

Attachment A – List of ESCAS animal welfare checklist standards

Standard No	Standard
1	Handling and movement of livestock must be carried out calmly and effectively, avoiding harm, distress or injury.
2	Livestock must not be subjected to procedures that cause pain and suffering.
3	Livestock must not be isolated unless necessary.
4	Sick or injured animals must be humanely disposed of or segregated and treated appropriately.
5	Livestock must never be forced to walk over the top of other animals.
6	Livestock must not be left individually restrained during break times or delays.
7	Ramp sides must be sufficiently high to prevent escape.
8	Facilities and equipment must be free from any protrusions, sharp edges or other faults/flaws that could cause injury to the animals.
9	Holding pens must provide enough space for the animals to stand up, lie down and turn around.
10	Lighting must be conducive to animal movement and sufficient to perform inspection, when necessary.
11	Clean water must be available and accessible to all animals.
12	Feed of sufficient quantity and quality must be provided to all animals held over 12 hours.
13	Animals must be protected from exposure to adverse weather conditions or alternative arrangements must be made to alleviate heat/cold stress.
14	Animals must be inspected on arrival at the facility and daily thereafter (inspected twice daily in lairage if held longer than 12 hours). Animals must be held in suitable groups. Records of inspection must be maintained.
15	The method of restraint employed must be designed and operated effectively for the size and class of livestock processed.
16	Equipment used to restrain animals must be maintained in good repair and effective working order. Records of maintenance are maintained.
17	There must be a back-up procedure to stunning. If an initial stun is ineffective, a re-stun must be applied immediately.

18	Stunning equipment must be correctly applied, with the appropriate method, charge / pressure / electrical setting used for each animal.
19	Where pre-slaughter stunning is used, the stunning procedure must occur without delay once the animal has been restrained. However, in the case of post-cut stunning, stunning must occur immediately after the throat has been cut.
20	The stun must be effective and result in immediate unconsciousness of the animal.
21	Slaughter must be performed using a sharp knife and result in massive bleeding from both carotid arteries (or the vessels from which they arise, in the case of thoracic sticking).
22	The throat must be cut using a single (blade does not leave the wound until act of slaughter completed), deep, uninterrupted fast stroke of the knife.
23	For reversible stunning, the time between stunning and slaughter must not exceed 20 seconds.
24	The head must be restrained in a manner which facilitates slaughter and for as short a time as possible.
25	The head of the animal must be kept in extension to prevent the edges of the wounds touching until the animal is unconscious.
26	Animals must not be hoisted, have water thrown on them or be otherwise disturbed prior to confirmed unconsciousness
27	Death must be assured before performing carcass dressing or cutting procedures.
28	Where allowed, pregnant females must be handled separately to other stock and if slaughtered, fetuses must not be rescued.
29	Each facility in the ESCAS supply chain must have Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to ensure that facility staff work in accordance with the ESCAS animal welfare standard.