



‘Stock on hand’ in registered establishments for livestock exports

Live Animal Export Branch

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide policy direction about ‘stock on hand’ held in registered establishments and available for sourcing by livestock exporters.

2 Scope

- 2.1 This policy applies to exporters sourcing livestock for export by sea and air and registered establishment occupiers holding livestock for export by sea.
- 2.2 For the purposes of this policy, ‘stock on hand’ are livestock that have resided in a registered establishment immediately prior to their sourcing for export by the livestock exporter.
- 2.3 ‘Stock on hand’ may include animals that were selected for export in a previous consignment and were found ineligible at the time or surplus to an exporter’s needs and remained at the registered establishment.
- 2.4 This policy should be read in conjunction with relevant export legislation, standards and other information listed under [related material](#) and the importing country requirements for the relevant destination market(s).

3 Requirements

- 3.1 The department is prepared to consider, where the importing country requirements allow, the property of origin to be the registered establishment if the livestock have resided there for at least 30 clear days immediately prior to beginning any pre-export quarantine/isolation or ASEL preparation period.
- 3.2 Exporters seeking to source ‘stock on hand’ held at a registered establishment for export must:
 - a. Review the importing country requirements for the proposed destination market and determine if any animals held as ‘stock on hand’ may be eligible to be sourced for export for this market.

Note: Some destination markets have extended residency requirements or consider that all premises where the animals have resided are a property of origin. Exporters should ensure that they fully understand the importing country requirements and where unsure seek advice from the department.
 - b. Review the National Vendor Declarations (NVDs)/NT Waybills, NLIS database and induction records held by the registered establishment operator for the ‘stock on hand’ to determine how long the animals have resided at the registered establishment.
 - i. For livestock that have resided at the registered establishment for less than 30 clear days, the registered establishment is not the property of origin. The property of

origin is the premises where the animals were held prior to arrival at the registered establishment consistent with the importing country requirements.

To source these livestock for export, the exporter may need to seek information, such as a declaration from the vendor(s) to confirm compliance with relevant aspects of the importing country requirements.

- ii. For livestock that have resided at the registered establishment for at least 30 clear days immediately prior to sourcing for export, the registered establishment may be able to be considered the property of origin.

To source the livestock for export, the exporter may need to seek information such as a declaration from the registered establishment operator to confirm compliance with relevant aspects of the importing country requirements.

3.3 Registered establishment occupiers and other commercial entities seeking to sell 'stock on hand' to a livestock exporter must:

- a. hold a copy of the NVDs/NT Waybills for the relevant livestock to demonstrate their period of residency at the registered establishment; and
- b. be prepared to provide any further declarations or information demonstrating compliance with the importing country requirements and the ASEL.

Note: Where possible, it is not recommended that 'stock on hand' are held on the property identification code (PIC) directly associated with the registered establishment's operations. Registered establishment occupiers seeking to use their establishment as a property of origin for a consignment should be aware that the results of laboratory testing or other export operations may lead to state/territory government property restrictions and impact the ability of state/territory authorities to issue health status documentation for export.

3.4 The department may request further information from an exporter where it is unclear that livestock claimed as 'stock on hand' comply with this policy.

3.5 This policy must be complied with for all livestock consignments exported on or after 1 August 2024.

4 Background

4.1 For a departmental veterinary officer to issue a government certificate and an export permit they must be satisfied, among other matters, that the livestock comply with the importing country requirements and ASEL.

4.2 Commercial entities, including registered establishment operators, may, as part of their normal business operations, purchase livestock and move them to a registered establishment prior to their sourcing for export by a livestock exporter. These livestock are 'stock on hand'.

4.3 At any time during the export process or after, a trading partner may audit Australia's export certification system or animal health and surveillance system.

4.4 Managing 'stock on hand' in accordance with this policy document would be expected to meet the expectations of Australia's trading partners and protect market access.

5 Related material

For more information see:

- Export Control Act 2020
- Export Control (Animals) Rules 2021
- Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL)
- [Manual of importing country requirements \(Micor\) – live animals](#)
- [Export Advisory Notice 2009-05 – Health status documentation / Export certification – November 2009](#)

6 Version control

Version	Date of issue	Author	Reason for change
1.0	May 2024	Live Animal Export Branch	New document