



Founded by
the Better Training for Safer Food
Initiative of the European Union

Animal Welfare during transport

Slovenia/Italy - 24-27 June, 2014

Draft Agenda

*Training activities on Animal Welfare mainly for EU Member States
under the 'Better Training for Safer Food' Initiative.
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Contractor:

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G.Caporale"

Sub-contractors:

Aarhus University (DK), Scotland's Rural College (UK), Università degli Studi di Milano (I)

Introduction

The Commission has been developing animal welfare legislation for over 30 years and has been at the forefront of initiatives to promote it internationally by its active participation in, and support for, initiatives of the Council of Europe and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and in the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

Animals are recognised as sentient beings by Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of European Union (TFEU). In formulating and implementing the Union's agriculture, fisheries, transport, internal market, research and technological development and space policies, the Union and the Member States shall pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals.

The European Commission adopted its EU strategy for the protection and welfare of animals 2012-2015 in January 2012. The strategy builds on the experience gained through the 2006-2010 Action Plan to propose lines of EU action for the next four years. This strategy in particular considers enforcement as priority and stresses the importance of training in this regard.

The EU has had legislation on animal welfare during transport since 1977. The legislation was last revised through Regulation (EC) 1/2005, extending the scope of the requirements to operations relating to transport, such as the handling of animals at assembly centres or in slaughterhouses.

Reports from the Commission's Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) highlighted important deficiencies concerning the enforcement of the transport legislation.

The EU strategy for the Protection and Welfare of animals 2012-2015 includes, as a key objective, support for international cooperation. At international level, the OIE has adopted standards on the protection of animals during transport.

Training in the areas of animal welfare issues is considered an important tool in view of developing best practices and compliance with the EU and international standards.

The relevant European context

The Commission adopted its report on the impact of Regulation EC 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport on 10 Nov. 2011 showing:

- Its impact on animal welfare during transport;
- Impact of the Regulation on trade within the EU;
- Socio-economic and regional implications;
- Implementation of the navigation systems;
- Enforcement of EU rules on animal welfare during transport.

The Commission based the report on an external study, an opinion of the European Food Safety Authority, reports from the Food and Veterinary Office and EU countries:

- Report on protection of animals during transport
- EFSA scientific opinion on animal welfare during transport
- Study - impact of Regulation EC 1/2005
- Executive summary of the Study
- Study key messages
- Food and Veterinary Office inspection reports
- Inspection reports from EU countries

Regulation EC 1/2005 overhauled existing EU rules on animal transport, defining the responsibilities of all actors in the transport chain to effectively enforce the new rules.

It offers more efficient monitoring tools e.g. checks on vehicles via navigation systems as of 2007, and stricter rules for journeys exceeding 8 hours, including a substantial upgrading of vehicle standards.

A Commission report on animal welfare during transport has shown that the application of Regulation 1/2005 since 2007 has led to improvements. Yet, the situation is still far from satisfactory mostly because of poor enforcement. The Commission opted for a stable legal situation for the time being to allow EU countries and stakeholders to focus on enforcing the legislation. The Commission does not envisage adapting the current legislation on transport of animals.

The Commission is considering non-legislative actions to improve the welfare of animals during transport. It will also examine the data concerning animals travelling excessively long journey times to slaughter.

In the actions that are part of the Animal Welfare Strategy (2012-2015), the Framework Law on Animal Welfare will propose new tools to improve enforcement of animal welfare legislation, including welfare during transport.

Specific learning objectives

The course will allow participants to achieve the necessary skills to:

- interpret relevant EU legislation and international framework (as the OIE guidelines);
- apply scientific basis for proper transport of the animals (animal behaviour, concept of stress and its implication in the quality of the meat, animal physiology in particular drinking and feeding needs);
- check transport conditions and records (fitness for transport, vehicle standards, space allowances, temperatures, travelling time limits, tachographs and navigation systems etc.);
- manage practical aspects of handling of animals (loading and unloading activities) and emergency care for animals during transport;
- assess the design of vehicles facilities (density, drinking devices, headroom, ramps of access, stalls when required, etc...);
- identify best solutions to achieve the requirements on control posts;
- facilitate the monitoring and proper enforcement of relevant animal welfare requirements during the transport.

