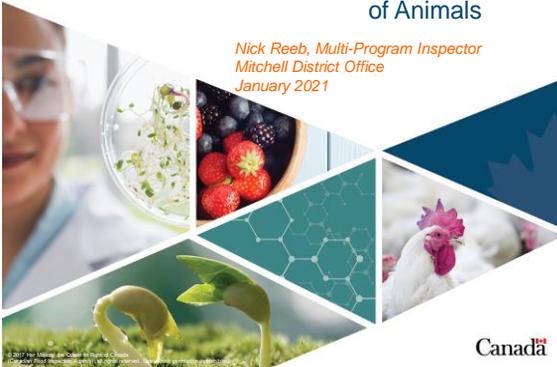


## Humane Transportation of Animals

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January 2021



Canada

## Topics

Overview  
Compromised Animals  
Very young Livestock (8 days of age or less)  
Lactating Animals  
Enforcement

## 10 HAR amendment highlights

- Knowledge** is required. → 138
- Risk factors** need to be assessed. → 138.3 (1)
- Contingency Plan** requirements. → 138.2
- Monitoring** of animals is required during transport. → 138.2(2)
- Unfit animal**: Defined in the Regulation → 139 (1-5)
- Compromised animal**: Defined in the Regulation → 140 (1-6)
- Provisions for more vulnerable animals** such as unfit, compromised, young livestock and lactating animals. → 139,140,141, 142 & 143
- Modification of the prescriptive requirements for:**
  - Ramp angles (external) → 145 (4)
  - Feed water and rest (interval without) → 152 (all -sections)
- Transfer of Care and related documentation** are required if the animals are transported to an assembly center or a slaughter facility. → 153 (1-3)
- Records are required** (for commercial carriers and person transporting animals in the course of business) → 154

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## Quick Background



- The HAR Part XII in effect prior to February 20, 2020 was enacted in **1977** and required modernization.
- Consultations have been conducted regarding improvements to the HAR Part XII since 1995.
- Pre-consultations and economic surveys provided more recent and supportive data.
- The amendment went to Canada Gazette Part I (CGI) in 2016 and received over 50,000 comments from over 11,000 respondents.
- The revised amendment went to CGI in 2019 and comes into force (CIF) on Feb. 20,2020.

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## Rationale for the amendment

- 1977**: Transportation of Animals requirements were first introduced. Animals were mainly transported across country by rail.
- Significant changes in the field of humane transport over more than 4 decades
  - industry practices and systems
  - transport technologies and infrastructure
  - research findings and data collection and analysis
  - consumer demands and societal expectations
    - Growing concern over how food is produced and animal welfare
  - international trade and reputation
    - OIE animal welfare chapters, standards of trading partners



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## Compromised animals



- A compromised animal must be transported **directly** to the **nearest** place:
  - where it can be humanely killed (e.g. abattoir).
  - where it can receive care (e.g. vet. Clinic).
  - that is not an assembly centre (e.g. no auction market).
- A compromised animal must be individually loaded/unloaded and isolated during transport (no interior ramp to be negotiated inside the conveyance).
- Measures have to be taken to prevent unnecessary suffering, injury or death during the transport continuum.
- FWR < 12 hours
- If an animal becomes compromised during transport: transport to the nearest place (for care or be humanely killed) or humanely kill the animal in the conveyance.
- In case of contravention with the previous provisions : an order of the veterinary inspector can be made.

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### Livestock, Camelids or Cervids of Eight Days of Age or Less

- **141 (1)** No person shall load, confine or transport livestock, camelids or cervids of eight days of age or less in or unload such an animal from a conveyance or container or cause one to be so loaded, confined, transported or unloaded, unless
  - (a) the animal is loaded and unloaded individually without having to negotiate any ramps within the conveyance;
  - (b) sufficient space is provided to allow the animal to lie down without lying on top of another animal;
  - (c) measures are taken that are necessary to prevent the animal's suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading;
  - (d) the animal is segregated from animals that are not livestock, camelids or cervids of eight days of age or less;
  - (e) the expected period of time between the beginning of the animal's loading and the end of the animal's unloading is not longer than 12 hours;
  - (f) stops during transport are made only to load other livestock, camelids or cervids of eight days of age or less; and
  - (g) the animal is transported to a final destination that is other than an assembly centre.
- **(2)** No person shall reload an animal referred to in subsection (1) after it has been unloaded at its final destination.
- **(3)** Paragraph (1)(c) does not apply to livestock, camelids or cervids of eight days of age or less who are loaded, confined or transported in or unloaded from a conveyance or container with their dam if to do so is unlikely to cause either animal suffering, injury or death.

