

Results of a desk study on best practices for animal transport

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Protection of animals in transit

- The EU (EC) first developed and adopted overarching rules governing animal welfare during transport in 1977 (Council Directive 77/489/EEC).
- The EU legislation relating to animal transportation was last updated by Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport



The current European position

- EC 1/2005 “The Transport Regulation”
- Implemented 2007
- Transport of ALL animals
- Fitness to travel
- Journey times, feeding and watering intervals, stocking densities
- Thermal envelopes / Temperature limits
- Vehicle standards
- Competencies / transporter authorisations



Transport Guides

I
(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1/2005
of 22 December 2004
on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives
64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 37 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽²⁾,

Following consultation of the Committee of the Regions,

⁽¹⁾ The Protocol on protection and welfare of animals annexed to the Treaty requires that in formulating and implementing agriculture and transport policies, the Community and the Member States are to pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals.

⁽²⁾ Under Council Directive 91/628/EEC of 19 November 1991 on the protection of animals during transport ⁽³⁾, the Council has adopted rules in the field of the transport of animals in order to eliminate technical barriers to trade in live animals and to allow market organisations to operate smoothly, while ensuring a satisfactory level of protection for the animals concerned.

⁽³⁾ The Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience acquired by Member States since the implementation of Council Directive 93/25/EEC of 29 June 1993 amending Directive 91/628/EEC concerning the protection of animals during transport ⁽⁴⁾, as required under Directive 91/628/EEC, recommended amending current Community legislation in this field.

⁽¹⁾ Opinion delivered on 30 March 2004 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ OJ C 110, 30.4.2004, p. 135.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 340, 11.12.1991, p. 17. Directive as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 (OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 148, 30.6.1995, p. 52.

⁽⁴⁾ Most Member States have ratified the European Convention for the protection of animals during international transport and the Council has given a mandate to the Commission to negotiate on behalf of the Community the revised European Convention for the protection of animals during international transport.

⁽⁵⁾ For reasons of animal welfare the transport of animals over long journeys, including animals for slaughter, should be limited as far as possible.

⁽⁶⁾ The Council invited the Commission on 19 June 2001 ⁽⁷⁾ to submit proposals for ensuring effective implementation and strict enforcement of existing Community legislation, improving the protection and welfare of animals as well as preventing the occurrence and spread of infectious animal diseases, and putting in place more stringent requirements so as to prevent pain and suffering in order to safeguard the welfare and health of animals during and after transport.

⁽⁷⁾ On 13 November 2001, the European Parliament called on the Commission to present proposals for amending existing Community rules on the transport of livestock, in particular with a view to:

— consulting the competent scientific committee on the duration of animal transport,

— presenting a harmonised European model certificate for transporters; harmonising route plans for long transport,

— ensuring that any member of staff handling livestock during transport has completed a training course recognised by the competent authorities, and

— ensuring that veterinary checks at Community border inspection posts include comprehensive inspection of the welfare conditions in which animals are transported.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ C 273, 28.9.2001, p. 1.

Overview of Regulation

- Journeys over 8 hours
- Additional requirements
 - authorisation
 - stricter vehicle standards
 - vehicle inspection and approval
 - competent



SCIENTIFIC OPINION

EFSA OPINION 2011

Scientific Opinion Concerning the Welfare of Animals during Transport¹

EFSA Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

ABSTRACT

The Scientific Opinion on the welfare of animals during transport reviewed the most recent scientific information concerning the main farm species. New scientific evidence and consequent conclusions and recommendations were arranged following the structure of Annex I of EC Regulation 1/2005⁴. On fitness for transport, recommendations for cattle and poultry were focused on repeated humane handling and careful inspection prior to transport. On the means of transport, use of partitions in horse transport, compulsory fasting of pigs with provision of water at stops, and temperature limits for poultry were major recommendations. Maintaining stability of animal groups was recommended as good practice, with special emphasis on the need to avoid mixing unfamiliar pigs or goats. On watering and feeding intervals, journey times and resting periods, journey duration should not exceed 12 hours for horses and 29 hours for cattle. Horses should be supplied with water one hour before and one hour after transport, and for cattle there should be a 24 hour recovery period with access to food and water. For rabbits, time spent inside the containers during lairage should be considered journey time. Space allowance for horses should be given in terms of kg/m² instead of m²/animal. For cattle and sheep, it is recommended that space allowances should be calculated according to an allometric equation relating size to body weight. Limits for stocking densities of broilers in containers should be related to thermal conditions. On the navigation systems, temperature monitoring systems should be incorporated. Minimum standards should be established regarding data type to be recorded, the system and the on-board architecture. Recommendations for further research focused on the thermal limits and regulation for poultry and rabbits, the effects of ventilation on pigs, space allowance for rabbits, newly hatched chicks and pigs, optimal journey times for horses, pigs and calves.