The course will also provide practical training inspection in control posts complying with EU animal welfare requirements.

Agenda

<i>Chairman: B. Alessandrini</i>				
Day	Time	Activity	Tutor	Duration
24 June 2014	Morning	Arrival and transfer to the hotel	---	----
	14.30	Light lunch	---	45 m
	15.15	Welcome addresses	Italian Ministry of Health delegate M. Sedlbauer, Veterinary Administration of the Republic of Slovenia	20 m
	15.35	Course background, objectives, expected results	B. Alessandrini IZSAM	10 m
	15.45	Better training for Safer Food: training on AW during transport	B. Alessandrini IZSAM	15 m
	16.00	Enhancing implementation and increasing awareness on EU legislation on animal transport	D. Pritchard VCS	20 m
	16.20	Comparative assessment of FVO inspections in EU with reference to AW standards during transport	FVO Delegate tbc	20 m
	16.40	The opportunities of TRACES and TRACES enforcements for the Italian NCA	G. Greco Italian NCA L. Possenti IZSAM	40 m
	17.20	Transport of animals: OIE Animal Welfare standards and perspective	M. Villareal OIE	20 m
	17.40	<i>Panel discussion:</i> The application of the Council Regulation EC/01/2005: critical interpretation issues; controversial issues.	Chairman: D. Pritchard VCS	1 h
	18.40	End of the session and free time	---	1 h 20 m
20.00	Dinner	---	---	

Morning session Chairman: S. Messori

Afternoon session: D. Pritchard

Day	Time	Activity	Tutor	Duration
25 June 2014	09.00	Role of the Competent Authority in improving Animal welfare during transport	D. Pritchard VCS	30 m
	09.30	Road checks during long distance transport and social laws	M. Sapino Italian NCA	30 m
	10.00	Fitness of animals for the intended journey	M. Sapino Italian NCA	40 m
	10.40	Morning tea and coffee-break	---	20 m
	11.00	Group activity: case studies	Working groups	45 m
	11.45	Presentation in plenary session of the case study outcomes	Working groups leaders	30 m
	12.15	Predictive modelling of the responses of animals to transportation to assess welfare: the sound scientific basis for improvements in practice and legislation	M. Mitchell SRUC	30 m
	12.45	Discussion	All	15 m
	13.00	Lunch	---	1 h
	14.00	Introduction to the panel discussion: <i>Monitoring and control of AW during transport</i>	Chairman: D. Pritchard VCS	10 m
	14.10	Animal-based measures in the framework of animal welfare during transport	A. Dalmau IRTA	30 m
	14.40	Assessment of critical control point during journey, loading and unloading	A. Dalmau IRTA	30 m
	15.10	Effective veterinary checks in a changing system	M. Sapino Italian NCA	30 m
	15.40	Journey logs: contents and approval before long journeys	M. Sapino Italian NCA	20 m
	16.00	Cooperation experiences on official control concerning animal welfare during transport	G. Bacilieri Italian Ministry of Interior	20 m
	16.20	Afternoon tea and coffee-break	---	20 m
	16.40	Practical strategies to improve pre-transport handling and transport conditions with the objective to reduce losses in pigs	L. Faucitano Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	20 m
	17.00	Control Posts: legislation requirements, assessment, and good practices	S. Messori IZSAM	20 m
	17.20	Knowledge building in Animal Welfare during transport: an innovated approach	S. D'Albenzio IZSAM	20 m
	17.40	<i>Open forum</i> : questions and answers	Chairman: D. Pritchard VCS	50 m
18.30	End of the session and free time	---	1 h 30 m	
20.00	Dinner	---	----	

