

NATIONALLY AGREED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (NASOP)

Title: Management of livestock in transit at the time a livestock standstill is declared for Foot and Mouth Disease

Version: 1.2

Prepared by: Subcommittee on Emergency Animal Diseases

Approved by: Animal Health Committee

Revision history:	Version	Date of approval	Comments
	1.1	13/01/08	AHA website
	1.2	02/05/11	Approved by AHC

NASOPs support national consistency and provide guidance to response personnel undertaking operational tasks.

1. Purpose

- To provide guidance on how to manage livestock in transit at the time a livestock standstill is declared for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and to ensure that livestock are managed under a consistent framework.

2. Application/Scope

- The livestock standstill applies in a jurisdiction from the time that the relevant legal declaration becomes functional in that jurisdiction.
- The standstill will be enacted for a minimum of 72 hours.
- The livestock standstill will apply to all species prescribed in the order.
- Livestock in transit refers to:
 - livestock loaded in vehicles (air, land, sea) that have departed the point of loading and
 - livestock that are travelling on foot between premises via public or private land.
- This NASOP describes minimum requirements to be applied during the standstill. Individual jurisdictions may impose additional movement restrictions based on assessment of risk.

3. Resources/equipment

- legal instruments that restrict livestock movements as part of a national livestock standstill
- permit system for managing livestock movements during a national livestock standstill
- effective communications infrastructure and plan
- standstill implementation plan including interagency commitments

4. Warnings

- Effective implementation of the national livestock standstill depends upon:
 - the rapid and effective notification of affected industry parties
 - the cooperation of all industry affected parties
 - effective legislation and regulatory environment and
 - adequate resources.

- The livestock standstill provisions should not be confused with the provisions of a Control Area or Restricted Area which would be invoked in a jurisdiction following diagnosis of FMD.
- During the national livestock standstill, new movement of livestock to or from premises is prohibited, unless under permit
- After the standstill is lifted, livestock movement restrictions will be determined according to the disease situation and risk assessment.
- The lifting of the standstill may occur at different times in different jurisdictions.

5. Description of activities

- As a matter of urgency, all affected industries must be immediately notified of the national livestock standstill [Refer to NASOP 20: *Notification of affected industry parties when a livestock standstill is declared*]
- Livestock in transit in vehicles within a jurisdiction may continue their journey without a permit, provided that:
 - the journey did not commence in another jurisdiction and
 - the journey can be completed within 4 hours of declaration of the standstill and
 - the movements are:
 - from farm to farm or feedlot or
 - to an abattoir or
 - livestock returning to their property or place of pick-up.
- The movement of all other livestock in transit must cease and further movement is allowed only in accordance with guidelines in Appendix 1 and based on a risk assessment described in Appendix 2.
- Livestock can be moved to an abattoir only where there is prior agreement that the consignment will be accepted and slaughtered as soon as practicable (within 24 hours).
- Low risk routes should be used and any stopovers managed to reduce risk.
- In all cases where movement is permitted other than for slaughter, the livestock should be isolated at the new destination and person in charge instructed to contact the jurisdictional regulatory authority/private veterinarian to report any signs of disease.

6. References

- AUSVETPLAN Disease Strategy Manual Foot and Mouth Disease
- NASOP 20: *Notification of affected industry parties when a livestock standstill is declared*
- NASOP 21: *Manage security of a saleyard - During a livestock standstill*
- NASOP 37: *Standstill - Managing welfare of stock subject to movement restrictions in a saleyard*
-

7. Appendices

- Appendix 1: Movement control guidelines for susceptible livestock in transit when a national livestock standstill is declared
- Appendix 2: Risk assessment of livestock in transit when a national livestock standstill is declared

Movement control guidelines for susceptible livestock in transit when a national livestock standstill is declared

