



# ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDELINES

Handling of Animals at Tasmanian Livestock Processing  
Premises 2024

# Contents

<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1. Background.....	2
1.2. Purpose.....	3
1.3. Scope and application.....	3
1.4. Interpretation .....	4
<b>2. Animal welfare program .....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1. Animal welfare supervisor .....	5
2.2. Requirement for animal welfare program .....	5
2.3. Animal welfare monitoring and evaluation .....	6
<b>3. Staff competency in livestock processing operations.....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1. Management responsibilities .....	7
3.2. Staff recruitment, training, and development.....	10
<b>4. Infrastructure and equipment.....</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1. Design principles and specifications .....	11
4.2. Management responsibilities .....	11
<b>5. Livestock handling prior to slaughter .....</b>	<b>12</b>
5.1. Arrival and movement of livestock at the processing premises .....	12
5.2. Holding of livestock at the processing premises.....	13
5.3. Notification requirements .....	13
<b>6. Slaughter and emergency killing .....</b>	<b>14</b>
6.1. Restraint of livestock .....	14
6.2. Stunning of livestock.....	14
6.3. Sticking of livestock.....	15
6.4. Emergency killing of livestock.....	15
<b>7. Species-specific guidelines.....</b>	<b>15</b>
7.1. Bobby calves .....	15
7.2. Cattle.....	16
7.3. Pigs.....	18
7.4. Sheep .....	19
<b>8. Glossary .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>9. References.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>SCHEDULE 1: Animal welfare monitoring parameters .....</b>	<b>0</b>

# I. Introduction

## I.1. Background

1. Animal welfare considerations are of critical importance in primary industries, both in Australia and internationally. Animal husbandry and handling practices which may have once been deemed acceptable or justifiable are now being reassessed in the light of new knowledge and changing social values and attitudes. High standards of animal welfare are not only important from a legal and ethical perspective; they also have direct economic benefits and are becoming increasingly necessary for continued social licence to operate and for market access.
2. The *Animal Welfare Act 1993* (the Act) is Tasmania's primary legislation for preventing cruelty to animals, and to ensure the welfare of animals in all parts of the Tasmanian community. The Act is intended to promote continuous review and improvement of Tasmania's animal welfare system, which is reflected in the establishment and functions of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) under sections 39 and 40. The AWAC provides advice to the Minister on animal welfare matters, and its membership is drawn from a diverse range of Government, industry and community organisations with particular interest and expertise in animal welfare issues.
3. To further its objectives the Act also provides for the development of Animal Welfare Guidelines, which are approved by the Minister for Primary Industries and Water, after consultation with the AWAC, in accordance with section 44B of the Act.
4. Animal Welfare Guidelines are made for the education and guidance of individuals and organisations involved in the care and management of animals. They are advisory in nature and intended to promote the adoption of animal husbandry and management methods that prevent, eliminate, or minimise risks to animal welfare. In addition, they may be used by the Courts and regulatory authorities as a yardstick to assess the standard and quality of animal management; and they may also form the basis of mandatory standards that are prescribed by regulations under section 44A of the Act.
5. In December 2023 the Tasmanian Government established the Livestock Processing Taskforce in response to identified animal welfare concerns in several Tasmanian commercial processing operations. The Taskforce's Terms of Reference focus was to identify actions that will ensure an enduring animal welfare culture at the State's livestock processing facilities, led by a strategic implementation plan, and to make recommendations to the AWAC and Tasmanian Minister for Primary Industries.
6. The key task of the Tasmanian Livestock Processing Taskforce is to assist the Government to develop guidelines and strategies to ensure an enduring animal welfare culture at the State's livestock processing operations (abattoirs and knackereries). Taskforce members include representatives from:
  - TasFarmers (formerly Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers)

- Dairy Tasmania
  - Sprout Tasmania
  - Livestock Transport Industry
  - RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)
  - Australian Meat Industry Council
  - The Department of State Growth
  - Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (Biosecurity Tasmania)
7. The *Animal Welfare Guidelines – Handling of Animals at Tasmanian Livestock Processing Premises 2024* (“these Guidelines”) have been developed by the Tasmanian Government in consultation with the Tasmanian Livestock Processing Taskforce and are based on draft *Australian Animal Welfare Guidelines – Livestock at Processing Establishments* (currently in development), and the *Industry Animal Welfare Standard for Livestock Processing Establishments Preparing Meat for Human Consumption* published by the Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC).<sup>1</sup>

## 1.2. Purpose

8. The purpose of these Guidelines is to protect and underpin animal welfare by promoting animal handling practices in livestock processing premises that prevent, eliminate, or minimise animal pain and suffering so far as is reasonably practicable.
9. These Guidelines endeavour to reflect and set out, at the time of writing, the available scientific knowledge, accepted industry practices, and community expectations in respect of animal welfare at livestock processing premises.

## 1.3. Scope and application

10. These Guidelines apply to Tasmanian livestock processing operations that slaughter animals for human or animal consumption, or to produce non-edible animal products such as leather hides, tallow, blood and bone and other similar products.
11. Businesses covered by these Guidelines include abattoirs and knackereries. They do not apply to home slaughter for personal consumption (but may be used to provide guidance for home slaughter). They also do not apply to wild or feral animals hunted or culled in the field before transport to a processing premises, or to animal depopulation as a biosecurity response.
12. The Guidelines are scalable and apply to all relevant livestock processing premises, regardless of size and throughput capacity. Species-specific guidelines are provided for cattle, pigs, and sheep, which are the main abattoir animals commercially processed in Tasmania; however, general guidelines may be referenced (where applicable) for processing other species of livestock.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://amic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/AMIC-Ed-3-Industry-Animal-Welfare-Standard\\_Final-effective-1-Jan-2022.pdf](https://amic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/AMIC-Ed-3-Industry-Animal-Welfare-Standard_Final-effective-1-Jan-2022.pdf)

13. These Guidelines are not a set of statutory rules and do not on their own create legally binding obligations, as would be the case with mandatory standards prescribed under section 44A of the Act. However, compliance with these Guidelines may be required through statutory mechanisms such as accreditation conditions<sup>2</sup> or enforceable instructions issued under section 14 of the Act. Livestock processors are, in any event, strongly encouraged to use and apply these Guidelines as a key management and animal welfare assurance tool for their enterprise.

