



Livestock Transportation Emergencies: Information Manual

Produced by Farm & Food Care Ontario

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Background

This information sheet is designed to be a resource for farmers or small-scale livestock truck drivers not part of a commercial livestock company or network. These drivers often drive the same routes and can identify resources in their area.

Purpose:

The following information is designed to help farmers and drivers be aware of their responsibility to have contingency plans in the event that a trip does not run smoothly. Mechanical breakdown, accident or weather can all interfere with a trip running as planned. The following information, and check lists are designed to help farmers/truckers pre-plan for incidents.

Responsibility:

Under Part XII of the Health of Animals Regulations, owners of transport companies or farmer truck drivers must have contingency plans to manage unforeseen delays or circumstances, including accidents. See ** Contingency Plans, Page 10.

Contents

Background.....	2
Suggested Roles and Responsibilities.....	3
Truck Driver/Owner	3
First Responders:	3
Veterinarian:	3
Tow Truck Driver:	3
Other Potential Notifications:	3
CFIA.....	3
OMAFRA.....	3
Provincial Animal Welfare Services (PAWS).....	4
Assessing the Situation and Calling Resources Accordingly:	4
Media and the Public:	4
Emergency Contact List.....	5
Extricating animals from a rolled over livestock truck.....	6
Making decisions on the status of injured animals	7
Decision about re-loading injured or compromised animals	8
Euthanasia.....	8
Mature Cattle	8
Calves.....	8
Sheep	8
Guide to cartridge selection for euthanasia in farm animals.....	9
Euthanasia Methods for Farm Animals.....	9
Contingency Plan (as required by CFIA):	10
Guidance to regulated parties	10
Animal Transport Contingency Plan Development Template	11

Suggested Roles and Responsibilities



Truck Driver/Owner

Unless the driver is incapacitated, the driver is responsible for the truck and load.

- Call 911.
- Have a **Contingency Plan** in place.
- **Emergency Contacts List** (printed copy and available on a smartphone).
 - List should include who you can call for help in an emergency along your route and can include:
 - Gooseneck or other low slung trailers to transport
 - Penning to create a holding area or path to reload
 - Other livestock truckers
 - Local tow truck company
 - Veterinarians in the area & euthanasia equipment
 - Local deadstock service
 - Processor to help with plan for animals.
- Take pictures of the scene if possible for record keeping.

First Responders:

- Work with the driver(s) (if possible) to conduct a site assessment.
- If the driver is incapacitated, authority would fall onto the fire department for Life Safety first, then scene safety hazards (oil, fuel). Then it would be a joint effort between police and fire department.
- Take charge of the accident scene and coordinate rescue efforts. Injured persons are the first priority.
- Cool animals down with water if warranted.
- Keep all unnecessary people including media away from the accident site.
- Ensure everyone understands the priority response sequence: human safety, animal welfare and then removal of the truck and trailer.

Veterinarian:

- Makes decisions for animal care and euthanasia.

Tow Truck Driver:

- Righting and removal of truck.
- Clean up scene.

Other Potential Notifications:

CFIA - Notify CFIA of the accident and a plan for the animals. **1-877-814-2342**

OMAFRA - Contact OMAFRA if there are deadstock disposal concerns. **1-877-424-1300**.

Provincial Animal Welfare Services (PAWS) – Report to PAWS, call **1-833-926-4625**.

Commodity Organization (Office hours only)	Contact Number
Beef Farmers of Ontario	519-824-0334
Ontario Sheep Farmers	519-836-0043
Veal Farmers of Ontario	519-824-2942
Ontario Pork	519-767-4600
Dairy Farmers of Ontario	905-821-8970

Assessing the Situation and Calling Resources Accordingly:



- Is the driver able to help with the salvage or are others taking charge?
- Have the appropriate resources been called; 911, tow, other livestock trucks and containment/loading equipment?
- How damaged is the trailer? And how far off the road is it? Can it be moved while loaded?
- Are there animals on the loose, if so, can they be contained and the breach closed until a plan can be made for containment?
- How will the situation get worse with elapsed time? Are there trapped animals or danger of the trailer moving or sliding?
- If it is summer, are animals in danger of overheating and could use firehose cooling?

The situation differs by the degree of damage to truck and trailer and whether or not they are roadworthy.