ORIGIN OF LIVESTOCK	ORIGINAL INTENDED DESTINATION					
	FARMS	SALEYARD	FEEDLOT	ABATTOIR	SHOWS / EXHIBITIONS	EXPORT FACILITIES
FARM within jurisdiction (Single consignor)	Return to origin Proceed to destination farm (within State) Redirect to slaughter	Return to origin Redirect to slaughter Proceed to saleyard (P)	Return to origin Redirect to slaughter Proceed to feedlot	Proceed to slaughter Return to origin	Return to origin Redirect to slaughter	Return to origin Redirect to slaughter Proceed to export facility
FARM within jurisdiction (multiple consignors)	Proceed to destination farm Redirect to slaughter Return to original property(s) Proceed to approved property	Return to origin property(s) Redirect to slaughter Proceed to approved property	Return to origin property(s) Redirect to slaughter Proceed to feedlot Proceed to approved property	Proceed to slaughter Proceed to approved property (P)	Return to origin property(s) Redirect to slaughter	Return to origin property(s) Redirect to slaughter Proceed to export facility
SALEYARD within jurisdiction	Redirect to slaughter Return to saleyard Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter Return to origin saleyard Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter Return to saleyard Proceed to feedlot (P) Proceed to approved property (P)	Proceed to slaughter Return to saleyard Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter Return to saleyard Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter Return to saleyard Proceed to approved property (P)
FEEDLOT within jurisdiction	Return to origin Redirect to slaughter Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter Return to origin Proceed to approved property (P)	Return to origin Redirect to slaughter Proceed to approved property (P)	Proceed to slaughter Return to feedlot	Return to feedlot Redirect to slaughter Proceed to approved property (P)	Return to origin (P) Redirect to slaughter (P) Proceed to export facility (P) Proceed to approved property (P)
SHOWS / EXHIBITIONS (or other congregation of susceptible livestock) within jurisdiction	Return to show/exhibition (P) Proceed to approved property (P) Redirect to slaughter	Return to show/exhibition Proceed to approved property (P) Redirect to slaughter	Return to show/exhibition Proceed to approved property Redirect to slaughter	Proceed to slaughter Return to show/exhibition Proceed to approved property (P)	Return to show/exhibition Proceed to approved property (P) Redirect to slaughter	Return to show/exhibition Proceed to approved property (P) Redirect to slaughter
EXPORT FACILITY within jurisdiction	Redirect to slaughter Return to origin Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter Return to origin	Return to export facility Redirect to slaughter	Proceed to slaughter Return to export facility Proceed to approved property (P)	N/A	Redirect to slaughter Return to origin
INTERSTATE (Not yet entered jurisdiction)	Entry prohibited	Entry prohibited	Entry prohibited	Entry prohibited Proceed to slaughter (P)	Entry prohibited	Entry prohibited
INTERSTATE (Already entered jurisdiction.)	Redirect to slaughter (P) Return to origin (P) Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter (P) Return to origin (P) Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter (P) Return to origin (P) Proceed to approved property (P)	Proceed to slaughter (P) Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter (P) Return to origin (P) Proceed to approved property (P)	Redirect to slaughter (P) Return to origin (P) Proceed to approved property (P)
TRAVELLING STOCK ROUTE / PUBLIC RESERVES (generally long travel distances) within jurisdiction	Hold on route / reserve Return to origin (P) Proceed to destination (P) Proceed to approved property (P) Redirect for slaughter (P)	Cease movement	Cease movement	Cease movement	Cease movement	Cease movement
TRAVELLING STOCK ON ROADS: PROPERTY TO PROPERTY (generally short travel distances) within jurisdiction.	Return to origin farm Proceed to destination farm	Cease movement	Cease movement	Cease movement	Cease movement	Cease movement

KEY **BOLD** = Preferred Option (P) = Permit required for further movement

RISK ASSESSMENT OF LIVESTOCK IN TRANSIT WHEN A NATIONAL LIVESTOCK STANDSTILL IS DECLARED

1. A risk assessment must be conducted prior to giving any advice/direction or issuing a movement permit to allow further movement of livestock in transit (as described in 4.4 of the SOP)
2. The risk to be assessed is the possible spread of FMD. The key factors to consider are:
 - Risk of livestock having FMD. (e.g. Higher risk if associated with stock from the area where FMD is suspected or confirmed).
 - Likelihood of disease spread (e.g. possibility of isolation and species present at the destination premises)
 - Consequences of introduction of FMD (e.g. High impact outcomes should be avoided, such as movements to areas, premises, property situations where there is a high density or congregations of susceptible species.)
 - Any risk treatments available (e.g. isolation facilities, quarantine and surveillance)
3. The risk assessment should consider all risks associated with the stock returning to property of origin versus proceeding to another destination.
4. Preferred movement options should consider:
 - Welfare implications. (e.g. Transport times & class of stock)
 - Value of animals. (e.g. Owners of high value animals may wish to hold them on an approved premises rather than re-directing them to slaughter.)
 - Regulatory implications beyond agriculture. (e.g. Road transport legislation – driver's hours, etc.)
5. If the movement originated from another jurisdiction, the authority in that jurisdiction should be consulted in the risk assessment.