

A Guide to Handling Livestock at Risk

NON-COMPROMISED = an animal that can be transported without special provisions

LIVESTOCK ON FARM

ANIMAL AT RISK = an animal with reduced capacity to withstand the stress of transportation, due to injury, fatigue, infirmity, poor health, distress, very young or old age, impending birth, or any other cause

CAN TRANSPORT WITH SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Abattoir

Lameness – Class 2/3
Abscess – if animal can walk well

** Closest abattoir

Severe Eye Damage
Lame – Class 4 eg
Frozen / Frostbite
Amputee
Prolapsed vagina / rectum
Recent injury
Bloat – if not weak / down
Pneumonia – No fever & no drugs
* Blind
Nervous Disease eg Listeria, **
Notify veterinarian

DO NOT TRANSPORT

EUTHANIZE (condemnable conditions)

Extremely thin
Infected or abscessed joints – 3 or more
Nervous disease & non-ambulatory
Unresponsive Pneumonia with fever
Dying / Shock / Severe Distress
Unresponsive Water Belly – SICK
MOBILE SLAUGHTER as per Provincial Regulations
Non Ambulatory i.e. Downer due to accident or injury
Lameness Class 5

DELAY TRANSPORTATION

Parturition (about to give birth)

LAMENESS CLASSES

- Class 1 – Visibly lame but can keep up with group; no evidence of pain
Class 2 – Unable to keep up; some difficulty climbing ramps. **Load in rear compartment.**
Class 3 – Require assistance to rise be can walk freely.
Segregate. **Load in rear compartment.**
Class 4 – Require assistance to rise; reluctant to walk, halted movement; no steep ramps.
Class 5 – Unable to rise or remain standing.
Should not be moved; except with veterinary certification, using suitable specialized equipment, and in accordance with provincial regulations.
Euthanasia or Mobile Slaughter.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

- **Federal Health of Animal Regulations**
- **Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals**
- **Animals segregated in trucks require extra protection from cold and wind chill; ample bedding is required.**
- *** Blind animals should be put in a small compartment with one other quiet animal, or individually segregated.**
- **Producers must adhere to drug withdrawal times prior to slaughter.**