Assess the unique situation and respond accordingly.

Media and the Public

- Once the initial location is secured, the scene must be further protected to maintain safety for the first responders involved, the public and the livestock.
- Enlist first responders in maintaining crowd control. Ask them to keep the media and public away from the vehicle, trailer and animals.
- Remind first responders not to post images of the accident to social media while the scene is still active.
- Images of accidents involving animals may be disturbing to the public. Use tarps, plywood and uninvolved vehicles to obscure the direct visual observation by the public or news media.

Emergency Contact List



Name: _____ or Farm Name: _____

Area: _____ Date Updated: _____

Emergency First Response – 911, OPP – 1-888-310-1122
PAWS - 1-833-926-4625

Resources		
Resource	Town	Phone Number
Local Police Dispatch/town		
Local Police Dispatch/town		
Local Police Dispatch/town		
	Supplier Phone	Alternative Phone
Livestock Fencing (Temporary Fencing and panels)		
Gooseneck or low trailers		
Temporary livestock holding Facility		
Local commercial livestock transporter		
Veterinary Clinic (large animal)		
Tow Truck operators (heavy if possible)		
Euthanasia equipment and dead- stock removal		
Processor		
Closest stock yards		

Extricating animals from a rolled over livestock truck



It is recommended that rescuers avoid entering the trailer whenever possible.

- A temporary containment facility should be located or created before animals are released from the trailer (i.e. panelled corral, directly onto another truck, or even police tape for certain species such as horses). A nearby field that is fenced could be used for containment.
- If you are presented with a situation where the trailer and/or bedding is on fire, do not release animals from the trailer until a plan for containment is established. Loose animals will pose a serious risk to passing vehicles, etc.
- Remove live animals from the trailer before it is righted.
- The ideal way to remove an animal from a trailer is through the existing doors.
- To decide the optimum method of extrication, evaluate the trailer and the condition of the animals first:
 - a) Position of the trailer - on side, roof or upright, on right or left side.
 - b) Position of the animals - lying down, pinned or trapped, tied or loose.
 - c) If the animals are uninjured and standing calmly in the trailer, leave them alone until it is necessary to move them.
- With a trailer is on its side, the preferred extrication point is through the back where the door is located.
- If the door is not at ground level, wide or high enough for animals to exit, then consider cutting a hole in the roof. Do not jeopardize the trailer's structural integrity, or it may collapse on the animals and rescue personnel. Ensure the hole is cut in a location that permits easy transfer of animals onto the rescue vehicle:
 - a) Ensure that the trailer is stabilized before proceeding with any rescue attempt.
 - b) Animals may be held in place by a closed gate. To avoid injury, use caution when opening.
 - c) Check to be sure the animals do not have any limbs trapped before trying to move them.
 - d) Ensure that animals inside will not be injured while cutting into the trailer.
 - e) Don't cut the hole out completely, i.e. all four sides, you may wish to use the attached metal as a wall or door. Bend the cut edges out to prevent the animals from getting cut while exiting the trailer.
- Most animals prefer to walk downhill, therefore, it is recommended that the hole be cut in the lowest part of the trailer or park the rescue vehicle at a lower location. Sheep prefer a slight incline in loading ramps over a decline.

Making decisions on the status of injured animals



Call a veterinarian when:

- a) requested by the owner;
- b) the animal is considered a non-slaughter animal and cannot be transported to the facility for treatment;
- c) sedation of the animal is required;
- d) an animal that is unable to walk without assistance must be transported from the accident scene; and
- e) the animal should be euthanized.

Evaluate and decide:

- a) if no immediate treatment is necessary;
- b) treat the animal where it is;
- c) move animal to another location;
- d) move animal for immediate slaughter IF it can be moved humanely;
- e) humanely euthanize the animal.

- If an animal is injured but can move, work slowly and quietly around it. If it has a halter on, be very careful while leading it. Walk slowly and talk calmly. If loose, walk calmly to its side and do not yell or chase it.
- It is strongly recommended that severely injured animals be euthanized in the trailer and out of public view.
- Animals that are alert but unable to rise should be handled with caution only after the mobile animals have been removed from that compartment (if possible).
- If a large number of animals require euthanasia, an expert with a captive bolt pistol should be called and provisions for dealing with deadstock arranged.
- An animal that needs to be moved for treatment or euthanasia should be moved the shortest distance possible. If dragging is the ONLY means of rescue, a sled must be used. A spinal board may be an effective sled. Ensure it is strong enough to handle the weight of the animal you intend to move.