#### 1.4. Interpretation

14. In these Guidelines, as the context requires –
- (a) the phrase “is to” (or “are to” in plural form) is to be construed as being directory and indicative of a minimum requirement for compliance with the relevant guideline; and
  - (b) the word “should” is to be construed as being advisory and indicative of a recommendation; and
  - (c) words in the singular shall include the plural and words in the plural shall include the singular; and
  - (d) where any word or phrase is defined every derivative of that word or phrase shall have a meaning corresponding with the definition; and
  - (e) words or phrases are to be accorded their normal dictionary meaning, as applied to the situation or facts, unless a definition is provided which modifies the normal dictionary meaning.<sup>3</sup>
15. The person who is responsible for meeting each guideline is normally specified in the guideline. Most guidelines are expressed as applying to the livestock processor, which may include, for example, the owner of the livestock processing premises, the Board, General Manager or any other person or entity who is apparently in charge of the livestock processing operation.
16. Guidelines may also be expressed to apply generally, i.e., to a livestock processing operation or, for example, to persons directly responsible for the care and management of livestock that are handled at a livestock processing premises, including plant managers or quality assurance managers, processing staff, stock persons and animal handlers.
17. In cases where a species-specific guideline applies, the specific guideline is intended to reinforce and be read with any corresponding general guideline. All guidelines are to be interpreted and applied in the way that best achieves the outcomes specified at the start of the chapter in which the guideline appears.
18. Definitions of key terms are provided in the Glossary at the end of this document.

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<sup>2</sup> Most commercial livestock processors are required by law to hold a statutory accreditation under the *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011* which is conditional on compliance with animal welfare related standards.

<sup>3</sup> Some key terms such as “**suffering**” and “**pain**” are used in the Act but not defined (in the Act or these Guidelines) to ensure their normal dictionary meanings apply.

## 2. Animal welfare program

### Outcomes

1. The responsibilities of personnel for the care and management of the livestock in a livestock processing operation are identified, and staff are aware of, and are accountable for their responsibilities.
2. The livestock processing operation has a person responsible for overseeing and reporting to management on animal welfare at the livestock processing premises (an animal welfare supervisor).
3. Appropriate and achievable procedures are implemented and maintained in a livestock processing operation to achieve continuous improvement in animal welfare, including adequate planning and contingency measures.

### 2.1. Animal welfare supervisor

19. A livestock processing operation is to have at least one designated person within the operation (an “animal welfare supervisor”) who holds the primary responsibility for performing the following functions:
  - (a) overseeing animal welfare at the livestock processing premises;
  - (b) reporting animal welfare incidents and issues to management, and (in cases involving a suspected animal welfare related offence) to an Authorised Officer; and
  - (c) record keeping in accordance with these Guidelines.
20. The animal welfare supervisor is to have formal training (such as a certificate from a registered training organisation) or demonstrated competency and experience in the operations and animal welfare considerations for all areas of processing in which live animals are present. The animal welfare supervisor should also have specific knowledge of the species or class of species being handled at the livestock processing premises.
21. The livestock processor is to ensure that the animal welfare supervisor is a person who has never been convicted of an animal welfare related offence.

### 2.2. Requirement for animal welfare program

22. The livestock processor is to prepare and implement a documented animal welfare program which –
  - (a) is specific to the livestock processing operation, and covers all premises where the handling of live animals occurs; and
  - (b) has been approved in writing by the Chief Veterinary Officer or, in the case of a livestock processing premises approved by the Commonwealth Government to supply meat or livestock products for export from Australia, the relevant Commonwealth Government authority; and
  - (c) is subject to ongoing review and verification activities by or on behalf of the livestock processor; and

- (d) promotes the continuous improvement in animal welfare at the livestock processing premises; and
  - (e) in the case of a livestock processing operation with an approved food safety program, is designed to operate with and complement the food safety program.<sup>4</sup>
23. The animal welfare program is to include written procedures for (without limitation) –
- (a) the systematic examination and monitoring of animal handling activities within the livestock processing operation to –
    - (i) identify potential animal welfare risks and any non-conformance with these Guidelines; and
    - (ii) implement effective control measures to address those risks, issues, or non-conformance; and
  - (b) the collection of evidence to show –
    - (i) the systematic examination and monitoring referred to in paragraph (a) has been undertaken; and
    - (ii) that control measures for the identified animal welfare risks, issues or non-conformance have been implemented; and
  - (c) verification of the effectiveness of those control measures.
24. An animal welfare program implemented in accordance with these Guidelines is to include (without limitation) the conduct of performance reviews at the livestock processing operation at least once annually, which consider –
- (a) individual animal welfare incidents; and
  - (b) trends in animal welfare issues at the livestock processing premises; and
  - (c) staff competencies; and
  - (d) management and staff conformance with these Guidelines.

### **2.3. Animal welfare monitoring and evaluation**

25. The livestock processor is to ensure that livestock handling and operations at the livestock processing premises are regularly monitored by the animal welfare supervisor in accordance with the livestock processor's animal welfare program and these Guidelines generally.
26. Animal welfare monitoring is to be carried out using a combination of real-time physical inspections and implementation of a video monitoring system (VMS) to record and review activity at the livestock processing premises.
27. The installation, design and operation of a VMS is to be in accordance with the *Guidelines for Mandatory Video Monitoring in Tasmanian Abattoirs & Knackeries 2024* and is to record the following activity areas:
- (a) unloading animals from vehicles into lairage;
  - (b) movement of animals towards the stunning area;
  - (c) restraint and stunning of animals;
  - (d) exit of animals from the stunning area;
  - (e) hoisting of animals; and

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<sup>4</sup> It will be practical and appropriate for many livestock processors to have an approved food safety program and animal welfare program that are fully integrated and can be audited concurrently by the one auditor.

(f) sticking and death.

28. A livestock processor is to ensure the performance of the livestock processing operation is evaluated against the animal welfare monitoring parameters set out in **Schedule I** of these Guidelines.<sup>5</sup> If monitoring indicates that targets are not met, corrective action is to be taken to identify and implement improvements as soon as is reasonably practicable.

### 3. Staff competency in livestock processing operations

<b>Outcome</b>
All persons responsible for the care, handling, and processing of livestock at a livestock processing premises are to be competent and have the necessary attitude, knowledge, skills, and experience to uphold the welfare of animals at the premises.

#### 3.1. Management responsibilities

29. The livestock processor is to –

- (a) ensure there are adequate numbers of competent personnel present at the livestock processing premises during operations to fulfill the requirements of these Guidelines; and
- (b) ensure and be able to demonstrate that all personnel involved in the holding, handling, inspection, stunning and slaughter of animals –
  - (i) have the competencies (listed in Table I) that are relevant to their role and the activities they perform within the operation, and that these competencies remain current; and
  - (ii) have not, in the 10 years prior, been convicted of an animal welfare related offence; and
- (c) clearly assign and communicate to personnel their responsibilities.

**TABLE I:** Competencies by activity

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>			
	<b>Handling livestock</b>	<b>Premises management</b>	<b>Stunning and sticking</b>	<b>Animal welfare monitoring</b>
<b>I. KNOWLEDGE</b>				
Understand the importance of maintaining the appropriate flow and orderly movement of livestock to minimise stress	✓	✓		✓

<sup>5</sup> A minimum of 100 head of livestock, or 3% of the total number of animals processed (whichever is greater), should be assessed against the animal welfare monitoring parameters each month. If less than 100 head of animals are processed in a month, all animals should be assessed. The assessment should be spread, at minimum, over four sample times across the month and at different times of the day.



