

LANCS66 - SQA Unit Code HA93 04

Maintain the health and welfare of animals during transportation



Overview

This standard covers maintaining the health and welfare of animals during transportation. It is not intended to cover the driving of vehicles, but focuses on the role of maintaining the health and welfare of animals while they are being transported.

It is essential that during the transportation of animals, steps are taken to monitor the health and general well-being of the animals. Monitoring will include checking the animals for signs of stress, and recognising common symptoms of ill-health. The behaviour, appearance and bodily functions of the animals will provide clues to their well-being.

When working with livestock or machinery you need to be appropriately trained in line with current legislation, and hold a relevant competency award where appropriate.

This standard is suitable for anyone who maintains the health and welfare of animals during transportation.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 monitor animals' health and well-being at the required times to identify any causes for concern
- P2 maintain animals' health and well-being at optimal levels throughout the journey, consistent with relevant legislation
- P3 make sure that the journey does not exceed maximum allowed journey times
- P4 recognise changes in animal health and well-being that might signify stress or ill-health and take the appropriate actions
- P5 maintain the transportation environment in a manner and to a level appropriate to the animals concerned
- P6 take the appropriate actions to maintain the safety and security of the animals when you have to leave them
- P7 take the appropriate actions to maintain the safety, health and well-being of the animals, and minimise the risks to the animals when there are unexpected occurrences
- P8 maintain suitable levels of hygiene and bio-security
- P9 maintain records as appropriate
- P10 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and animal health and welfare legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies.

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 indicators of animal health and well-being
- K2 signs and symptoms of the deterioration of animal health and well-being, in relation to appearance, body functions and behaviour
- K3 when to monitor health and well-being according to the animals being transported, relevant legislation and the method of transportation being used
- K4 factors that cause stress to the animals
- K5 how to assess the significance of signs of stress or ill-health, the determining actions to be taken and their urgency
- K6 how to maintain the health and well-being of particular animals (e.g. through the provision of feed or water, breaks from travelling, and maintaining the transportation environment)
- K7 methods of maintaining the transportation environment for particular animals, and the levels to which it needs to be maintained
- K8 circumstances in which animals can be left and how safety and security may be maintained
- K9 the possible unexpected occurrences that may occur and how each may be best handled
- K10 the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security during transportation, and the methods for achieving this
- K11 the records that need to be maintained
- K12 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and company policies.

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Glossary

Minimising the animals' stress in relation to: the number of animals to the size of the transporter; environmental conditions

Current animal welfare legislation:

England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act 2006

Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act 2006

Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Welfare of animals during transport regulations 2006

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