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¹ On request from the European Commission, Question No EFSA-Q-2010-00053 adopted on 2nd December 2010.

² Panel members: Anette Botner, Donald Broom, Marcus Dobner, Mariano Domingo, Joerg Hartung, Linda Keeling, Frank Koenen, Simon More, David Morton, Pascal Oltenacu, Albert Osterhaus, Fulvio Salati, Mo Salman, Moez Sanaa, Michael Sharp, Jan Stegeman, Endre Sziics, Hans-Hermann Thulke, Philippe Vanier, John Webster, Martin Wierup. Correspondence: AHAW@efsa.europa.eu

³ Acknowledgement: The Panel wishes to thank the members of the Working Group on the Welfare of Animals during Transport: Donald Broom, Silvana Diverio, Joerg Hartung, Johann Hofherr, Toby Knowles, Bert Lambooi, Malcolm Mitchell, Leonardo Nanni Costa, Moez Sanaa, Endre Sziics, Antonio Velarde, Eberhard Von Borrell, John Webster and Martin Wierup and EFSA staff: Oriol Ribó for the support provided to this scientific opinion. The participants at the Stakeholder Technical Meeting held at EFSA-Parma on 13 October 2010 are gratefully acknowledged for the useful discussions during the meeting and the information provided.

⁴ Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97. OJ L 3, 5.1.2005, 1–44

Suggested citation: EFSA Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW); Scientific Opinion concerning the welfare of animals during transport. EFSA Journal 2011;9(1):1966.[125 pp.].doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2011.1966. Available online: www.efsa.europa.eu/efsajournal.htm

Identified recommendations for improvement and development



Impact of the Regulation - SANCO (2011)

- The Regulation has had beneficial impact on the welfare of animals during transport, but there is room for improvement of the situation
- An amendment of the Regulation is not the most appropriate approach to address the identified problems
- As regards the gap between the requirements of the legislation and available scientific evidence the Commission sees that this is best addressed by the adoption of guides to good practice



Protection of animals in transit

- The development of Guides to Good Practice is a key objective also of FVO as indicated in the Work Plan of 2015



Transport Guides

- Therefore a project was commissioned by DG SANTE to produce Guides to Good Practice for cattle, sheep, pigs, horses and poultry in the European Union
- “Transport Guides”
- <http://animaltransportguides.eu/>



Transport Guides

Guides to Good Practice

- ‘*Transport Guides*’ aims to develop Guides to Good Practice on the transportation of livestock species (horses, poultry, pigs, sheep and cattle) in the European Union
- Additionally the project will carry out different dissemination activities in order to enhance a uniform level of implementation of the existing