Decision about re-loading injured or compromised animals

As a general rule, **any animal that cannot stand up on all of its legs by itself is not fit for transport and should be humanely euthanized.** This meets the Health of Animals Regulations (section 138) and CFIA's Compromised Animal Policy requirements. Please refer to the requirements contained within the Ontario Livestock and Livestock Products Act – Ontario Regulation 732/94 for moving non-ambulatory animals in this province and the Ontario Dead Animal Disposal Act for moving fallen animals.
www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation

In the case of slaughter animals, assess the likelihood of the animal passing inspection for human consumption.

Loading and transportation to the nearest place where additional care can be provided may be considered if it will not cause further undue pain, injury, or suffering.

Note: At all times, the comfort and safety of the animal must be considered. Do not disregard your safety or the safety of other personnel at the scene!



Definition Euthanasia is humane death that minimizes pain and distress

When euthanasia of animals is required, it should be done in an area out of public view. Move bystanders back, erect tarps if necessary to ensure firearm safety and that euthanasia happens out of public view.

It is important to remember that animals are property and are therefore owned. If an animal needs to be destroyed, this can only happen in one of three ways:

- With the consent of the animal owner or designate;
- Under the authority of a veterinarian pursuant to the authority contained in the *Provincial Animal Services Act, 2019.t*;
- By a police officer using the authority contained in the Police Services Act.

Proper procedure for euthanasia:

- Allow the animal to calm down if necessary.
- Captive bolt equipment is preferred over firearms in most situations.
- A .22 caliber firearm is only sufficient for young pigs and cattle. A .22 magnum is sufficient for cattle, pigs and horses.
- The firearm muzzle should be held approximately 2 inches from the point of entry, not flush with the skull. Shotguns should be fired 10-12" away.
- Make sure the animal is dead before walking away from it. Check for vital signs- blink reflex, corneal reflex, pulse and breathing, etc. An animal may "wiggle" for two to three minutes following death.
- The point of penetration is in the following diagram. **The point between the eyes is not the appropriate point of entry.**

Mature Cattle

Where possible, the head should be secured to a solid structure. If using a firearm, it should be aimed at right angles to the skull at a point that is the intersection of a line drawn from the inner corner of the eye to the edge of the opposite poll.

If using a captive bolt, the line is drawn from the outside corner of the eye to the edge of the opposite poll.

Pig

If using gunshot, the target is just slightly above a line drawn across the eyebrows, and aiming towards the tail.

If using a captive bolt, the animal should be snared if possible to steady the head; the captive bolt is applied perpendicular to the skull for maximum concussion. Do not aim towards the tail.

Calves

Calves can be handled in the same manner as mature cattle, but the aim of the firearm should be squarely on the midlines of the forehead slightly lower than in mature cattle.

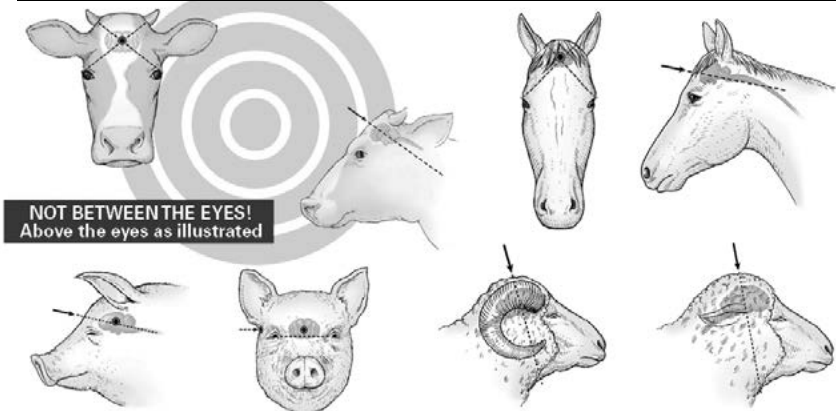
Sheep

Do not shoot between the eyes!

