Cattle and Sheep Welfare during Transport: What are the good and the best practices to improve this?

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Background

- Every year nearly 40 million farmed animals are transported between EU Member States.

- There are a lot of different transport practices in the Member States. Are they all adequate?

- ‘It can often be the case that one veterinarian or farmer assesses the animal’s condition and approves fitness for transport, only for a veterinarian further along the journey to declare the animal unsuitable for transport.’ – European Parliament
Implementation of the Council Regulation (EC)1/2005
(in force 1 January 2007)

Scientific Opinion EFSA 2011 (ref 064)
Impact Report 2012 (ref 151)

- 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.
ATG Objective

- Improve the impact of (EC) No 1/2005
- Proposals for further improvement of animal welfare during transport
ATG Aims

❖ To develop **Guides to Good and Best Practice**

on the transportation of livestock species in the European Union

❖ The species are:

❖ To reach a large number of stakeholders, i.e. transport companies, drivers, competent authorities, farmers, NGO’s and veterinarians
GOOD vs BEST PRACTICES

Good practices: procedures and processes that ensure compliance with requirements of legislation designed to protect the animals’ welfare.

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.
Transport is about people!
The ATG Consortium

16 Partners
10 EU MS
National working groups
National language, single species

19 Farmers
27 Transport Companies
13 Slaughterhouse Staff
12 NGOs
27 Veterinary Competent Authorities
## Species Focus groups

International, English, single species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmers</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck designers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesalers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Companies</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slaughterhouse Staff</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinarians</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Scientists</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stakeholder Platform

‘Strategic’ advice
Overseeing the whole project
Overall Approach

1. Collect as many Good and Best practices as possible
2. Structure & prioritise the list

1. Refine the content into a Guide
1. Communicate the Guide
2. Estimate the impact
Overview of Good and Best Practices

- 173 pages, 191 refs
- Structured according to (EC) Reg. No 1/2005
- 5 large tables
- 289 practices across 5 species

downloadable from website
The Animal Transport Guides
The Animal Transport Guides

Major restructuring
1. Competence
2. Journey planning and preparation
3. Handling & loading animals
4. Travelling
5. Unloading animals
6. Monitoring & evaluation
The Animal Transport Guides

Cattle

**Space allowance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Mean weight</th>
<th>Min. surface / animal (m²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small calves</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.30 to 0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium sized calves</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>0.40 to 0.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy calves</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.70 to 0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium sized cattle</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>0.95 to 1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy cattle</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>1.30 to 1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very heavy cattle</td>
<td>&gt;700</td>
<td>&gt; 1.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Journey time (including (un)loading)

- **Adults:** max. 14 hours + min. 1 hour rest + max. 14 hours
- **Unweaned lambs:** max. 9 hrs + min. 1 hour rest + max. 9 hours

*Followed by rest of min. 24 hours (unloaded, and provided with water and feed)*

### Cold weather

**Cold weather:** increase bedding / insulation and **remove wet bedding** after each trip (to prevent freezing onto the vehicle)

### Hot weather

**Hot weather:** use wet sand, wet shavings, sawdust or rice husks (instead of straw bedding)
FactSheets
ΕΚΣΤΡΑΤΕΙΑ ΕΝΗΜΕΡΩΣΗΣ
Οδηγοί Ορθών και Βέλτιστων Πρακτικών κατά τη Μεταφορά Ζώντων Ζώων

4-6 Οκτωβρίου 2017
12:00-17:00 μ.μ.
Κτήμα ΕΛΓΟ-ΔΗΜΗΤΡΑ, Ιδιωτική Κτηνοτροφική Εργασία
57001 Θεσσαλονίκη

5th and Final DairyCare Conference
19-20 March 2018
Thessaloniki, Greece
Road Show in Greece
Exhibition of trucks
...and videos

https://youtu.be/0zv1LWQEi1A?list=PLpC8eSF4MyA8IAzWVs-BD030RqyvSzLgy
Social media

Animal transport guides

https://www.twitter.com/Animal.transport@ATGuides
http://animaltransportguides.eu
Thank You!

DG SANTE
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD
HELLENIC AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION "DEMETER"
VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Partners and Stakeholders
Greek Team

All of You!