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Approved Arrangements for livestock exports



An Approved Arrangement is an agreement between the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the department) and a livestock exporter that allows a more streamlined export certification process.

The arrangement is based on a manual that describes the processes and practices an exporter will follow to ensure they meet Australian Government requirements for the certification of livestock for export, including:

- the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL)
- importing country requirements
- other legislative requirements.

Exporters need to submit their Approved Arrangement to the department for assessment and approval. The Approved Arrangement will remove the need for exporters to repeatedly submit new consignment risk management plans for every consignment.

Benefits of Approved Arrangements

Approved Arrangements will reduce unnecessary regulation and costs for compliant exporters by streamlining the export certification process. They will reduce duplication and move to a risk-based approach, improving timeframes for consignment approval and cutting down on re-checking every detail of every consignment. It brings the live animal export industry into alignment with other export commodities, including meat, dairy, fish and eggs.

Operating procedures for Approved Arrangements

Approved Arrangements allow the department to focus its efforts and resources on areas of highest risk, and recognise the efforts of compliant exporters. Each exporter's performance will be monitored through audits, livestock inspection and documentation verification. Exporters who invest in quality management systems and processes that enable them to consistently meet all regulatory requirements will be subjected to less paperwork, less frequent audits and less interventions by the department.

Key points

- The department is implementing Approved Arrangements for livestock exports.
- An Approved Arrangement is based on a manual that describes the processes and practices an exporter will follow to ensure they meet Australian Government requirements for the certification of livestock export.
- Approved Arrangements will be available for all exporters from April 2016.
- All exporters will need an Approved Arrangement to export from 1 January 2017.
- Small and infrequent exporters can seek an exemption from Approved Arrangements.



While pre-export inspection of livestock and verification of core documentation will continue to be required for all consignments, changes will include:

- shortened processes for a Notice of Intention for export (NOI)
- no need for a separate Consignment Risk Management Plan (CRMP) to be approved for each export
- no need for an Approved Export Plan (AEP) or Permission to Leave for Loading (PLL)

Commencement of Approved Arrangements

The department is implementing Approved Arrangements, including trialling the new system with a number of exporters. Approved arrangements will be available to exporters from April 2016 and all exporters will need an Approved Arrangement to export from 1 January 2017.

Exemptions

Exporters may apply to be considered as a small and infrequent exporter. This exempts the exporter from Approved Arrangements and reduced fees apply.

More information

For more information about Approved Arrangements, contact the Live Animal Exports branch at livestockexp@agriculture.gov.au. Further information will be available on the department's website agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/live-animals/livestock in the coming months.

