AUSVET

Biosecurity Standard Operating

Procedure

Transport from Port to Feedlot

Prepared for Trucking Company

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SOP EKS-01: Vehicle Pre-Transportation Planning and Preparation

Objective: Ensuring transport vehicles are ready for safe transport and minimise the risk of disease introduction and spread.

Scope: Trucks and/or ships transporting cattle.

Person responsible: Driver, Sanitation Team.

Procedure

1. **Vehicle Condition Check:**

    - Ensure vehicles have adequate ventilation for livestock welfare.
    - Make sure the vehicle floor is non-slip to prevent injury to livestock.

2. **Physical Cleaning (Initial Decontamination):**

    - Remove all visible organic material (dung, leftover feed, bedding, mud, plant material) from all surfaces of the vehicle (including the back compartmen)t, wall, tyres and wheel *wells*, before disinfecting.
    - Cleaning is a prerequisite for effective disinfection, as disinfectants cannot penetrate the surface of organic materials.
    - Spray the entire interior and exterior of the vehicle with water, including the tyres,*wheel wells*, and the underside of the vehicle
    - Use high-pressure water if cleaning at a location free from animals (avoid high-pressure water if cleaning at a location where there are animals as this can distribute infectious aerosols).
    - However, if cleaning without high-pressure water is impractical, high-pressure water is preferable to failing to clean a vehicle.

3. **Washing with Detergent:**

    - Wash the entire surface of the vehicle and the inside with detergent and water. Use a brush to clean the surface until clean.
    - Use high-pressure water if cleaning at a location free from animals (avoid high-pressure water if cleaning at a location where there are animals as this can distribute aerosols).
    - If washing without high-pressure water is impractical, high-pressure water is preferable to failing to wash a vehicle.

4. **Flushing:**

    - Rinse off all remaining detergent with water.

5. **Disinfectant Applications:**

- Spray an appropriate disinfectant (e.g. Citric Acid, Sodium Hydroxide, Sodium Carbonate, Sodium Hypochlorite, or Potassium Peroxymonosulfate) at the proper concentration and allow to sit for the contact time recommended by the manufacturer (see Table 1 - recommended disinfectant) on the inside and outside of the vehicle
- Pay special attention to the tyres and undercarriage of the vehicle, as they can carry contaminants.
- Disinfection without cleaning organic material will not be effective.
- Be aware of the product's corrosive activity.

6. **Drying:**

- Ensure no organic matter remains and excess water is removed before loading livestock.

7. **Recording:**

- Record all preparation and disinfection activities on the Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01).

Work Instruction (WI): WI-EKS-01: Truck/Ship Cleaning and Disinfection Procedure

Tools & Materials: Water hose, detergent, disinfectant (as recommended), brush.

Steps:

1. Empty all remaining manure, feed, and bedding from the vehicle.
2. Spray the entire interior and exterior of the vehicle (including tyres,*wheel wells*, bottom) with water (avoid high-pressure water if cleaning at a location where there are animals as this can distribute aerosols).
3. Apply detergent solution to the inside and outside, brush the surface until clean.
4. Rinse with clean water until there is no detergent left.
5. Allow the surface to dry partially.
6. Apply the disinfectant solution according to the recommended concentration and contact time to the inside and outside.
7. Let it dry completely if possible.
8. Visually inspect the vehicle to ensure it is clean and dry.
9. Record on Form-EKS-01, including the name of disinfectant used.

SOP EKS-02: Livestock Loading and Unloading Protocol

Objective: Minimise the risk of contamination and spread of disease during the truck loading process at the port and unloading at the *feedlot*.

Scope: The process of loading livestock in the port to trucks and unloading from trucks to *feedlot*.

Person responsible: Driver

Procedure

1. **Health Check at Loading Point (Document Verification):**

    - Make sure that every animal to be loaded has complete documents, including an Animal Health Certificate (SKKH) stating that the animal is healthy and fit to be transported.

2. **Recording:**

    - Record all loading details on the Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01).

Unloading Procedure at Feedlot:

1. **Personnel Hygiene:**

    - The driver should not make contact with the animals being unloaded.

2. **Recording:**

    - Record the unloading details on the Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01).

Work Instruction (WI): WI-EKS-02: Livestock Discharge Procedure

Tools & Materials: *Ramp*/ gangway, escort equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfectant (if available), Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01).

Steps:

1. Perform a brief health check on the animal (visual) before entering the vehicle.
    a. Standing
    b. Able to walk
    c. No severe injuries
2. Load animals onto vehicles according to permitted densities and groupings, making minimal contact with animals.
3. Record the loading details on Form-EKS-01.

Work Instruction (WI): WI-EKS-03: Livestock Unloading Procedure

Tools & Materials: Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01).

Steps:

1. The driver must comply with all biosecurity directions of the feedlot
2. Feedlot staff must prepare the unloading area, ensuring it is clean and disinfected.
3. Feedlot staff calmly lead the animal away from the vehicle (the driver should avoid making contact with the animals)
4. Perform a brief health check after the animal is unloaded (visual).
    a. Standing
    b. Able to walk
    c. No severe injuries
5. Clean and disinfect the unloading area immediately upon completion.
6. Record the dismantling details on Form-EKS-01.

SOP EKS-03: Livestock Management During Transit

Objective: Ensuring the welfare and health of livestock is maintained during the journey to minimise stress and the risk of spreading disease, especially foot and mouth disease (FMD) and lumpy skin disease (LSD).

Scope: Cattle during the journey from the port to the *feedlot*.