Correct positioning when using a firearm or captive bolt is very important.

The firearm or captive bolt is applied just behind the poll, aiming towards the angle of the lower jaw.

Anatomical Sites for Livestock Euthanasia



Guide to cartridge selection for euthanasia in farm animals



Captive Bolt Tools:

Blitz-Kerner:

Green Cartridges: Weak load	For pig, calves & sheep
Yellow Cartridges – Middle load	For cows, horses, adult swine
Blue Cartridges – Heavy Load	Heavy Bulls, Large horses

CASH® Dispatch Kit cartridge selection .25”

Pink	Young calves, piglets, lambs and kids
Yellow	Small cattle, small pigs, ewes and goats
Blue	Medium sized cattle, market pigs, horses and other large animals
Orange	Cattle, heavy pigs and large horses

Euthanasia Methods for Farm Animals

Method	Suitable for	Equipment and Procedure
Gunshot	Calves less than 181 kg (400 lb)	<p>Examples of appropriate firearms:</p> <p>Rifles: a .22 long rifle fired from a short distance is acceptable (i.e. 0.60–0.90 m [2–3 feet])</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A .22 magnum or larger calibre is recommended <p>Shotguns: a .410 shotgun with a 7.6 cm (3 in) magnum load with bird shot or slug fired a short distance or a 12 or 20 gauge shotgun with slugs or bird shot no. 2, 4 or 6.</p>
	Cattle more than 181 kg (400 lb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires a minimum of 1356 J (1000 ft-lb) of muzzle energy. <p>Examples of appropriate firearms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rifles: a .22 magnum or larger calibre centre fire rifle (.223, .270, 303, 30-30) is required • Shotguns: a 12 or 20 gauge shotgun with slugs or bird shot no. 2, 4 or 6. <p>Note: A standard .22 calibre long rifle only produces 119–138 joules (116–135 ft-lb) of muzzle energy and is not sufficient for this class of cattle.</p>
	Pigs: Grow/Finish/Sows/Boars	.22 magnum (not hollow point). A .22 rifle is only appropriate for younger animals. 20/16/12 ga. Shotgun
	Nursery Pigs	Non-penetrative captive bolt may be used up to 9kg; after that, penetrating captive bolt or rifle.
	Sheep and Goats	Minimum of .22 caliber firearm using “long-rifle” hollow-nosed ammunition and .22 magnum for horned animals; or shotgun with appropriate ammunition
Penetrating captive bolt and secondary step to cause death	All weight and age classes (Cattle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penetrating captive bolt guns with velocities ranging from 55–58m/s are most effective • Restrain if necessary <p>A secondary step is required as the penetrating bolt device is designed only to stun the animal Secondary steps can ONLY be performed on an animal that is confirmed to be unconscious. Secondary steps must be chosen in consultation with the herd veterinarian, outlined in the euthanasia protocol, and only performed following veterinary advice and training.</p>
Non-penetrating captive bolt and bleeding out	Young calves only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrain if necessary <p>Bleeding out step required after animal is confirmed to be unconscious</p>
Drugs approved for euthanasia	All animals weight and age classes	Must be administered by a veterinarian. Safe disposal of the carcass is required when barbiturates are used.

Contingency Plan (as required by CFIA):

Health of Animals Regulations: Part XII: Transport of Animals-Regulatory Amendment. <https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/humane-transport>

Every commercial carrier and those persons who transport animals in the course of business or for financial benefit must have a contingency plan.

The plan will establish measures to be taken to reduce or mitigate avoidable suffering if:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are any unforeseen delays or circumstances that could cause avoidable suffering, injury or death;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An animal becomes compromised or unfit during loading, confinement, transport or unloading.

Any person who is required to have a contingency plan will inform all employees who load, confine, transport or unload animals or who take part in decision making, or advising the person operating the conveyance, in respect of the loading, confining, transporting or unloading of animals of the contingency plan.

Guidance to regulated parties

Humane animal transportation is complex and dynamic. Things can go wrong. Responding appropriately to an evolving situation requires knowledge, skill and planning.

A contingency plan is a set of actions to address unusual or unexpected transport events.