### Regulatory Guidance

- **Determining if an animal is 8 days of age or less**
  - Producers are required to be able to identify young animals and have records of the animal's birth.
  - Inspectors will validate compliance based on:
    - the stage of healing of the navel. Research shows that the navel will be dry in 100% of **healthy** calves by 8 days of age. An unhealed navel is a signal to inspectors that this calf must be transported according to the provisions in section 141. Infected navels do not heal normally. Calves with infected navels are defined as "unfit" and cannot be loaded.
    - the outcome of transport: does the animal appear healthy and robust, and have a dried navel?
    - producer records including verification of animal identity, markings, and/or tags

### Regulatory Guidance

- **Why?** These young animals (8 days of age or less) have a reduced capacity to withstand the transport process (they are a type of "compromised animal"). Some of these risk factors include the fact that:
  - these young animals are at a developmental stage where **milk is their only food source**
  - they have a large surface area to body weight ratio, which makes them prone to dehydration, hypothermia, hypoglycemia and injury
    - they benefit from heated accommodation
    - bottle/bucket feeding with milk is required to prevent dehydration and nutritional deficit
  - they tend to be weak and lack coordination so:
    - they must not have to negotiate ramps in the vehicle
    - they need enough space to lie down
    - they need to be protected from crushing and jostling
    - they cannot withstand being repeatedly loaded and unloaded
  - these animals are likely to have an increased susceptibility to disease as they are immunologically naive and often have reduced colostrum intake from the dam

- **141 (1)** No person shall load, confine or transport livestock, camelids or cervids of eight days of age or less in or unload such an animal from a conveyance or container or cause one to be so loaded, confined, transported or unloaded, unless;
  - (a) the animal is loaded and unloaded individually without having to negotiate any ramps within the conveyance;



- **141 (1)** No person shall load, confine or transport livestock, camelids or cervids of eight days of age or less in or unload such an animal from a conveyance or container or cause one to be so loaded, confined, transported or unloaded, unless
  - (c) measures are taken that are necessary to prevent the animal's suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading;



One way to tell if an animal may be too young is to check the navel. A wet navel can be a sign of an animal being too young.

**MAKE SURE YOUR CALF IS FIT FOR TRANSPORT**

**CHECK THESE 8 BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE GATE**

Ears up

Correct tag

No scours

Bright eyes

Standing, walking

Breathing well

No signs of navel infection

No lumpy, red, good body condition

NOTE: • Only use one-way (closed) gates for loading and unloading of livestock. • Check each animal before loading and unloading. • The time to transport of 12 hours between the beginning of the last load and the end of the unloading. • Animals should be loaded and unloaded in the same order as they were loaded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT: [www.transport.govt.nz](http://www.transport.govt.nz) AND PHONE: 0800 999 999. INSPECT YOUR GOVZ ANIMALS

## Young Ruminants

**143 (1)** No person shall load, confine or transport ruminants that are too young to be fed exclusively on hay and grain in, or unload such animals from, a conveyance or container, or cause one to be so loaded, confined, transported or unloaded, unless the expected period of time between the beginning of the animal's loading and the end of the animal's unloading is not longer than 12 hours.

**(2)** No person shall reload an animal referred to in subsection (1) after it has been unloaded at its final destination.

Example: Person drives through county picking up young ruminants to raise on their farm. This person must not exceed 12 hours total time from the loading of the first animal to the unloading of the final animal (not 12 hours from final animal loading). These animals cannot go to an assembly site or auction facility but can be taken to another farm as long as they are only loaded with like animals and only unloaded at their final destination.

## Lactating Animals

**142** No person shall load, confine or transport a lactating animal, or cause one to be so loaded, confined or transported, in a conveyance or container without its suckling offspring unless the animal is milked at intervals that are sufficient to prevent mammary engorgement.

### Suckling offspring



### A cause to look closer

Dripping teats could be a sign of peak lactation/ mammary engorgement, and this would cause an inspector to look closer at the animal in order to determine if there is an issue. Other signs could be but not limited to;

- Animal can appear uncomfortable and reluctant to lay down.
- Mammary glands will be firm to hard and painful.
- Mammary tissue may be warm or hot to the touch.
- Mammary tissue may appear deep pink or red.
- Animal standing with hind legs apart.



### A cause to look closer



## Regulatory Guidance

- For example: a high value cow in heavy lactation and being milked regularly is moved or sold to another farm for production purposes. This is not an issue.
- For example: cull dairy cows (i.e. going for slaughter) that are still lactating and are transported, sometimes over several days, without being milked, which can result in engorged and painful mammary glands. This is an issue and is avoidable suffering.
- This is an outcome based requirement. Each case will be evaluated in context and on its own merits.
- **Note**
  - **Animals in peak lactation are defined as compromised** (see s.140(1)) in the regulation. The intent is to restrict animals that are producing large amounts of milk from moving through auction marts, often with repeated transport events, until their milk production and therefore their risk of suffering is reduced. The intent is to prevent mammary engorgement and the resulting discomfort and risk of complications. Animals in peak lactation that are being milked regularly to prevent engorgement will not be considered compromised.

## Enforcement

An inspector does not give penalties but rather completes a thorough inspection and when a non-compliance is noted, the file moves to the district veterinarian for review and then to our Management Review Team which would decide on the enforcement action. Some deciding factors are but not limited to;

- Compliance history
- Intent – was every precaution taken to prevent animal suffering
- Was there a negative outcome
- Severity of the potential non-compliance



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