	<b>ACTIVITY</b>			
	<b>Handling livestock</b>	<b>Premises management</b>	<b>Stunning and sticking</b>	<b>Animal welfare monitoring</b>
Understand animal welfare risks and hazards	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understand the impact of stress on livestock	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understand the needs of vulnerable, weak, ill and injured livestock	✓	✓		✓
Understanding impact of out of specification livestock	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understand the environmental needs of livestock, including feed, water, space and shade	✓	✓		✓
Understand workplace policies and procedures associated with animal welfare and livestock handling	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understand how to humanely capture and restrain livestock	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>2. SKILLS</b>				
Demonstrate ability to achieve orderly flow and movement of livestock throughout the livestock processing premises	✓	✓		✓
Demonstrate animal handling techniques that minimise animal welfare risks and hazards	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate ability to identify and appropriately respond to stressed or injured animals	✓	✓		✓
Demonstrate ability to identify and respond to vulnerable, weak, ill or injured animals	✓	✓	✓	✓

Demonstrate ability to identify and respond appropriately to out-of-specification livestock	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate compliance with workplace policies and procedures associated with handling livestock including these Guidelines	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate ability to operate and maintain capture and restraint equipment, identify malfunctioning equipment, and take corrective action	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate ability to: operate and maintain stunning equipment, identify malfunctioning equipment, and take corrective action			✓	✓
Demonstrate ability to: operate and maintain sticking and cutting equipment, identify malfunctioning equipment, and take corrective action			✓	✓
Demonstrate ability to: operate and maintain emergency equipment and facilities, identify malfunctioning equipment and facilities, and take corrective action	✓	✓	✓	✓

30. The livestock processor is to clearly identify and assign responsibilities to specific personnel for –
- (a) the day-to-day application of these Guidelines; and
  - (b) stunning, sticking and emergency killing; and
  - (c) animal welfare monitoring activities, including stun and stick effectiveness.
31. The livestock processor is to ensure that personnel operating any restraint, stunning and slaughter equipment are familiar with the relevant equipment, the key working parameters

and procedures for the equipment, and how incorrect operation may impact the welfare of an animal.

32. The livestock processor is to ensure that personnel inspecting animals are competent in recognising behaviour that indicates pain, fear, distress or suffering due to injury, disease, physiological state, or other abnormality.
33. The livestock processor is to monitor through internal checks, assessments, and other forms of verification the performance (in relation to animal welfare) of all personnel involved in pre-slaughter care and handling of livestock within the livestock processing operation and ensure inadequate performance is addressed and a documentary record of staff performance is kept.
34. The livestock processor is to ensure that any person who, in the reasonable belief of the livestock processor, has committed an animal welfare related offence, either in the course of their employment in the livestock processing operation or otherwise, is –
  - (a) prohibited from having contact with live animals at the livestock processing premises; and
  - (b) reported to an Authorised Officer as soon as reasonably practicable after the livestock processor forms the belief that the person has committed the offence (unless the livestock processor has reasonable grounds to believe the person is already the subject of an investigation by an Authorised Officer).
35. The livestock processor is to employ or have access to a veterinarian with relevant expertise for the purposes of –
  - (a) diagnosis or identification of any animal disease or health condition that the livestock processor reasonably suspects may be affecting livestock at the livestock processing premises; and
  - (b) examining and treating any injured or sick animals at the premises that are not intended for immediate slaughter or emergency kill.

### **3.2. Staff recruitment, training, and development**

36. The livestock processing operation is to have processes for the recruitment, selection, and training of personnel which emphasise the importance of animal welfare and ensure that staff understand and accept their individual responsibility (appropriate to their role) to uphold the welfare of the animals at the livestock processing premises.
37. The livestock processing operation is to –
  - (a) have an appropriate staff induction program covering animal welfare responsibilities that is delivered or supervised by the animal welfare supervisor or other suitably qualified staff member; and
  - (b) have a program of regular review and auditing of practices within the operation to consider new knowledge, technology, and training relevant to animal welfare, with the aim of developing staff competency and promoting ongoing improvements in animal welfare outcomes.

38. The livestock processor is to ensure that –
- (a) any handling of livestock by inexperienced or new personnel that occurs as part of a staff induction or training program is supervised by the animal welfare supervisor or other suitably competent and experienced animal handler; and
  - (b) a record is kept of the training undertaken and competencies held by all personnel employed within the operation.

## 4. Infrastructure and equipment

### Outcome

Infrastructure and equipment in areas of the livestock processing premises where live animals are handled is designed to minimise the risk of injury, pain, suffering or distress and allow for effective livestock handling.

### 4.1. Design principles and specifications

39. All infrastructure and equipment in areas of the livestock processing premises where live animals are handled is to –
- (a) be appropriate for the species, quantity and class of livestock being handled; and
  - (b) allow for monitoring of livestock across the premises; and
  - (c) facilitate low stress livestock handling; and
  - (d) be in good repair and effective working order; and
  - (e) enable the efficient movement of livestock through the premises with minimal disruption and disturbance; and
  - (f) so far as is reasonably practicable, serve to prevent, eliminate, or minimise pain and suffering to livestock at the premises.<sup>6</sup>

### 4.2. Management responsibilities

40. The livestock processor is to establish and implement operational procedures at the livestock processing premises which ensure that –
- (a) equipment and infrastructure at the premises are operated to minimise disturbance or distress to animals, for example, by minimising the production of noise; and
  - (b) there is sufficient light and visibility throughout the premises to allow effective monitoring of livestock at the premises; and

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<sup>6</sup> For example:

- fences and barriers effectively prevent animals escaping;
- flooring minimises slipping, tripping, pain, and discomfort to animals;
- sufficient space is available in the lairage to allow animals to stand up unhindered, move freely, access water, and have reasonable opportunity to lie down;
- palatable, clean water is available at all times in holding pens;
- separated pens are available for animals requiring segregation; and
- animals are provided with adequate shade and protection from wind and rain.

- (c) equipment and infrastructure are regularly checked, cleaned, and maintained to be in good working order; and
- (d) any defective or malfunctioning infrastructure or equipment (that could cause pain or suffering to livestock) is not used to handle livestock until it is repaired or replaced; and
- (e) a written record of checks, cleaning, maintenance, repair and replacement of infrastructure and equipment (relevant to animal welfare) is kept at the livestock processing premises.

## 5. Livestock handling prior to slaughter

### Outcome

The methods of handling live animals at a livestock processing premises prior to slaughter –

- (a) are in accordance with low stress stock handling principles; and
- (b) minimise injury, pain, suffering and distress to livestock; and
- (c) are appropriate to the species and class of livestock being handled; and
- (d) enable animal welfare risks to be identified and managed effectively.

