



# Water deprivation time for livestock exported by air to support compliance with ASEL

## Live Animal Export Branch

### 1 Purpose

This policy is a guide for exporters to manage and record water deprivation time throughout an air export journey in compliance with the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL).

### 2 Scope

This policy applies to exporters sending livestock consignments by air. It outlines the requirements exporters must meet to comply with ASEL standard 6.1.9 in relation to water deprivation time.

The policy should be read in conjunction with relevant export legislation and standards listed under [related material](#).

### 3 Requirements

As defined in ASEL, water deprivation time means a continuous period that livestock do not have access to water. Water deprivation time begins at the time animals are curfewed prior to transport to the airport. Calculations must include the time until the point animals are provided water again.

The maximum water deprivation time specified for each species and class of animal is equal to those set out in the [Australian animal welfare standards and guidelines – land transport of livestock](#).

In accordance with ASEL standard 6.1.9, water deprivation time must be managed for all consignments of livestock exported by air. Exporters must hold records of expected and actual water deprivation times for each consignment.

### 4 Instructions

For all livestock consignments exported by air, an exporter must:

- keep records of a water deprivation plan that includes information required by ASEL and as outlined in this policy
- ensure the water deprivation plan includes the consignment's expected total water deprivation time at the time the notice of intention to export (NOI) is submitted to the department
- ensure the water deprivation plan includes the consignment's actual total water deprivation time at the completion of the journey
- provide an end-of-journey (EOJ) report to the department, in accordance with ASEL standard 6.11.2 and department reporting requirements.

A sample template of a water deprivation plan is available at [Appendix A](#).

The department may request the consignment's water deprivation plan from an exporter:

- prior to approval of an NOI, if the delegate requires it to be satisfied that the transport arrangements for the livestock are adequate for their health and welfare
- prior to issuance of an export permit, if the regional veterinary officer requires it to be satisfied that the livestock have been, and will continue to be, exported in compliance with ASEL
- at the time of audit, to ensure the exporter holds the information required for each consignment and has complied with the relevant water deprivation standards within ASEL
- when investigating notifiable mortality incidents or concerns about the health or welfare of livestock previously exported.

## 5 Related material

- [Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines - Land Transport of Livestock](#)
- [Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock \(ASEL\)](#)
- [Export Control Act 2020](#)
- [Export Control \(Animals\) Rules 2021](#)
- [Regulating live animal exports](#)
- [TRACE](#)

## Appendix A

The information in this template is required to be held by an exporter for each livestock consignment exported by air, in accordance with ASEL standard 6.1.9. The information must be provided to the department when requested. The template is an example only and another format may be used, however exporters must provide all required information at the level of detail outlined in this template. Exporters can use this template or an alternative format.

### Template for capturing water deprivation details

LNC number \_\_\_\_\_

Departure airport \_\_\_\_\_

Destination country \_\_\_\_\_

#### Contact details of person(s) nominated by the exporter to provide water to livestock during transit or unplanned stops

Given name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Family name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Note: When completing this template, use one standard time zone e.g. AEST.

Item	Event	Expected times (prior to NOI submission)	Actual times (at end of journey)
<b>At the approved, or other, premises</b>	Time livestock removed from access to water (curfew)	(to be completed, e.g. 2:30 pm AEST)	(to be completed, e.g. 3:00 pm AEST)
	Time first animal loaded into transport vehicle	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Time of departure from premise	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Total time off water at the approved, or other pre-export premises (in hours) <b>(A)</b>	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
<b>During land transport</b>	Time of arrival at departure airport	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Total time during land transport (in hours) <b>(B)</b>	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
<b>At the departure airport, pre-flight</b>	Time first animal loaded into aircraft crate	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Time of aircraft departure	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Total time at departure airport, pre-flight (in hours) <b>(C)</b>	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
<b>During air transport</b>	Time of arrival at final destination airport	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Total time during all air transport, including time on ground at transit airport (in hours) <b>(D)</b>	(to be completed)	(to be completed)

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<b>Post-flight period</b>	Time last animal unloaded from aircraft crate (into transport vehicle, or at farm if remained in crates)	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Time last animal provided water after arrival	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	Total time off water during post-flight period (in hours) <b>(E)</b>	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
<b>Total water deprivation time</b>	Total water deprivation time (in hours) Calculate A+B+C+D+E (sum of time off water for all stages listed)	(to be completed)	(to be completed)
	If adequate access to water is offered during the journey (for example at the airport or during transit stops), include relevant details.	(to be completed)	(to be completed)

## Version control

Version	Date of issue	Author	Reason for change
1.0	May 2020	Live Animal Export Branch	First publication
1.1	June 2023	Live Animal Export Branch	Updates to department branding and document formatting

### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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