



EXPORT ADVISORY NOTICE – 2016-11		20 April 2016
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Preparation of cattle and buffalo weighing less than 200 kilograms for export by sea</b>	
<b>Species:</b>	<b>Cattle and buffalo</b>	
<b>Country:</b>	<b>All</b>	
<b>For information:</b>	<b>[1] Livestock Exporters, [2] Australian Government Accredited Veterinarians (AAV) [3] Livecorp [4] Department Officers</b>	

## **P u r p o s e**

To advise exporters of the conditions under which a light cattle management plan is required and the minimum requirements of such a plan.

## **B a c k g r o u n d**

The Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL) S1.9 (b) and S1.10 (b) requires that cattle and buffalo sourced for export by sea must not have an individual live weight of less than 200 kilograms, unless given prior written approval from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the department).

The department will consider requests to source cattle or buffalo of less than 200 kilograms, where an appropriate management plan is submitted. The department is likely to consider requests where the management plan demonstrates that the cattle/buffalo will be at least 200 kilograms at the time of export. For example, for markets with extended pre-export quarantine periods (e.g. 30 days) exporters seek approval to induct cattle weighing between 190 – 200 kilograms if their weight gain during that period ensures they are at least 200 kilograms at the time of export.

## **I n s t r u c t i o n s**

Exporters seeking to source cattle/buffalo with an individual live weight of less than 200 kilograms must submit a light cattle and buffalo management plan to the department.

### For exporters with an approved arrangement

Exporters will require an approved light cattle management plan as part of their approved arrangement before they submit a Notice of Intention (NOI). Requirements for a light cattle/buffalo management plan are specified in the Guidelines for Approved Arrangements. Where light cattle/buffalo are sourced for export, the light cattle/buffalo management plan must be included as part of the Consignment Specific Export Plan.

A department veterinarian may inspect light cattle/buffalo at induction.

### For exporters without an approved arrangement

Exporters will need to submit a light cattle/buffalo management plan with their NOI and Consignment Risk Management Plan. The management plan must include details of how the exporter will manage the sourcing and transport of these livestock, in particular details of:

- The weights of cattle/buffalo covered by the plan (e.g. 190 – 200 kilograms)
- Induction – including weighing, inspection and segregation of light cattle/buffalo
  - The process for identifying and removing cattle/buffalo that are less than the minimum weight allowed under the plan
  - Any process for identifying and segregating light cattle/buffalo from larger animals
  - How the light cattle/buffalo will be penned in the Registered or Approved Premise
- Animal health treatments and feeding
  - Any additional treatments that will be given prior to export
  - Any feeding programme / regime which will be used to ensure that the cattle/buffalo meet or exceed the minimum export weight of 200 kilograms on the day of export
- Monitoring and inspections
  - The plan for monitoring the light cattle/buffalo to ensure management outcomes are being achieved
- Climate conditions
  - How the light cattle/buffalo will be managed in extreme climatic conditions, including the availability of shade/shelter
- Managing animals that do not meet ASEL rejection criteria
  - How the exporter/ registered premises operator will manage sick or injured light cattle/buffalo and the process for rejection
- Loading
  - How the exporter will ensure that only cattle/buffalo equal to or more than 200 kilograms are loaded onto trucks for export

The department is prepared to consider management plans to meet alternative circumstances on a case by case basis.

In these instances, any management plan submitted to the department would need to include sufficient evidence that the risks of exporting light cattle/buffalo have been managed. It is unlikely that the department will approve a plan to source cattle or buffalo under 190 kilograms.

Exporters must continue to ensure, in compliance with ASEL, that cattle/buffalo that are not a minimum of 200 kilograms prior to loading for export are removed from the consignment.

A department vet may inspect light cattle/buffalo at induction.

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