Person responsible: Driver

Procedure:

1. **Livestock Stress Management:**

- Stress can suppress the immune system and increase susceptibility to infection.
- void minimise the number and length of stops during transport to reduce stress and decrease the probability of disease exposure

2. **Stopping Restrictions in High Risk Areas:**

- Vehicles should not stop in infected areas (red FMD/LSD zones).
- If possible, a route that avoids disease outbreaks should be chosen

3. **Livestock Health Monitoring During Travel:**

- Monitor for clinical signs of FMD (drooling, limping, sores), LSD (discharge from eyes/nose/mouth, swollen lymph nodes, thick nodules on the skin) every 4-6 hours
- Monitor for signs of stress every 4-6 hours (e.g., panting, restlessness, dehydration) or other symptoms of illness.

4. **Recording:**

- Record all events and monitoring during the trip on the Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01).
- Signs of poor health or disease in animals during transport should be reported immediately to expedition management for further advice.

Work Instruction (WI): WI-EKS-04: Livestock Health Monitoring Procedures in Transit

Tools & Materials: Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01), drinking water, feed (if necessary), emergency medicines (if permitted).

Steps:

1. Check the general condition of the livestock every 4-6 hours including monitoring for stress (e.g., panting, restlessness, dehydration), illness (especially drooling, limping, sores, discharge, swollen lymph nodes or thick nodules on the skin) or injury.

2. Make sure drinking water is always available and feed is given according to schedule (if relevant).
3. If the group is showing unusually high levels of stress or illness or injury, report it to expedition management.
4. Record all observations and actions on Form-EKS-01.

SOP EKS-04: Expedition Personnel Hygiene and Tracking System

Objective: Prevent disease transmission through personnel and ensure traceability of livestock and vehicle movements.

Scope: Drivers, livestock guards, other personnel involved in the expedition, as well as livestock and vehicle movement data.

Person responsible: Driver, Expedition Management.

Procedures:

1. **Clothing and personal protective equipment :**

    - Drivers must wear clean work clothing (including clean and disinfected boots) when entering a feedlot.
    - Where possible, drivers should avoid handling animals or entering livestock areas on a feedlot.

2. **Hand Washing and Clothes Change Protocol:**

    - Wash hands with soap and change clothes/footwear when moving between locations or after contact with contaminated animals/areas.
    - Disinfect boots before and after contact with livestock and entering and exiting areas with livestock
    - Ensure soiled work clothing or PPE is washed/disinfected or disposed of properly.

3. **Biosecurity Training:**

    - Train personnel on the importance of biosecurity, identification of FMD and LSD

4. **Record Livestock and Vehicle Movements:**

    - Record all movements of animals (date, origin, destination, number) and vehicles (date, time, vehicle identification, driver name).
    - The Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01) can be used to record details of incoming/outgoing vehicle and personnel movements.
    - The Truck Activity Log Form (Form-EKS-01) can be used to record livestock identification details, origin, destination, quantity, as well as SKKH number and vaccination certificate.

Work Instruction (WI): WI-EKS-05: Livestock Driver/Assistant Hygiene Procedures

Tools & Materials: uniform and boots (if not entering livestock area), PPE (if entering livestock areas) soap, water, disinfectant.

Steps:

1. Always report to work in clean uniform and boots or clean PPE and boots if entering livestock areas.
2. Wash hands with soap and water after contact with livestock and/or equipment.
3. Disinfect boots before and after entering livestock areas.
4. Change clothes and footwear when moving from a dirty area to a clean area, or after finishing work.
5. Ensure boots are washed/disinfected after each new property. If clothes or PPE are soiled, these need to be changed between properties. If clothes cannot be changed, boots must be disinfected and the driver cannot make contact with livestock or enter a livestock area.

Appendix - Related Forms and Table

Form-EKS-01: Truck Activity Log

Date & Time	Driver	Location	Activity	Number of livestock	Details	Signature

Table 01: Disinfectant Recommended

Disinfectant	Application method	Rate	Warnings
Citric acid – anhydrous powder	Non-porous surfaces – apply solution for 15 minutes.	30g product/L	Corrosive product. Wear protective clothing and avoid contact with eyes and skin.
	Porous surfaces – apply solution for 30 minutes.		
Sodium Hydroxide	Clothes/footwear and small equipment: soak for at least 10 minutes.	Always dilute product with water = 50mL product/ L	Wear protective (water resistant) clothing, gloves, and safety glasses.
	Surfaces: apply 1-1.5L/m^2 and soak for at least 10 minutes – **DO NOT** used high pressure hoses.		
Sodium carbonate – washing soda crystals	Apply solution for 30 minutes.	100g product/ L	Mildly caustic for eyes and skin.
Sodium carbonate – anhydrous powder	Apply solution for 20 minutes.	40g product/L	
Sodium hypochlorite (bleach)	Clothes/footwear and small equipment: soak for 15-30 minutes	250 ml product/L	Product is corrosive to metals and toxic for eyes and skin. Wear protective clothing, masks and gloves.
	Surfaces: apply 1-1.5l/m^2 and soak for 15 minutes on non-porous surfaces and 30 minutes on porous surfaces. Do NOT use high pressure sprays.		
Potassium peroxy-monosulphate, sodium dodecyl benzene sulfonate and sodium chloride – e.g. Virkon powder	Clothes/small items and equipment: soak for at least 10 minutes.	20g product/L (2%)	Mildly corrosive for many metals.
	Surfaces: apply 1-1,5L/m^2. **DO NOT** use a high pressure spray.		