### 5.1. Arrival and movement of livestock at the processing premises

41. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the arrival and movement of livestock at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) livestock intended for processing are unloaded with minimal delay from the livestock transport vehicle;
  - (b) the condition of the livestock is assessed by a competent person as soon as possible after arrival at the premises;
  - (c) ill, vulnerable, or injured livestock are identified promptly and given priority slaughter or an emergency kill if deemed to be suffering;
  - (d) if slaughter or emergency kill is delayed, the livestock is provided a suitable environment and appropriate care in lairage (this may include segregation, if segregation will improve animal welfare);
  - (e) the use of electric goads to move livestock is minimised and in accordance with the relevant parameters of **Schedule I**;
  - (f) the use of working dogs to move or handle livestock is in accordance with the relevant parameters of **Schedule I** and dogs are effectively muzzled and under effective control while working; and
  - (g) the movement of animals on the premises is otherwise done in a manner that minimises disturbance, distress, or risk of injury to the animal.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> The following are examples of handling methods that should not be used to move conscious animals:

- lifting or dragging livestock by the hair, wool, head, neck, horns, ears, tail or limbs;
- applying physical pressure (including use of high-pressure hoses during washing or moving animals) to the eyes, ears or genitalia of livestock;
- whipping, tail twisting and tail pulling;
- nose twitches;
- throwing, hitting, punching, striking or kicking livestock;
- forcing, prodding, pushing or excessively handling livestock that have no room to move;
- dropping livestock, other than in a way that will ensure the animal will land safely on its feet;
- forcing livestock to crush or trample other livestock;

## 5.2. Holding of livestock at the processing premises

42. The livestock processor is to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable that the following occurs in respect of the holding of live animals at the livestock processing premises –
- (a) animals that pose a risk of injuring other animals at the premises are managed to minimise the risk of causing injury;
  - (b) only compatible animals are kept together; and
  - (c) the washing of livestock at the premises is carried out in a manner that minimises distress to the animals.
43. The livestock processor is to ensure that –
- (a) live animals held in lairage at the livestock processing premises are inspected every 12 hours by a competent person; and
  - (b) livestock always have access to water while they are in holding pens; and
  - (c) palatable and appropriate feed is made available to animals held for more than 24 hours.

## 5.3. Notification requirements

44. The livestock processing operation is to have procedures in place for the following functions:
- (a) timely notification of suppliers and transporters when livestock arrive at the livestock processing premises which are out of specification, injured or deceased;
  - (b) notifying an Authorised Officer when there are instances of livestock that are unfit for transport<sup>8</sup> being delivered from a particular livestock supplier or via a particular livestock transporter (or both); and
  - (c) addressing instances of out of specification, injured or deceased livestock being delivered to the livestock processing premises.
45. The livestock processor is to ensure there is prominent signage at the delivery site(s) of the livestock processing premises to inform transporters who to contact if animal welfare issues are identified during delivery of the livestock at the premises outside of normal business hours.

- 
- dragging animals that are unable to stand;
  - using livestock handling tools in a manner that causes pain, distress or injury to the animal; and
  - electro-immobilisation.

<sup>8</sup> See definition of “unfit for transport” in the glossary.

## 6. Slaughter and emergency killing

### Outcomes

1. All livestock are killed with minimal pain and distress.
2. All slaughtered livestock are effectively stunned and remain unconscious until death.
3. The equipment used to facilitate slaughter and emergency killing is appropriate to the species and class of animal it is being used upon.
4. Slaughtering equipment is always kept in good working order, and subject to a rigorous and regular checking and maintenance schedule to minimise the risk of equipment failure or malfunction.
5. Stunning, slaughter and emergency killing of livestock is carried out by competent personnel.

### 6.1. Restraint of livestock

46. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the restraint of animals:
- (a) restraint methods are designed and operated for the species and class of livestock being processed;
  - (b) animals are held in restraint for the minimum time necessary to achieve effective stunning;
  - (c) the vocalisation of pigs and adult cattle during restraint is monitored;
  - (d) livestock under restraint remain upright while conscious; and
  - (e) the means of restraint enables consistently prompt and effective stunning or killing, with minimal distress to the animal.

### 6.2. Stunning of livestock

47. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the stunning of animals at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) stunning is only carried out by a competent person;
  - (b) stunning equipment is –
    - (i) designed, operated and maintained in such a way as to avoid unnecessary distress to livestock; and
    - (ii) operated, cleaned, maintained and stored in accordance with manufacturer's instructions; and
    - (iii) tested prior to each shift to ensure it is in correct working order;
  - (c) back-up stunning equipment appropriate for the species or class of livestock being processed is immediately available and fully operational at all times stunning is being carried out;
  - (d) stunning effectiveness is monitored and repeat stunning occurs immediately (if necessary, using a back-up method) if there is any sign of the animal recovering consciousness;
  - (e) effective stunning of an animal is confirmed before hoisting and sticking;
  - (f) stunning is followed without delay by an exsanguination method appropriate to the species and class of animal; and
  - (g) stunned animals remain unconscious until death.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> For most situations the stun-to-stick interval should be less than 20 seconds.

### 6.3. Sticking of livestock

48. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the sticking of animals at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) sticking is only carried out by a competent person;
  - (b) the method of sticking is to ensure rapid and effective bleeding through severance of the carotid arteries or major blood vessels close to the heart; and
  - (c) carcass dressing procedures are not performed until after the animal is confirmed dead.

<sup>10</sup>

### 6.4. Emergency killing of livestock

49. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of emergency kills performed at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) emergency kills are only performed by a competent person using a method appropriate for the class and species of animal being killed; and
  - (b) disturbance of the animal is minimised prior to performing an emergency kill.

## 7. Species-specific guidelines

### 7.1. Bobby calves

50. The livestock processor is to ensure that all bobby calves are slaughtered as soon as is reasonably practicable after their arrival at the livestock processing premises and where possible –
- (a) on the day of arrival at the premises; or
  - (b) within 24 hours of their last feed.
51. The livestock processor is to ensure that –
- (a) suitable feed and infrastructure are available for bobby calves held at the livestock processing premises; and
  - (b) bobby calves kept for any extended period on the premises are under the care of a competent person.
52. The livestock processor is to ensure that suitable feed is given to bobby calves when –
- (a) the feed is required for the welfare of the calves; or
  - (b) it is over 30 hours since their last feed.

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<sup>10</sup> Dressing procedures do not include oesophageal occlusion and livestock identifier removal or scanning, which may be performed when the animal has been confirmed as unconscious.