Chairman: S. D'Albenzio

Day	Time	Activity	Tutor	Duration
26 June 2014	8.15	Departure to the Polo Zooantropologico (Prosecco – Trieste)	---	45 m
	09.00	Panel discussion: stakeholders' perspective on AW during long journey transport*	Chairman: S. D'Albenzio	2 h
		<i>Open forum</i> : questions and answers	Participants: BO tbc C. Caponi G. Di Gennaro A. Ghilardi M. Sedlbauer M. Palei D. Manin NGO tbc	30 m
	11.45	Preparation of the in-field simulation exercise	M. Sapino Italian NCA M. Erario ASL Trieste	30 m
	12.15	Practical activity: an empty lorry will be available to simulate an inspection on the main truck features, according to the EU legislation in force	M. Sapino Italian NCA	45 m
	13.00	Lunch	---	1 h
	14.15	Transfer to the Fratelli Prioglio Control Post	---	15 m
	14.30	Visit to the Fratelli Prioglio Control Post. Participants will be asked to analyse the environment, the means and the operations (i.e. unloading, lairage and loading).	All tutors & G. Nabergoi F.lli Prioglio	2 h
	16.30	Return to the Polo Zooantropologico (Prosecco – Trieste)	---	15 m
	16.45	Group activity: discussion on the in-field exercise and preparation of ppt presentations	Working groups	1 h 45 m
18.30	Social programme	---	2 h	
20.30	Social dinner	---	----	

Chairman: M. Sapino

Day	Time	Activity	Tutor	Duration
27 June 2014	8.45	Presentation in plenary session of the in-field activity ppt reports. Final comments by the tutors	Working groups leaders	60 m
	9.45	Plenary discussion	Chairman: M. Sapino Italian NCA	15 m
	10.00	Influencing Animal Welfare policies at national level by active leadership	D. Pritchard VCS	30 m
	10.30	Course major outcomes and final conclusions	M. Sapino Italian NCA	30 m
	11.00	Brunch	---	1 h
	12.00	Transfer from the hotel to International Airports	---	----

Panel discussion programme

9.00 am	<i>M. Sedelbauer</i>
	The evolution of official veterinary controls on animal welfare during transport: the Slovenian experience
9.15 am	<i>M. Palei</i>
	The evolution of official veterinary controls on animal welfare during transport: the Italian experience
9.30 am	<i>D. Manin</i>
	Road Police experience on animal transport checks
9.45 am	<i>BO delegate tbc</i>
	Business operators' perspective for guaranteeing the protection of animals during transport and relevant initiatives in this field
10.00 am	<i>C. Caponi</i>
	Animal transporters' perspective for guaranteeing the protection of animals during long journey transports and relevant initiatives in this field
10.15 am	<i>G. Di Gennaro</i>
	How technology contribute to increase the welfare conditions of animal during critical transport phases: a good practice on poultry loading
10.30 am	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.45 am	<i>A. Ghilardi</i>
	Road vehicles for animal transport: evolution of technology
11.00 am	<i>NGO Delegate</i>
	NGOs' cooperation experiences with the Competent Authorities for guaranteeing the protection of animals during long journey transports and other relevant initiatives in this field
11.15 am	<i>Open forum</i>
11.45 am	<i>End of the panel discussion</i>

Training course methodologies

The course aims at improving participant practical skills to be applied in their daily work. They focus on developing the abilities of participants identifying critical points and solutions to main problems encountered in the everyday work.

Training methodology, drawn upon the experience of the trainees, takes into consideration that the trainee is in most cases already quite informed on the issues related to animal welfare standards.

On the basis of previous DG SANCO experiences and taking into account adult learning styles, the training methodologies will be the following ones:

Methods
Lectures by experts
Group works/facilitated group discussions
Study and discussion of typical cases
Structured exercises and simulations
Individual reading assignments and individual exercise
Demonstrations in field activities

A one-day visit to a Control Post complying with EU animal welfare requirements, will be organised for practicing simulation exercises.

Participants

Official veterinarians belonging to the National Competent Authorities of EU Countries, candidate and third Countries, involved in:

- enforcement of legislation on animal transport;
- official controls on document, structural and physical aspects of animal transport;
- development of best practices to improve the application of European norms and/or international standards (where appropriate).