suffering or death. **When:** Evaluate **BEFORE** the start of process and monitor **DURING** the process at appropriate frequencies.

5. DOCUMENT YOUR ACTIONS

Make sure your records contain all the information you need to justify your risk factors assessment., your planning, your decisions and your modifications/ corrective actions.

COMPROMISED ANIMALS CONDITIONS TO MEET

- a) Each animal is isolated;
- b) Animal is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the vehicle;
- c) Measures are taken that are necessary to prevent the animal's suffering, injury or death during loading, transport and unloading ;
- d) Transported directly to the nearest place, other than an assembly centre, where it can receive care or be humanely killed .

Example: A compromised cow cannot pass through an auction or any gathering place.

Nearest place = slaughterhouse

Local slaughterhouse (any type) = OK
Remote slaughterhouse or USA = NO



ESSENTIALS IN CATTLE TRANSPORT



NOTE TO READER: Content is over simplified for the purpose of illustration. Refer to training content and regulations for complete and detailed expectations.

FITNESS TO TRANSPORT

FULLY FIT

- Ambulatory
- Healthy
- Support conditions
- Transport time OK

COMPROMISED

- Ambulatory BUT...
- < optimal conditions BUT...
- Measures to prevent suffering/death
- Shortest ride (care/slaughter/ No assembly)

with special care

- Isolated
- No internal ramps

UNFIT FOR TRANSPORT

NO TRANSPORT ALLOWED : THAT'S ALL

- Non-ambulatory animal
- Severe injury/lame
- In shock
- Severe prolapsus/hernia
- Nervous system issue
- Near calving
- Rough breathing
- Open wound
- Extremely thin
- Sick /weak
- Exception: **ONLY** if for treatment under the vet recommendations.

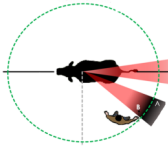
NORMAL BEHAVIOUR

- Like to stay/move in group
- Poor 3D vision
- Need to understand where to go
- React to fast movements
- Behave in predictable ways
- React continuously
- Motivated by fear and food
- Fearful of unknown

SIGNS OF PAIN

1. Less focus on surroundings
2. Lower head position
3. Low/backward ear position
4. Pain-face
5. Response to approach (avoid approaching person)
6. Arched back (leg or abdomen pain)
7. Lameness
8. Severe pain reactions

FLIGHT ZONE



POSITIVE HANDLING

- Assess path - Animals like to feel they decide - Control their attention - Calm/quiet handling - Pay attention
- Leave a way out (them & you) - Stay in their sight
- Move at their pace - Use the flight zone principles
- Use proper handling tools judiciously.

ABUSE AND POOR TREATMENT

- Any form of abuse/cruelty/poor treatment = POHIBITED by law
- Avoid rough handling, excessive prodding and overcrowding
- Avoid or minimize electric prods use (not primary tool)
- ABUSE** = Touching sensitive parts (Eyes, Nose, Anus, Genitals)
- AVOID USE ON ANY DAIRY CATTLE**



RISK FACTORS PLANNING

1. Condition of the animal
2. Space requirements
3. Compatibility with other animals
4. Handling/restraint methods
5. Expected duration without feed/water/rest; expected transport duration
6. Delays
7. Weather
8. Foreseeable transport conditions (sharp inclines/declines, vibration, condition of equipment).

EXTREME CONDITIONS TO AVOID

- Signs of HEAT STRESS in cattle :** Rapid, open mouth, shallow breathing; Increased salivating; Tongue hanging out; Gaspings. → **1. Reduce density**
- 2. Avoid hottest hours**
- 3. Ventilation**
- 4. Handle with care**
- 5. Monitoring**
- Signs of COLD STRESS in cattle:** Shivering; Eating bedding; Fluid frozen to face or nostrils. → **1. Avoid coldest hours**
- 2. Clean trailer**
- 3. Bedding**
- 4. Adapt vents**
- 5. Reduce density**
- 6. Handle with care**
- 7. Monitor often**

MINIMAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH TRANSPORT

1. Shipper/Operator/Receiver info
2. Trailer/Licence #
3. Floor area available to animals in trailer
4. Clean/disinfect: Last time location
5. Loading: Date, time, where
6. Animals: #, description, weight
7. Last access to feed/water/rest prior to loading or during transport: date and time.

THINGS TO AVOID RELATED TO YOUR INFORMATION

- 1. Don't falsify**
- 2. Don't forget to write down any changes/modifications**
- 3. Don't lose your documents (Pertinent to the task kept in the truck, then, archive for minimum 2 years)**

DAIRY CALVES (≤ 8 DAYS) CAN BE TRANSPORTED IF:

1. Loaded/unloaded individually AND without use of ramps in trailer
2. Enough space to lie down
3. Avoid suffering/injury/death during process
- 4- Segregated from older animal > 8 days old
5. Duration of transport ≤ **12 hours**;
START: Water/feed/milk/rest withdrawal. Then load/transport/unload. FINISH: Regain access to water/feed/milk/rest
6. Stops on the go only to load other ≤ 8 days
7. Transported to a final destination.

SPECIFICS TO TRANSPORT TIME AND ANIMAL CONDITIONS

An animal should not be transported unless provided with feed, safe water and rest at intervals that do not exceed the following:

- 12 hours for any compromised animals.
- 12 hours for young ruminants that are too young to be fed exclusively on hay/grain. After unloading at their final destination, they cannot be reloaded. Final destination ≠ Auctions + assembly centre.
- IMPORTANT:** For these young, unweaned calves, the feed provided must be milk and must be provided in adequate quantities so that the calf is able to consume it.
- 36 hours for all other animals
- Can't transport lactating animals unless with offspring/or measures.

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS



THANK YOU ALSO TO OUR PROUD COLLABORATORS