## 7.2. Cattle

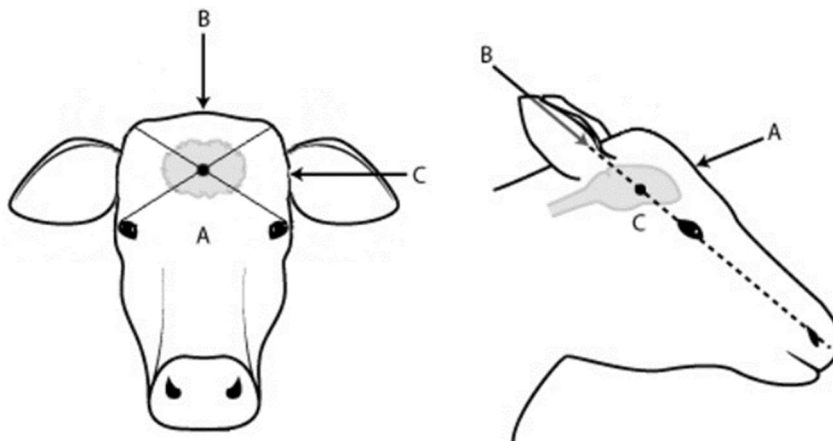
53. The stunning of all cattle at the livestock processing premises is to be performed by a competent person using one of the following stunning methods only:
- (a) non-penetrating percussive device;
  - (b) penetrating captive bolt;
  - (c) free bullet;
  - (d) head-only electrical stunning; and
  - (e) head-to-body electrical stun/kill.
54. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a non-penetrating percussive device:
- (a) the percussive device is used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations; and
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figures IA & IB below.
55. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a penetrating captive bolt:
- (a) equipment is used according to manufacturer's recommendations; and
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figures IA & IB below.
56. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a free bullet:
- (a) the firearm delivers at least the muzzle energy of a standard 0.223 magnum cartridge;
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figures IA & IB below.
57. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of head only electrical stunning:
- (a) electrodes span the brain of the animal; and
  - (b) a minimum current of 1.28A (1.0A for bobby calves) is applied to achieve immediate stun.
58. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of head-to-body electrical stun/kill:
- (a) electrodes span the brain and heart of the animal; and
  - (b) a minimum current of 1.5A (1.0A for bobby calves) is applied to achieve immediate stun.
59. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of any bovine foetal blood collection undertaken at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) the collection is carried out in accordance with a documented procedure<sup>11</sup> by a person who is trained and competent to perform the procedure;
  - (b) blood is only collected from an unconscious foetus; and
  - (c) an emergency kill is immediately performed on any foetus that shows signs of consciousness.

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<sup>11</sup> The documented procedure for blood collection should –

- (a) require a 20-minute interval between slaughter of the cow and foetal blood collection; or
- (b) otherwise safeguard the welfare of the foetus by ensuring it remains unconscious throughout the procedure until confirmed dead.

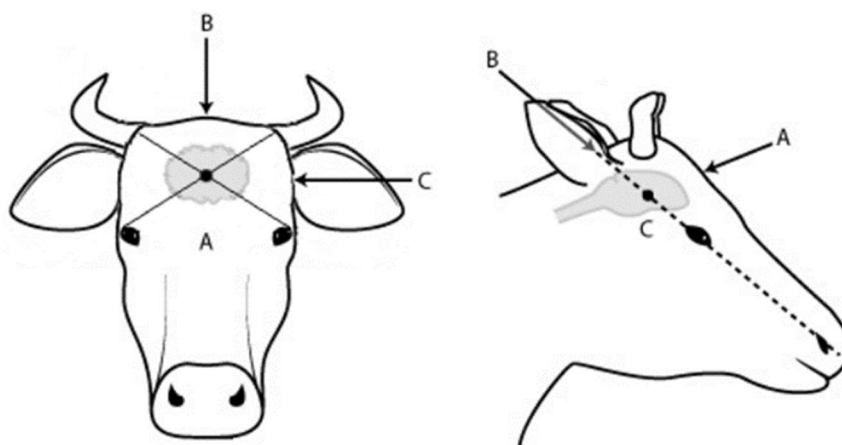
60. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of an emergency kill performed on any cattle at the livestock processing premises:
- the emergency kill is performed by a competent person using a captive bolt or free bullet;
  - the firearm or captive bolt delivers at least the muzzle energy of a standard 0.223 magnum cartridge;
  - shot position is in accordance with Figures 1A & 1B below.



**Figure 1A:** The recommended captive bolt and firearm placement for calves and polled cattle. (A) indicate the frontal method, (B) indicates the poll method and (C) indicates the temporal method (recommended for firearms only).

(A) For the frontal method, the firearm or captive bolt should be directed at a point midway across the forehead where two lines from the topside of the base of the ears and top of the eyes intersect, or slightly above this point. The line of fire should be aimed into the skull towards the centre of the brain or spinal cord.

For the poll method (B), cattle are shot through the skull just behind the base of the horns. The line of fire should be in line with the cattle's muzzle.



**Figure 1B:** The recommended captive bolt and firearm placement for horned cattle. (A) indicates the frontal method, (B) indicates the poll method and (C) indicates the temporal method (recommended for firearms only).

For the frontal method (A), the firearm or captive bolt should be directed at a point midway across the forehead at the intersection of imaginary lines that join each eye with the opposite horn or the point where

the horn would be. The line of fire should be aimed into the skull towards the centre of the brain or spinal cord.

For the poll method (B), cattle are shot through the skull just behind the base of the horns. The line of fire should be in line with the cattle's muzzle

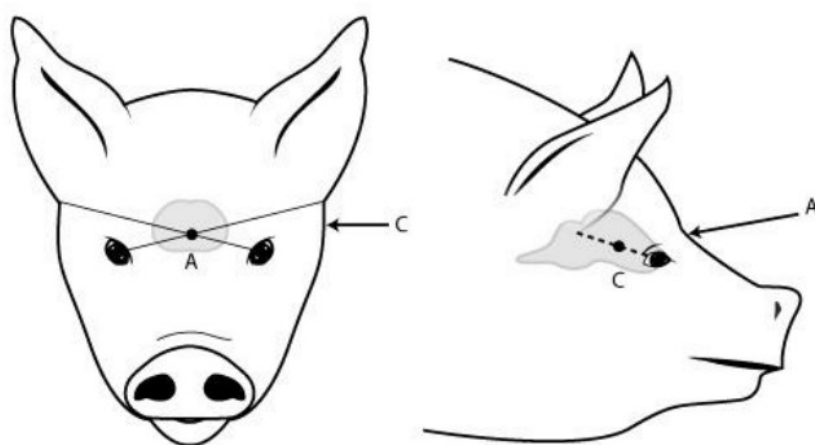
Note— The diagrams are representational and individual anatomical differences should be taken into account.

### 7.3. Pigs

61. The stunning of all pigs at the livestock processing premises is to be followed by a thoracic stick for bleeding, and is to be performed by a competent person using one of the following stunning methods only:
  - (a) penetrating captive bolt;
  - (b) free bullet;
  - (c) head-only electrical stunning;
  - (d) head-to-body electrical stun/kill; and
  - (e) carbon dioxide.
  
62. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a penetrating captive bolt:
  - (a) equipment is used according to manufacturer's recommendations; and
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figure 2 below.
  
63. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a free bullet:
  - (a) the firearm delivers at least the muzzle energy of a standard 0.223 magnum cartridge;
  - (a) shot position is in accordance with Figure 2 below.
  
64. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of head only electrical stunning:
  - (a) electrode spans the brain of the animal; and
  - (b) a minimum current of 1.25A is applied to achieve immediate stun.
  
65. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of head-to-body electrical stun/kill:
  - (a) electrode spans the brain and heart of the animal; and
  - (b) a minimum current of 1.25A is applied to achieve immediate stun.
  
66. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of carbon dioxide:
  - (a) the controlled atmosphere stunning (CAS) unit is equipped to continuously measure and display (at the point of stunning) the gas concentration and the time of exposure, and to give a clearly visible or audible warning if the concentration of gas falls below the required level;
  - (b) CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is set at a minimum of 80% by volume;
  - (c) pigs are moved into the CAS unit only when the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the unit is at 80% or greater;
  - (d) pigs are exposed to gas in the CAS unit for a period sufficient to remain unconscious until death supervenes through bleeding or cardiac arrest, and at minimum, three minutes;

- (e) a contingency plan is in place to manage the welfare of animals in a CAS unit during emergencies;
- (f) the animal density within the CAS unit prevents animals crushing or trampling one other;
- (g) stun-to-stick interval is 60 seconds or less (from exiting the CAS unit); and
- (h) back-up stunning equipment is available at the point of exit from the CAS unit.

67. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of an emergency kill performed on any pigs at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) the emergency kill is performed by a competent person using a captive bolt or free bullet;
  - (b) the firearm or captive bolt delivers at least the muzzle energy of a standard 0.223 magnum cartridge;
  - (c) shot position is in accordance with Figure 2 below.



**Figure 2:** The recommended placement for the emergency killing of pigs. (A) indicates the frontal method for firearm and captive bolt and (C) indicates the temporal method suitable for firearm only. The dots indicate the point of aim and the arrows indicates the direction of aim for the positions. The aim point for the frontal position is low on the forehead. The positioning lines go from the outside base of the ears to the eyes.

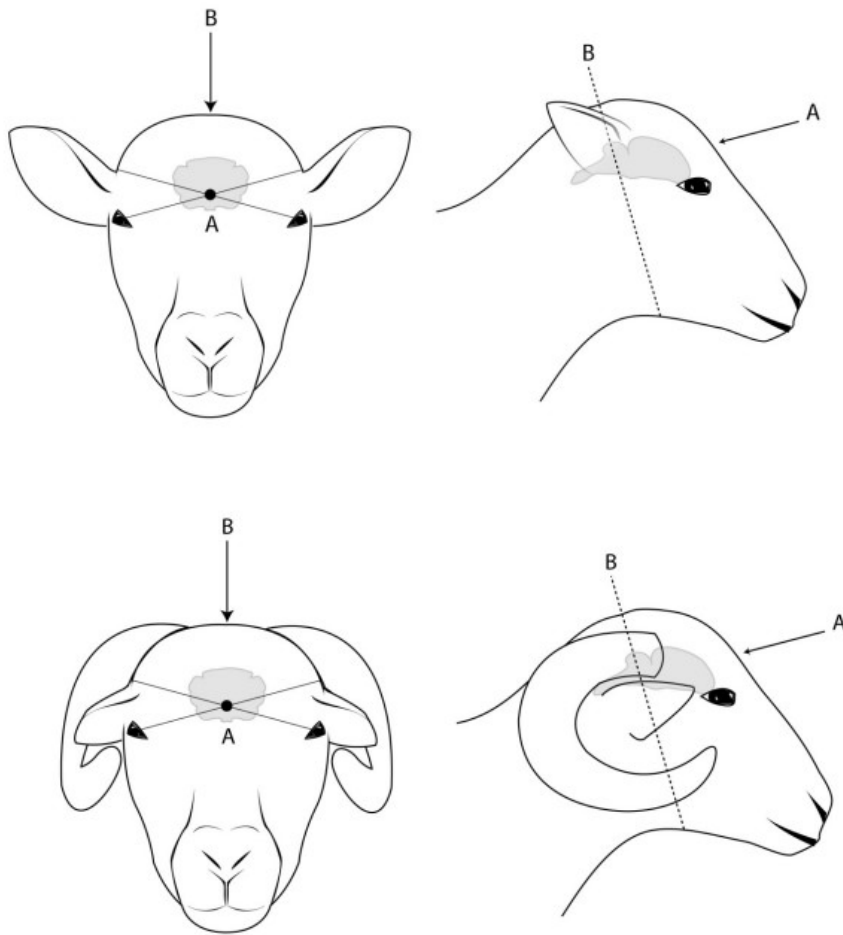
Note— The diagrams are representational and individual anatomical differences should be considered.

## 7.4. Sheep

68. The livestock processor is to ensure that where a restraining conveyor involving the separation of individual animals is used at the livestock processing premises for the handling of sheep –
- (a) the width and angle of conveyors suit the shape of the sheep that are being handled; and
  - (b) conveyors are designed and operated to prevent animals from climbing on the backs of animals in front of them.
69. The stunning of all sheep at the livestock processing premises is to be performed by a competent person using one of the following stunning methods only:
- (a) non-penetrating percussive device;
  - (b) penetrating captive bolt;
  - (c) free bullet;

- (d) head-only electrical stunning;
- (e) head-to-body electrical stun/kill.

70. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a non-penetrating percussive device:
- (a) the percussive device is used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations; and
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figure 3 below.
71. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a penetrating captive bolt:
- (a) equipment is used according to manufacturer's recommendations;
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figure 3 below.
72. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of a free bullet:
- (a) the firearm delivers at least the muzzle energy of a standard 0.223 long rifle cartridge; and
  - (b) shot position is in accordance with Figure 3 below.
73. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of head only electrical stunning:
- (a) electrode spans the brain of the animal; and
  - (b) a minimum current of 1.0A (0.6A for lambs) is applied to achieve immediate stun.
74. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of the use of head-to-body electrical stun/kill:
- (a) electrode spans the brain and heart of the animal; and
  - (b) a minimum current of 1.0A (0.6A for lambs) is applied to achieve immediate stun.
75. The livestock processor is to ensure the following occurs in respect of an emergency kill performed on any sheep (including lambs) at the livestock processing premises:
- (a) the emergency kill is performed by a competent person using a penetrating captive bolt or free bullet followed by bleeding out;
  - (b) the firearm or captive bolt delivers at least the muzzle energy of a standard 0.223 long rifle cartridge; and
  - (c) shot position is in accordance with Figure 3 below.



**Figure 3:** The recommended placement of firearm or captive bolt for the emergency killing of sheep (with and without horns). (A) indicates the crown method and (B) indicates the poll method. The dots indicate the point of aim and the arrows indicates the direction of aim for the positions. Sheep are shot through the skull just behind the base of the horns.