legislation



Transport Guides

Research Consortium

- 16 Representative organisations

- 9 Member States



- Stakeholder platform with 10 member organisations

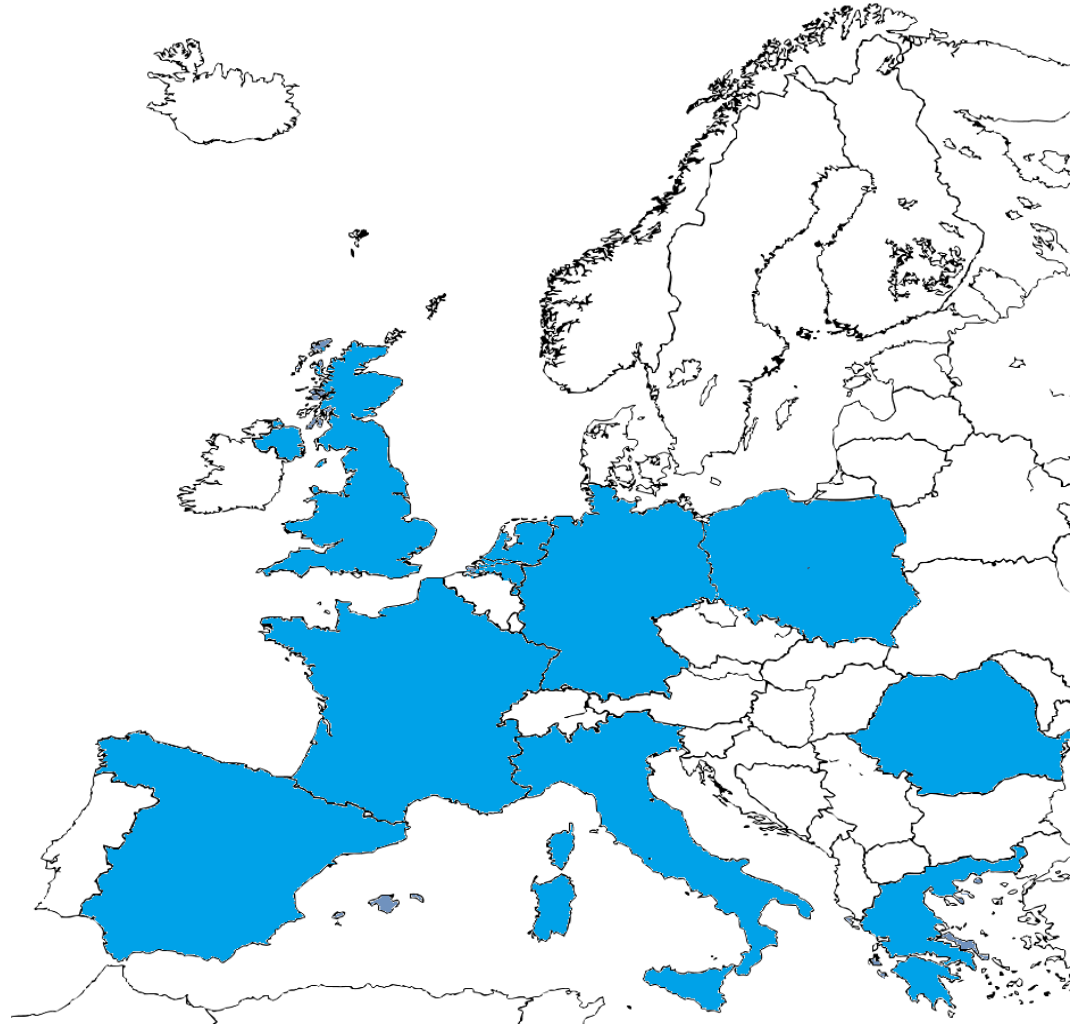


Transport Guides

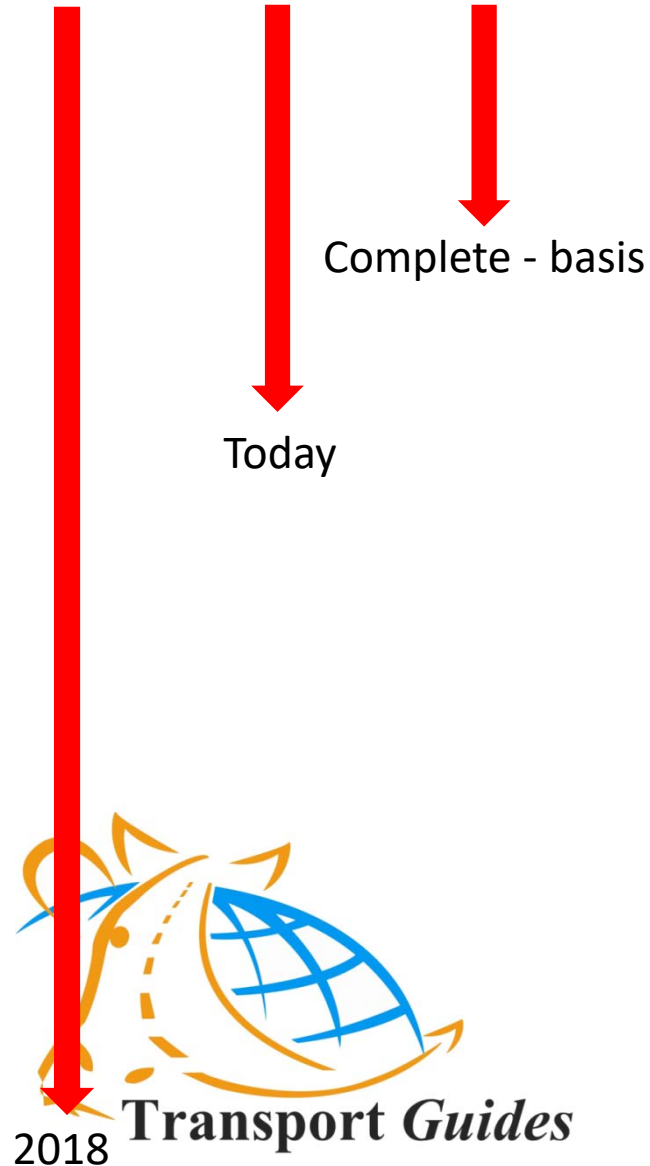
Participating countries



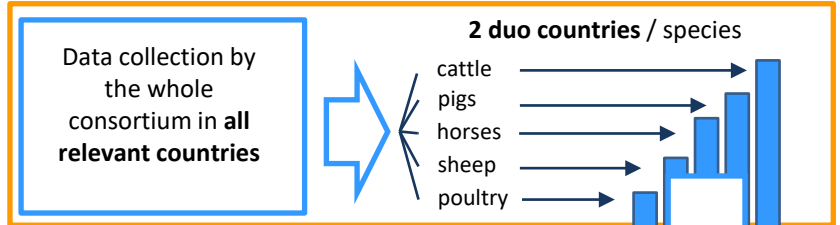
Transport Guides



Project overview



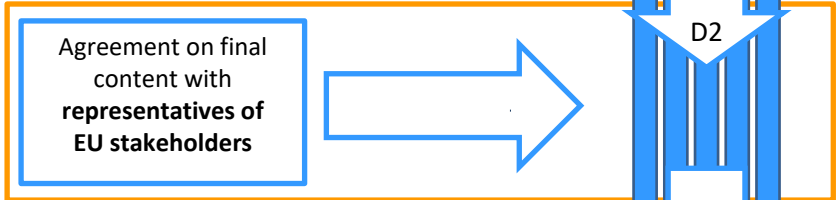
Task 1
Data collection



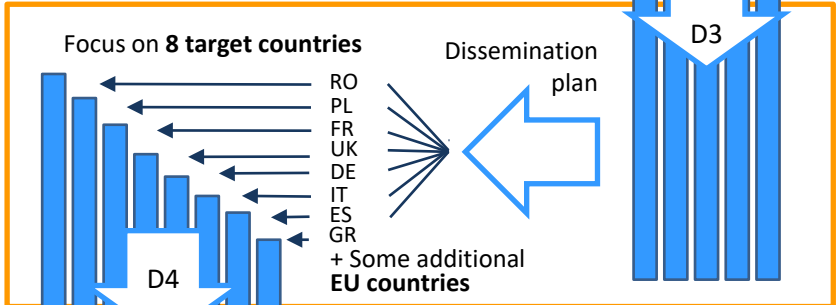
Task 2
Draft Guides



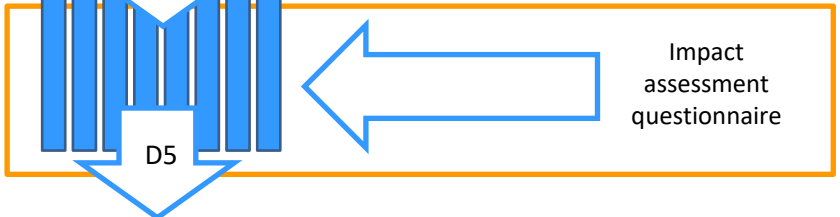
Task 3
Final Guides



Task 4
Dissemination



Task 5
Verification



Task 1

- The first phase of this project involved the examination of a wide range of information sources and literature to identify and evaluate available recommendations for good and best practices during all stages of transport of livestock



Operational definitions and objectives

- It is essential that we have consistent operational definitions of what we mean by “good practice” for purposes of completing



Operational definitions and objectives

- Good practices: **procedures and processes that ensure compliance with requirements of legislation** designed to protect the animals' welfare. Such practices and associated Standard Operating Procedures or Guidelines are not necessarily aimed at improving animal welfare above the minimum legal requirements. Good Practices are particularly important where the current legislation is insufficient to identify the intended minimum welfare standard (e.g. because the formulation is too vague, or because a specific aspect has been neglected)
- Best Practices: providing additional guidance on how procedures and operations can be **improved to exceed any legally defined minimum welfare requirements** and to increase the welfare status of the animals during the relevant periods and procedures



Objective of Task 1

- The primary objective of Task 1 was:-
To collect, collate, review and appraise and evaluate all appropriate scientific knowledge, existing guides / protocols, and relevant experience to support the development of Transport Guides



