

Compulsory Code of Practice Land Transport of Livestock

BQ Communiqué dated 6 February 2014

On 31 January 2014, the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* was amended to include a compulsory code of practice for transport of livestock.

The code aims to protect the welfare of all livestock being transported. The code reflects national standards and aligns Queensland with other states and territories.

The code applies to anyone involved in the transport process for commercial and non-commercial livestock either by road, rail or by a road vehicle aboard a ship. The transport process starts once livestock are assembled prior to loading and continues until the animals are unloaded at the final destination.

The code applies to the following species of livestock:

- Alpaca
- Buffalo
- Camel
- Cattle
- Deer
- Emus
- Goats
- **Horses**
- Ostriches
- Pigs
- Poultry
- Sheep

There is a six month grace period which will expire 1 August 2014. The grace period is intended to allow people to become familiar with the code to ensure their livestock transport practices comply with its provisions.

Examples of changes under the code:

- Only livestock that are fit for the intended journey are to be transported.
- Maximum times livestock can be held off water during the transport process are prescribed. These times vary with the species, age and reproductive status of livestock.
- A person handling livestock during the transport process must do it in a manner that minimises stress.
- Electric prodders may be used sparingly on some species, but cannot be used in other species and in certain age groups. Electric prodders can't be used on any livestock less than three months old or on alpaca, emus, ostrich, pregnant goats, horses, pigs (less than 60 kilograms) or poultry.
- Dogs used in the transporting of livestock must be kept under effective control at all times. A dog that habitually bites livestock, other than cattle greater than 30 days of age, must be muzzled.

For more information:
click here to view the [code of practice](#)
contact Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or
or visit the website www.business.qld.gov.au.

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