The line of fire should be directed slightly forward of the angle of the jaw of the sheep, depending on the point of impact. The line of fire should be aimed into the skull towards the centre of the brain or spinal cord to target the brainstem which is midway along an imaginary line drawn between the base of the ears.

For the crown method, the firearm should be directed straight down from the highest point of the skull, midway between the base of the ears. The line of fire should be aimed into the skull towards the centre of the brain or spinal cord to target the brainstem which is midway along an imaginary line drawn between the base of the ears.

*Note*— The diagrams are representational and individual anatomical differences should be taken into account.

## 8. Glossary

<b>abattoir</b>	A livestock processing premises where abattoir animals are slaughtered to produce meat for human consumption
<b>abattoir animal</b>	Has the same meaning as in the <i>Primary Produce Safety Act 2011</i> , i.e. an animal that is not living in the wild that is – (a) a bovine animal; or (b) an equine animal; or (c) a sheep, pig, goat or deer
<b>animal welfare supervisor</b>	A person designated as the animal welfare supervisor within a livestock processing operation in accordance with these Guidelines.
<b>animal welfare related offence</b>	An offence involving animal cruelty under the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> or an Act of the Commonwealth or other State or Territory that corresponds with the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i>
<b>approved food safety program</b>	An approved food safety program under the <i>Primary Produce Safety Act 2011</i>
<b>Authorised Officer</b>	Means – (a) an authorised officer under the <i>Primary Produce Safety Act 2011</i> ; (b) an authorised officer under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2019</i> ; (c) an officer appointed under section 13 of the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> ; (d) an inspector appointed under section 36 of the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> ;
<b>boar</b>	An adult entire male pig
<b>bobby calf</b>	A calf not accompanied by its mother, less than 30 days old, weighing less than 80kg live weight <sup>12</sup>
<b>bovine foetal blood collection</b>	The collection of blood from foetal calves at a livestock processing premises, usually for the commercial production of blood serum products
<b>bull</b>	An individual entire adult male of the genus <i>Bos</i>
<b>(CAS) controlled atmosphere stunning</b>	Controlled atmosphere stunning (CAS) methods involve the exposure to high concentrations of carbon dioxide (hypercapnia)

<sup>12</sup> [Australian Animal Welfare Standards – Land Transport of Livestock 2012](#) Department Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (CTH) 2012

<b>cattle</b>	Members of the species <i>Bos taurus</i> and <i>Bos indicus</i> .
<b>Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO)</b>	The Chief Veterinary Officer appointed under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2019</i>
<b>competency</b>	The demonstrated human knowledge, skills, attitude, and behaviour to effectively undertake a task in accordance with these Guidelines
<b>competent person</b>	An individual who has the knowledge, skills, attitude and experience to perform a particular role or function in accordance with these Guidelines
<b>distress</b>	The state of an animal that has been unable to adapt to stressors, and that manifests as abnormal physiological or behavioural responses. It can be acute or chronic and may result in pathological conditions
<b>electro-immobilisation</b>	A practice involving the induction of temporary paralysis via application of an electric current, thereby preventing voluntary movement. During this procedure, the animal remains conscious and sensible to pain.
<b>emergency killing</b>	<p>Killing by necessity (ie. in the interest of animal welfare) of any animal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) has recently suffered traumatic injury or is affected or suspected of being affected by a disease or other abnormality; and</li> <li>b) is in pain or is likely to deteriorate unless it is killed immediately.</li> </ul> <p>Note - emergency killing techniques may differ to routine slaughter methods, depending on the circumstances. Generally, livestock in relation to the above would normally undergo an assessment as to the fitness for human consumption.</p>
<b>foetus</b>	An unborn animal from the stage of its development when its main adult features can be recognised
<b>handler</b>	A person who handles or moves livestock (e.g. a stockperson)
<b>insensible</b>	unconscious, unable to consciously perceive pain
<b>knackery</b>	A livestock processing premises where animals are slaughtered to produce animal feed or by-products.
<b>lairage</b>	Designated holding pens/yards used for accommodating animals prior to slaughter
<b>livestock</b>	Includes all abattoir animals



<b>livestock processing premises</b>	The physical premises or facility where a livestock processing operation is carried on
<b>livestock processing operation</b>	Means – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a meat processing business within the meaning of the <i>Primary Produce Safety (Meat and Poultry) Regulations 2014</i>, or any regulations which amend or replace those regulations; and</li> <li>(b) a pet food business within the meaning of the <i>Primary Produce Safety (Pet Food) Regulations 2014</i> or any regulations which amend or replace those regulations; and</li> <li>(c) a knackery or other similar business where livestock are slaughtered for a purpose other than meat processing or pet food production</li> </ul>
<b>livestock processor</b>	Means – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) in the case of a livestock processing operation that is the subject of an accreditation under the <i>Primary Produce Safety Act 2011</i>, the accredited producer in respect of the operation; and</li> <li>(b) in any other case, the proprietor or person apparently in charge of the livestock processing operation</li> </ul>
<b>out-of-specification livestock</b>	Livestock which are unsuitable for processing at the relevant livestock processing premises
<b>pig</b>	Member of the genus <i>Sus</i> .
<b>piglet</b>	Unweaned pig.
<b>premises</b>	(from the <i>Primary Produce Safety Act 2011</i> ) includes – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) land (whether or not vacant); and</li> <li>(b) the whole or any part of a building, tent, stall or other structure (whether of a permanent or temporary nature); and</li> <li>(c) a pontoon; and</li> <li>(d) a vehicle); and</li> <li>(e) an area of water.</li> </ul>
<b>restraint</b>	Safe and secure positioning of the animal for stunning or killing
<b>sheep</b>	Member of the genus <i>Ovis</i> .
<b>slaughter</b>	The killing of an animal; includes stunning, sticking and bleeding

<b>sow</b>	An adult female pig that has had one or more litters
<b>sticking</b>	The severing of blood vessels to induce effective bleeding
<b>stunning</b>	A procedure for rendering an animal unconscious or insensible to pain and includes a stunning method (e.g. free bullet) involving simultaneous stunning and death
<b>thoracic stick</b>	The severing of major blood vessels via incision through the thoracic inlet
<b>unfit for transport</b>	See r8 of the <i>Animal Welfare (Livestock Transport) Regulations 2023</i>  livestock is unfit for transport if – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) it is unable to bear weight on all legs while walking independently; or</li> <li>(b) it is severely emaciated; or</li> <li>(c) it shows visible signs of dehydration, severe injury or distress; or</li> <li>(d) it is suffering from a condition that is likely to result in an increase in pain or distress by reason of undertaking the journey; or</li> <li>(e) the animal is blind in both eyes; or</li> <li>(f) the estimated journey time, or time off water, is likely to exceed 4 hours and the animal is known to be, or visually assessed to be, within 2 weeks of parturition.</li> </ul>

