

Veterinary Export Certification and International Trade Division

DOC No. TN VECIT 03/2021	Title: Protecting animal welfare during long journeys of livestock - Journey Log assessment	Version: 01	Issue Date: 15/07/21
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To: Live animal exporters, transporters, drivers/attendants and all operators organising or carrying out long journeys for the purpose of transporting livestock to Member States or to Third Countries.

Re: Protecting animal welfare during long journeys transporting livestock - Journey Log assessment

This notice is provided for advice only, is not legally binding, and is without prejudice to the rights and obligations on various parties set out in the relevant legislation.

1. Long journeys involving the transport of animals from Ireland cannot take place unless the operator holds a journey log that has been stamped by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (*the Department*) in accordance with EU Regulation 1/2005. A long journey means a journey that exceeds 8 hours starting from when the first animal of the consignment is moved.
2. In order to stamp a journey log, the Department must first be satisfied that any journey log submitted is realistic and indicates compliance with Regulation 1/2005. Journey logs will be required to demonstrate compliance with Regulation 1/2005 for the full duration of the proposed transport including any portion of which that takes place in a non-EU country.
3. If the Department is not satisfied that the journey log indicates compliance with Regulation 1/2005, it will require a change to the arrangements for the intended long journey so that the proposed journey can be brought into compliance with the requirements of Regulation 1/2005. Any failure or refusal to comply with a Department request to change the arrangements for an intended long journey or any failure to satisfy the Department that a long journey can be undertaken in compliance with Regulation 1/2005 will preclude the Department from stamping the journey log meaning that the transport will not be permitted to take place.
4. Compliance with Regulation 1/2005 includes a requirement that animals be transported in a manner that is not likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them.
5. The Department will have regard, *inter alia*, to the potential for temperature stress when assessing the likelihood of injury or undue suffering to animals during a proposed long journey. Temperature stress is recognised as a major welfare risk to animals during long distance transport. Long journeys of livestock through areas with prevailing high or low temperatures in mid-summer and mid-winter means that the risk to animal welfare is increased which, in turn, increases the risk of injury or undue suffering to animals.
6. In the circumstances, given the increased risks associated with high and low temperatures, exporters and transporters are advised to consider that:

animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie

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- a) When organising long journeys of livestock through areas with prevailing high and low temperature in mid-summer and mid-winter, there is a greater risk of undue suffering to livestock, contrary to Article 3 of Regulation 1/2005;
 - b) The Department considers that transporting animals in temperatures greater than 30 degrees Celsius is likely to cause the animals injury or undue suffering contrary to the requirements of Regulation 1/2005. For this reason, the Department will only stamp a journey log and permit a long journey animal transport to proceed in temperatures of 30 degrees Celsius or more where the journey log provides sufficient detail to demonstrate that appropriate and effective measures have been put in place by the transporter to maintain a default temperature of 30 degrees Celsius or under inside any and all modes of transport intended to be used for the journey (or any part thereof);
 - c) Where the Department is not satisfied that a journey log contains sufficient detail to demonstrate that appropriate and effective measures have been put in place by the transporter to maintain a default temperature of 30 degrees Celsius or under inside any and all modes of transport intended to be used for the journey (or any part thereof) this may result in:
 - Transporters being required to change the arrangements for the intended long journey so that it complies with Regulation 1/2005; and/or
 - The journey log not being stamped.
7. Temperature recordings and records from navigation systems (GPS recordings) shall be made available to the Department on request in accordance with Regulation 1/2005. This applies to all journeys of livestock carried out over the previous 3 year period, and records should therefore be maintained by operators for at least a 3 year period.
- Operators are requested to make temperature recordings and records from navigation systems (GPS recordings) available to the Department no more than 14 days after the end of the journey, for all long journeys of livestock through areas with prevailing high and low temperature in mid-summer and mid-winter
8. Finally, the Department assesses proposed journey logs or voyage plans once submitted, in line with relevant legislation, and operators should note the following processing times for journey logs:
- Journey logs for intra-community trade with EU member states must be submitted at least 2 working days before the journey (this is the minimum laid out in Regulation (EC) 1/2005);
 - Journey logs for non-EU countries (with the exception of Great Britain) should be submitted at least 5 working days before the journey;
 - Exporters and transporters are strongly advised to engage with the Department regarding any planned long journeys of livestock at an early stage of planning in order to avoid possible delays, given that proposed journey logs, particularly to destinations outside Europe, require some time to process.



ANNEX

This notice is provided for information purposes only:

Role of Operators (journey organisers, exporters and transporters)

The basic principle applicable to all transport of animals in the EU is set out in Article 3 of Regulation 1/2005 as follows.

Recital 11:

“In order to ensure a consistent and effective application of this Regulation across the Community in the light of its basic principle according to which animals must not be transported in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them, it is appropriate to set out detailed provisions addressing the specific needs arising in relation to the various types of transport. Such detailed provisions should be interpreted and applied in accordance with the aforesaid principle and should be timely updated whenever, in particular in the light of new scientific advice, they appear no longer to ensure compliance with the above principle for particular species or types of transport.”

Article 3:

“General conditions for the transport of animals: No person shall transport animals or cause animals to be transported in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them.”

Operators should be familiar with the relevant requirements of all of the relevant legislation. This note does not intend to outline those requirements and Operators should be familiar with the relevant requirements of that legislation, including.

- The specific technical provisions applicable to transporters, keepers and assembly centres, are set out under Annex I of Regulation 1/2005.
- The specific requirements relating to journey logs, are set out under Annex II of Regulation 1/2005.

Principal Legislation:

- Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations;
- S.I. No. 675/2006 European Communities (Animal Transport and Control Post) Regulations 2006