



**PRODUCER**



**TRANSPORTER**



**STOCK AGENT**



**RECEIVALS**

## MAXIMUM TIME OFF WATER

| Species  | Age/status             | Maximum time off water                                    | Minimum spell period after maximum time off water |
|----------|------------------------|---|---|
| Cattle   | Adult –<br>> 6 months  | 48hrs   | 36hrs   |
| Sheep    | Adult –<br>> 4 months  | 48hrs   | 36hrs   |
| Goats    | Adult –<br>> 6 months  | 48hrs   | 36hrs   |
| Horses   | Adult –<br>> 6 months  | 24hrs   | 12hrs   |
| Camelids | Adult –<br>> 12 months | 24hrs (may be extended to 72hrs under certain conditions) | 12hrs   |
| Camels   | Adult –<br>> 6 months  | 48hrs (may be extended to 72hrs under certain conditions) | 36hrs   |
| Pigs     | Adult                  | 24hrs (may be extended to 72hrs under certain conditions) | 12hrs   |

This also includes mustering, yarding, loading and transport where livestock have no access to water. However, the maximum time off water can vary greatly depending on species and circumstances. For example, for pregnant or young animals, there are reduced maximum times allowed.

Check the standards before each journey, visit:

[www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au](http://www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au)



**What you need to know before the journey**

The new national standards have been developed by industry, welfare organisations and government and will be regulated by State and Territory governments

These standards and guidelines cover the transport of livestock by road and rail, and by livestock transport vehicle aboard a ship.

They apply to the following species in Australia —

- alpacas
- buffalo
- camels
- cattle
- deer
- emu
- goats
- horses
- ostrich
- pigs
- sheep
- poultry:
  - meat chickens
  - layers
  - turkeys
  - ducks
  - geese
- pheasants
- guinea fowl
- partridge
- quail
- pigeons.

[www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au](http://www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au)

# Transporting livestock in Australia—new rules



New national standards for the transport of livestock have been developed. Unlike previous Codes of Practice, the standards are the same across all States and Territories.

This brings consistency to the way livestock are transported nationally, and aims to ensure good welfare practices for all livestock journeys.

The standards cover:

- Planning and preparation for transport
- Time off water
- Fit to load

[www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au](http://www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au)

## Livestock transport essentials

### Planning and preparation for transport

- Identify all people responsible for the care, management and handling of livestock at all stages of the transport process and make them aware of their responsibilities.
- Ensure adequate planning and contingency measures are put in place to minimise risks to livestock welfare.
- Ensure that livestock transport vehicles and facilities for holding, loading and unloading are constructed, maintained and operated to minimise risks to livestock welfare.
- Livestock selected for transport must be fit for the intended journey.



### Maximum time allowed off water

The standard regarding specific requirements for time off water must be adhered to—visit:

[www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au](http://www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au)



### Fit to Load

Livestock prepared and selected for transport must be **fit** for the intended journey. They must be healthy and free from disease.

Livestock must be handled, loaded, transported and unloaded in a manner that minimises risks to livestock welfare.

Where it is necessary to destroy livestock, it must be done promptly, safely and humanely.

Information to help you to decide if an animal is fit to load is available at:

[www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au](http://www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au)

There is other information available, for example, the MLA “Is it fit to load” guide.