## 9. References

### TASMANIAN LEGISLATION ([www.thelaw.tas.gov.au](http://www.thelaw.tas.gov.au))

#### Animal Welfare

- *Animal Welfare Act 1993*
- *Animal Welfare (Cattle) Regulations 2023*
- *Animal Welfare (Domestic Poultry) Regulations (No. 2) 2023*
- *Animal Welfare (General) Regulations (No. 2) 2023*
- *Animal Welfare (Pigs) Regulations (No. 2) 2023*
- *Animal Welfare (Sheep) Regulations 2023*
- *Animal Welfare (Transport of Livestock) Regulations (No. 2) 2023*

#### Biosecurity

- *Biosecurity Act 2019*
- *Biosecurity Regulations 2022*

#### Produce Safety and Integrity

- *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011*
- *Primary Produce Safety (Meat and Poultry) Regulations 2014*
- *Primary Produce Safety (Pet Food) Regulations 2014*

## TASMANIAN ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDELINES

All Animal Welfare Guidelines published under section 44B of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993* are published on the website of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania at the following link:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-welfare/legislation-standards-guidelines/animal-welfare-standards-guidelines>

## AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

- [\*Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption \(AS 4696:2007\)\*](#)
- [\*Standard for the Hygienic Production of Pet Meat PISC Technical Report 88 – Amended 2009.\*](#)
- [\*Meat hygiene assessment objective methods for the monitoring of processes and product 2<sup>nd</sup> edition\*](#)  
Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) 2002
- [\*Australian Animal Welfare Standards – Land Transport of Livestock 2012\*](#) DAFF 2012
- [\*Industry Animal Welfare Standard for Livestock Processing Establishments Preparing Meat for Human Consumption, Edition 3\*](#), Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC), 2020
- [\*Industry Animal Welfare Standard for Livestock Processing Establishments Preparing Meat for Human Consumption – Implementation Guide\*](#), AMIC 2021
- [\*Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Livestock at Slaughtering Establishments\*](#)  
Commonwealth Standing Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management 2002

## SCHEDULE I: Animal welfare monitoring parameters

Monitoring criteria	Definition	Species	Target	Area of process	Assessment methodology
Unfit for transport on arrival at processing premises	When an animal has not survived the journey from the farm to the processing premises and is found dead on the transport vehicle on arrival to the processing premises; or the animal arrives at the premises injured or otherwise unfit for transport.	All	<1%	Arrival Unloading	Animals are to be inspected on arrival and assessed during unloading or as soon as reasonably practicable after unloading at the livestock processing premises.
Falls	When an animal loses an upright position suddenly in which a part of the body other than the limbs touches the ground.	All	<1%	Unloading Lairage Handling	Falls are to be assessed in the unloading area, when all four of the animal's limbs are on the unloading ramp or unloading dock. Falls are also to be assessed during handling, when moving livestock to the stunning point.
Vocalisation	Moo or bellow in adult cattle as a consequence of direct active handling in the race or crowd pen or during restraint (e.g. in the stun box).	Cattle	<3%	Handling	The assessment of vocalisation during the handling of cattle is to be carried out when an individual animal is under active and direct handling. For example, during movement into the stun box.
		Cattle	<5%	Head restraint	The assessment of vocalisation during application of head restraint in cattle is to be carried out from the time that the head restraint is applied.
		Pigs	<5%	Movement into restrainer	The assessment of vocalisation in pigs needs to be performed as they are being moved into the restrainer. Vocalisation scoring is only performed for pigs being moved into a single file conveyor restrainer (for electrical stunning or CO <sub>2</sub>

	Squeal in pigs. A squeal is an extended sound produced with an open mouth, indicating excitement, fear, or pain. Squealing that occurs when pigs root under each other or jump on top of each other is counted if provoked by the application of electric goads, yelling, poking, or hitting the pigs.				Systems). Vocalisations are not assessed in group CO <sub>2</sub> systems as it is too difficult to pinpoint the source.
Use of electric goad	A low voltage (<50 volts) or commercially manufactured electric device designed and used for the purpose of making livestock move.	Cattle	<25%	During handling	<p>Touching an animal with an electric goad is counted, whether a shock is delivered or not. Do not count multiple applications of the goad on a single animal as individual events.</p> <p>Electric goad shall not be used on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• livestock &lt;3 months old</li> <li>• genital, anal, udder or facial areas</li> <li>• animals that are unable to move away</li> <li>• a pig that is less than 60 kilograms liveweight</li> </ul> <p>Electric goad shall not be used anywhere except in the 'area of process' listed, nor shall it be used in any unreasonable manner</p>
		Sheep	<5%	During movement into the restrainer	
		Pigs	<5%	During handling in group systems	
		Pigs	<25%	During handling in single-file races	

Use of dogs to move livestock	Using dogs for the purpose of making livestock move	Cattle and sheep	100%	Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog is to be trained, muzzled and supervised</li> <li>• Dog is to not be used on pigs or calves</li> <li>• Dog is to not be used on livestock &lt;3 months old</li> <li>• Dog is to not be used on livestock unable to move away</li> <li>• Dog is to be kept away from areas where livestock are being held when not in use, and provided appropriate care</li> </ul>
Application of electrodes in optimum position	Electrodes for stunning (where used) are placed in the correct position to deliver an effective stun	All	>99%	Electrical stunning	With electrical stunning, the assessor evaluates both electrode placement and effective stunning. For electrodes to be applied in the optimum position, they need to 'span the brain'. The first position should be scored, even if the operator subsequently adjusts the position or reapplies the electrodes.
Effective stunning	The procedure for rendering an animal unconscious and insensible to pain.	Cattle	>96%	Penetrating and non- penetrating mechanical stunning methods - first application	Assess animals after the application of the first shot. Some plants routinely shoot heavy animals (e.g. large bulls) twice (security stun). In this situation, the assessor is to examine the state of the animal after the first shot (before the second shot is applied)
		All	>98%	Electrical stunning	Assess animals after removal of the electrodes for signs of returning consciousness

		Pigs	>98%	Controlled atmosphere (CO <sub>2</sub> ) stunning	Assess animals at the exit of the CAS system for signs of returning consciousness
Insensibility (Unconsciousness)	State of unawareness (loss of consciousness) in which there is temporary or permanent disruption to brain function, during which the animal does not feel pain.	All	100%	From confirmation of stun until death	Consciousness and unconsciousness occur in essentially three phases; (1) Definitely unconscious; (2) Transition phase before sensibility (consciousness); (3) Definitely conscious. During the transition phase, it is possible to observe indicators of a return to consciousness, however this does not mean that the animal is sensible. If this is observed, then a back-up method needs to be applied immediately. If this type of immediate correction is taken before the animal is fully sensible (conscious) then it does not count towards the bleed rail insensibility score. Only animals that are in phase (3) (definitely conscious) should be counted as a non-conformity with this requirement.