Description of Task 1

- The species defined sub-groups are
 - Poultry: Itavi (France) and HAO-VRI (Greece)
 - Cattle: Idele (France) and SRUC (UK)
 - Horses: IZS (Italy) and WLR (The Netherlands)
 - Sheep: USAMVBT (Romania) and IRTA (Spain)
 - Pigs: CRPA (Italy) and IFIP (France)



Sources of information

- Advice documents, guidance, guidelines, code of practice issued by Competent Authorities (CAs), veterinarians, Non Governmental Organisations or other stakeholder and industry groups including animal transporters, slaughterhouse operators, processors breeding companies, trade bodies and retailer guides and Quality Assurance schemes
- research organisations and training centres provided further information concerning existing codes of practice, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and guides to good practice
- Scientific and technical literature, EFSA Scientific Opinions
- Information and guides to good or best practice were identified in third countries including North and South America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand and European (non-EU) countries



Total number of sources examined

- Over 1500 potential primary sources were identified and examined
- The number of available/usable information sources and recommended practices varied greatly depending upon the species investigated
- A total of 190 sources were selected for inclusion Several of these refer to more than one species of livestock



Preliminary findings

- Data and recommended practices have been identified for all species (included in draft guides)
- The majority of the sources of these recommendations are freely available online, and directly accessible to a large international audience
- There is little information on the impact of existing recommendations for Good Practice upon actual practice



Preliminary findings

- Available guidelines relating to means of transport are often generic, and apply to all species
- There is general consensus in terms of vehicle design, particularly in relation to ventilation, but there is a lack of detailed information on how to operate these systems
- There is little advice on design and operation of on-board drinker (or feeder) system for use on long journeys



Preliminary findings

- There is little information available on good and best practices regarding emergency situations and driving skills
- There is also a lack of specific advice on practices relating to “long journeys” and the associated rest stops
- Only limited recommendations are available on documentation to be carried on board vehicles or relating to contingency plans.
- There is a lack of standardised training available in all areas



Training courses

- **Better Training for Safer Food program (BTSF)**, are train-the-trainer workshops aimed at official veterinarians (Welfare during Transport)
- The feedback of more than 150 delegates suggests that the great majority (87%) of trained persons were positive to very positive about the course
 - They indicate to have learned new knowledge and competences which make an impact on their behaviour during official controls and inspections. When asked, they preferred field activities in both the Basic as well as the Advanced training courses (43% and 75%), followed by traditional class training (35% and 12%). Less preferred was eLearning (22% and 13%). The trainees were asked if they initiated cascade training activities in their own countries after attending the BTSF course on animal welfare, and 65% responded positively.



Training courses

- FVE and the European Commission also organised **9 practical training workshops** for veterinarians on animal welfare topics across Europe. These workshops were ‘train the trainer’ events, with over 1100 participants (mostly veterinarians)



Training courses

- A survey among stakeholder groups related to the Transport Guides project
- What information sources are most use?
- Which sources had the highest impact on their work?



Training courses

- Replies were received from 40 persons of which 5 were transporters, 2 vehicle manufacturers, 5 official veterinarians, 6 farmers, 3 giving training to drivers, 7 private veterinary surgeons, 7 from animal welfare NGO's. The remaining 5 unaffiliated



Training courses

	AW NGO	Driver trainer	Farmer	Official vet	Trans-porter	Truck manu- facturer	Vet	Grand Total
Colleagues	5	3	4	5	3	1	3	24
Seminars	6	2	3	5	2	2	3	23
Self-learning	5	3	2	4	3		5	22
Guidelines/factsheets	6	3	4	3	2		3	21
Tech workshops	5	2	4	4	2	1	2	20
On-site training	3	3	1	4	2	1	2	16
Videos	2	3	3	2	2		2	14
SOPs	3	1	2	3	1	1	3	14
On job training	1		3	4	4		1	13
Online training	1	2	2	2	2			9
Cert. of Competence			1	1	4		1	7
Total responses	7	3	6	5	5	2	7	35



Training courses

	AW NGO	Driver trainer	Farmer	Official vet	Transporter	Truck manufacturer	Vet	Grand Total
On-site training	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.2
Tech workshops	3.0	2.5	3.3	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.1
On job training	2.0		3.3	3.3	2.5		3.0	2.9
Guidelines/factsheets	2.5	2.7	3.3	3.0	2.5		3.0	2.8
Colleagues	2.4	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.3	2.0	2.3	2.8
Seminars	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.0	2.7	2.7
Cert. of Competence			3.0	3.0	2.3		3.0	2.6
Self-learning	2.2	3.3	2.5	2.5	3.0		2.4	2.6
Videos	2.0	3.0	2.7	3.0	2.0		2.0	2.5
SOPs	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.3	3.0	4.0	2.3	2.5
Online training	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	1.5			2.2
Total responses	7	3	6	5	5	2	7	35

Training courses

- We conclude that
 - Hands-on training (on the job, through technical workshops or on-site) is considered most effective.
 - Stakeholders on the ‘working floor’ learn most from other colleagues with direct and relevant experience.
 - Guidelines and fact sheets highly valued very much, in particular if they are practical and illustrative.



