

EXPORT ADVISORY NOTICE – 2013/09		4 October 2013
Title:	Clarifying procedures for dealing with livestock rejected prior to transport to the port / airport and at the port /airport of loading.	
Species:	Livestock	
Country:	All countries	
Relevant to:	[1] Livestock Exporters	
For information:	[1] Department of Agriculture Regional Managers [2] Department of Agriculture Live Animal Export Officers [3] LiveCorp [4] Operators of Registered Premises [5] Australian Government Accredited Veterinarians – Livestock	

Purpose

To advise licensed exporters that the NOI approval for all livestock consignments approved from 1 November 2013 onwards will be amended to reflect recommendation 6 from the Fremantle Review. This is to ensure any livestock that are rejected prior to transport to the port / airport and at the port / airport of loading are appropriately identified and managed consistent with the requirements of the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL).

Instructions

That exporters note that all NOI approvals (air and sea) for all livestock consignments approved from 1 November 2013 will include the following requirements:

- a) Any livestock that are **rejected for export at the premises during examination prior to transport to the port / airport of loading** must be clearly identified and isolated from the rest of the consignment. Sick or injured livestock must be given immediate treatment or humanely euthanased as appropriate. A record must be kept and provided on request to the Department of Agriculture of the identity, method of treatment or euthanasia and disposal of any rejected livestock.
- b) Any livestock that are **rejected for export at the port / airport of loading** must be clearly identified; provided treatment where appropriate; and humane and effective arrangements must be made for their removal from the port / airport. If euthanasia is necessary, it must be carried out humanely and promptly. A record must be kept and provided on request to the Department of Agriculture of the identity; method of treatment or euthanasia and disposal of rejected livestock, including the procedure for removal from the port / airport.

Background

Farmer Review

On 13 June 2011 an independent review into Australia's livestock export trade was undertaken by Mr Bill Farmer AO. The final report was provided to the Minister on 31 August 2011 and the Government's response was announced on 21 October 2011. The Government agreed or agreed-in-principle to all 14 of the recommendations made in the Farmer report.

Recommendation 4 of the Review stated that: *'The Review recommends that the current inspection regime prior to export from Fremantle be reviewed, to ensure that thorough individual animal inspection by the AAV is conducted'*.

Full text of the Farmer review report is available at:

www.livestockexportreview.gov.au/the_report_of_the_independent_review_into_australias_livestock_export_trade.

Fremantle Review

To deliver recommendation 4 of the Farmer Review, a steering committee was established in July 2012 to review the inspection regime prior to export of livestock from the Fremantle Port. The steering committee included representatives of industry, veterinarians, animal welfare groups and state and commonwealth governments. The final report of the review was released on 23 March 2013.

The committee made seven recommendations. Five of the recommendations were referred to the ASEL steering committee (recommendations 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7), one recommendation was referred to the State and Territory Governments (recommendation 4), and one was referred to the Department of Agriculture to implement through existing operational procedures (recommendation 6).

Full text of the review is available at: www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/fremantle-review/final-report-review-inspection-regime-export-livestock-fremantle-port.

Fremantle review: Recommendation 6

The issue detailed in the review concerning recommendation 6 relates to livestock detected as unfit for transport or export as a result of routine monitoring, group and individual inspection of animals.

It is important to note that while these observations were made as part of the Fremantle review, the recommendation applies to **ALL** premises where livestock are prepared prior to transport to the port / airport and **ALL** ports / airports where livestock are loaded for export.



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