



# Transport Decision Tree



## FIT ANIMALS TRANSPORT

- Those that will arrive at their final destination in good condition
- According to the *Health of Animals Regulations Part XII* and CFIA policies
- Consult also *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals: Transportation*.



## COMPROMISED ANIMALS<sup>1</sup> TRANSPORT WITH SPECIAL PROVISIONS\*

(*Health of Animals Regulations Part XII*)

### Examples:

- Bloating (with no signs of discomfort or weakness and not already down)
- Blindness in both eyes
- Open wound (severe open wound would render the animal unfit)
- Not fully healed after a procedure, such as dehorning or castration
- Minor rectal or minor vaginal prolapse
- Abscess
- Unhealed or acutely injured penis
- Unhealed broken tail or jaw
- Amputation or deformity (only if fully-healed and not painful. Horn cap injuries excluded).
- Fractured facial bones.



## UNFIT ANIMALS<sup>1</sup> DO NOT TRANSPORT

*Other than for veterinary diagnosis or care<sup>2</sup>*

### Examples:

- Unable to stand without assistance, or to move without being dragged or carried (non-ambulatory)
- Severe lameness\* (lame in one or more limbs to the extent that it exhibits signs of pain or suffering and halted movements or a reluctance to walk, or is lame to the extent that it cannot walk on all of its legs)
- Fractured limb or pelvis or a fracture that impedes its mobility or causes it to exhibit signs of pain or suffering
- Is in the last 10% of its gestation period
- Has given birth in the preceding 48 hours
- Uterine prolapse
- Severe cancer eye
- Arthritis in multiple joints
- Pneumonia (unresponsive with fever, e.g., Mycoplasma)
- Exhibits signs of a generalized nervous system disorder (e.g., rabies – must be reported to CFIA)
- Extremely thin
- Signs of dehydration
- Signs of fever
- Is in shock or dying.

\* See current *Health of Animals Regulations* (51)

### \*Special Provisions for Compromised Animals

Compromised animals, if loaded, must be transported **directly** to the nearest appropriate place, other than an assembly centre, where they can receive care, treatment, be slaughtered or euthanized - but only with the following special provisions (51):

- The animal is isolated
- The animal is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance, and
- Measures are taken that are necessary to prevent the animal's suffering, injury, or death during loading, confinement, transport, and unloading

#### Optional Provisions:

- Extra bedding
- Loading in a rear compartment
- Penning with a familiar companion animal
- **Other measures as appropriate**, e.g., veterinary assessment prior to loading when unsure of the animal's capacity to withstand transportation.

**Do not continue to transport an animal that becomes compromised or unfit beyond the nearest appropriate place where it can receive care, be euthanized or slaughtered.**

*Adapted from Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Beef Cattle (2013). Available at: [www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/beef-cattle](http://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/beef-cattle).*

<sup>1</sup> Section 136 (1) in Part XII (Transport of Animals) of the Health of Animals Regulations defines "compromised", and "unfit" and includes a list of conditions beyond those listed in this appendix that would render an animal compromised or unfit for transport (51).

<sup>2</sup> Section 139 (2) in Part XII (Transport of Animals) of the Health of Animals Regulations mandates that unfit animal can only be transported directly to a place (other than a slaughter establishment or assembly centre) for veterinary care if (51): it is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance; it is isolated during confinement and transport; measures are taken to prevent the animal's unnecessary suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading; and, a veterinarian recommends that the animal be transported to receive veterinary care.