Summary 1

- Current European welfare legislation relating to animal transport is adequate but contains some inconsistencies and omissions
- Implementation of the Regulation is “patchy”, inconsistent and non-uniform
- It is difficult to effectively apply and enforce outwith the European Union
- There will be no major revisions or amendments to the Regulation in the immediate future
- It is proposed that the way forward is to produce and develop Guides to Good or Best Practice



Summary 2

- These should complement and support current legislation
- The guides should be based on all current practical knowledge, experience and scientific information
- The Guides should be developed in consultation with all appropriate stakeholders at every stage
- The Guides should be scrutinised and approved by stakeholders prior to publication
- The Guides should be coupled to appropriate dissemination and training



Summary 3

- Good Practice will ensure more uniform compliance with Legislation and the prescribed welfare standards across Europe (and beyond?)
- Best practice will encourage and support achievement of higher welfare standards that exceed current legislation minima



Summary 4

- 190 information sources have been identified and included as the basis for Draft Guides to Good and Best Practices for Animal Transport
- Industry concerns and requirements have been reviewed and the findings subjected to a Delphi exercise
- The proposed draft Guides have been developed for each species and forwarded to the stakeholder community



Summary 5

- Following a further stakeholder consultation meeting (September 7th – Brussels) we will move to development of the Final Guides
- Watch this space!!!!

<http://animaltransportguides.eu/>



Poster 43.18 Horse_Transport

All 16 partners



Transport Guides



Transport *Guides*

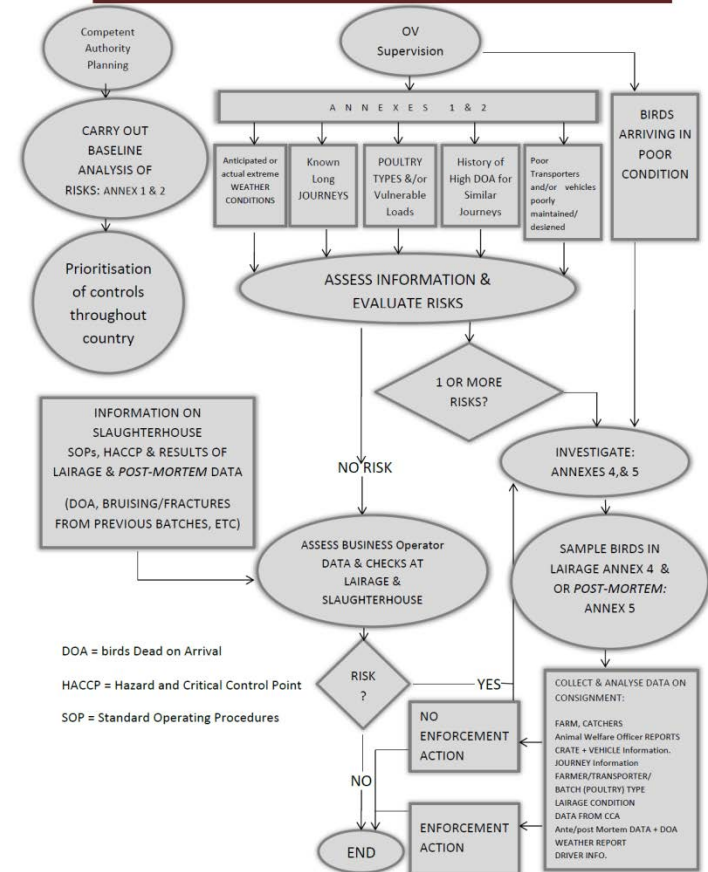


Network document on the Welfare of Poultry During Transport to Slaughter





Flowchart to Identify Consignments for Further Investigation Annex 3



livestock transport

cattle sheep and pigs
handle with care...

An information and training package
produced by
QMS
for farm animal transport



Transport Guides

Practical Guidelines to Assess Fitness for Transport of Pigs



Practical Guidelines to Assess Fitness for Transport of Equidae (Horses, Donkeys and their Hybrids)