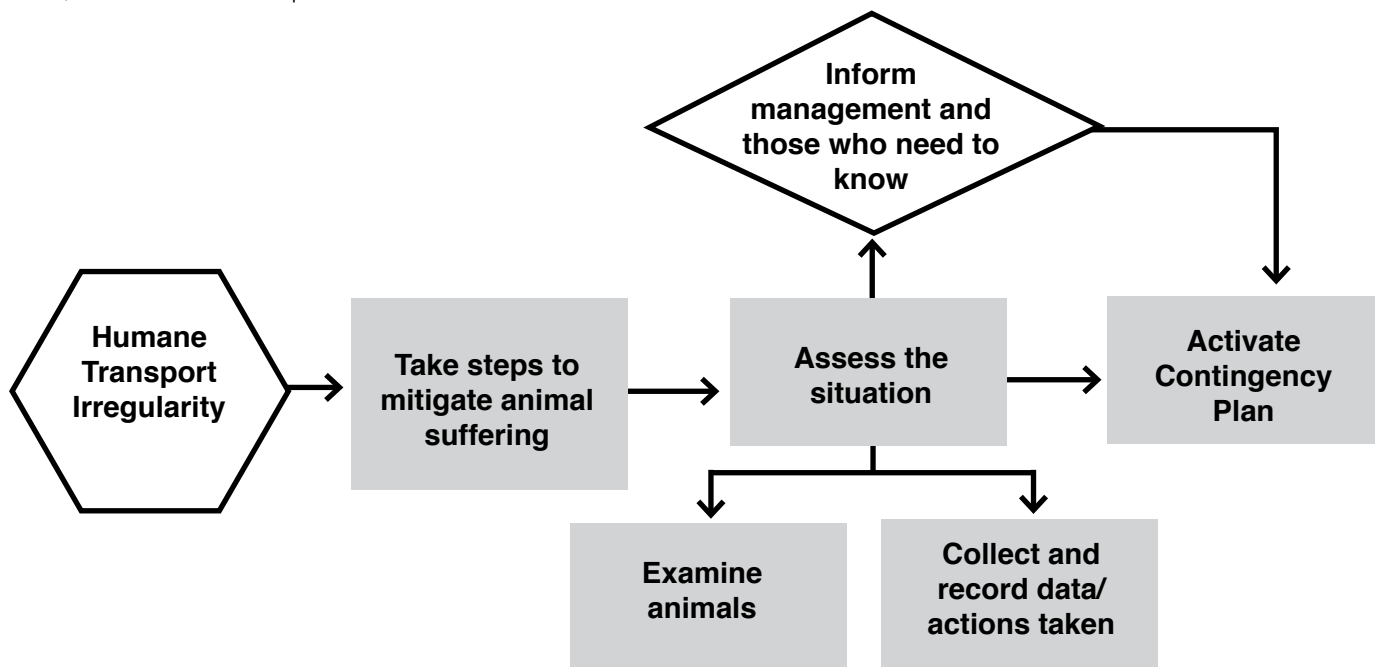
When you comply with HAR s. 138.2, you will be able to describe how you prepared to prevent unnecessary animal suffering, injury or death in the case of unforeseen but reasonably predictable events. Failure to have a contingency plan is a violation of Part XII of the HAR s. 138.2.

Contingency Plan Template at CFIA: at <https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health>

Animal Transport Contingency Plan Development Template

Sample of Contingency Plan first steps. See CFIA website for full template: <https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/humane-transport>

A contingency plan can take many forms. It is vital that animal transport companies keep animal welfare top of mind and keep their cargo moving in the face of obstacles and challenges. Being prepared with clear contingency plans and communication strategies will safeguard the animals in your care and help your organization remain agile during unforeseen challenges. An effective game plan helps you take care of your team, the animals in your care and your clients, with minimal disruption.



COMPANY NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS

Company Names(s) _____

Address of the company: _____

Driver has been briefed on the contingency plan YES NO

Driver humane transport training _____

Type _____

Expiry date _____

GOAL STATEMENT *(this is an example, customize to reflect your companies contingency planning goals):* **Take action to protect animals from suffering, injury and death in the event of emergency or change in plans. Human safety and animal welfare are our highest priority.**

COMMUNICATION PLAN:

Livestock Transportation Emergencies: Information Manual

www.farmfoodcareon.org/livestock-emergencies



www.FarmFoodCareON.org

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