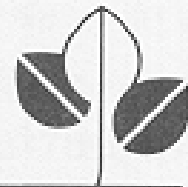


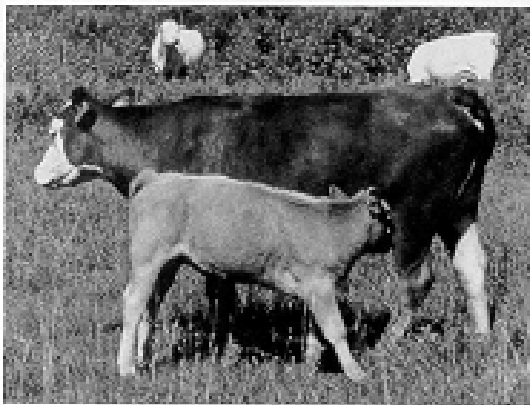


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Recommended code of practice for the care and handling of farm animals **Beef cattle**



Canada

Recommended code of practice for the care and handling of farm animals **Beef cattle**

Review committee chaired by

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Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals - Beef Cattle

Preface

This code was developed from an original working draft contracted by the Ontario Cattlemen's Association to Dr. Frank Hurnik, Professor, Poultry and Animal Science, University of Guelph, Ont., in the early 1980s. In 1988, the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) recognized the industry needed a national code of practice and adopted Dr. Hurnik's original text as a working draft. This draft was submitted to all CCA's provincial member organizations for review and input.

As the next step in developing the code, a review committee brought together individuals representing the industry; professional agricultural and veterinary associations; transporters, processors, and auction markets; Research, and Food Production and Inspection branches of Agriculture Canada; and animal care and welfare organizations.

Through agreement between the CCA and the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, Agriculture Canada appointed Dr. Hurnik to chair the review committee.

The CCA is grateful to all who assisted in developing this code of practice.

Introduction

Welfare codes strive to promote the highest standards of animal husbandry and handling.

This code is intended to achieve a workable balance between the best interests of the animals and the producers. It recognizes the basic principles that humaneness towards animals is a prime consideration, and that animals treated well and protected from stress benefit producers.

The code is voluntary. However, all provincial and federal acts and regulations must always take precedence. Where the word "must" is used it emphasizes the importance of a specific practice. This code is intended for use as a guide and educational tool in promoting sound husbandry and welfare practices. It will need to be reviewed and updated from time to time.

The recommendations do not claim to be comprehensive for all circumstances but attempt to define high standards of beef cattle production and well-being in commercial, research, educational, and other farm operations. The code can guide operators in the various sectors of the beef industry both to compare with others or improve their own management routines.

Maintaining flexibility in beef cattle production and management systems ensures that continued innovation and improvement can occur. Given the scope of production systems of the Canadian beef cattle industry, strict definition of the wide range of production and management practices used is neither reasonable nor feasible.

Production and management practices are subject to change as technology develops. The Canadian beef cattle industry will continue to support research and technology transfer to enhance production and management practices that benefit both cattle and humans.

Section 1. Shelter and Housing

The Canadian beef industry comprises the cow-calf, backgrounder and feedlot sectors. Production practices for all sectors have developed in response to Canada's diverse climate and geographical conditions. Therefore, it is beyond the scope of this code to describe all shelter and housing facilities used in cattle production. Individuals requiring further details should refer to local sources of information such as universities, agricultural ministries, and local successful beef producers. The purpose of Section 1.1 is to provide information on basic principles of providing shelter for cattle.

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 The design and use of shelter facilities for beef cattle should promote the health, well-being, and good performance of animals at all stages of their lives. Natural or constructed shelter areas should adequately protect animals from weather fluctuations characteristic of the region. All shelter areas should be structurally safe for personnel and animals, and the design should facilitate easy and safe handling of animals.
- 1.1.2 Shelter areas should be located so as to avoid adverse effects of predictable natural occurrences, such as seasonal flooding.
- 1.1.3 Feedlots and paddocks used during cold seasons must have adequate windbreaks to reduce wind speed and hence the wind-chill effect on cattle.
- 1.1.4 The design of housing facilities and the materials used for barn interiors should enable thorough cleaning and, when necessary, effective disinfection. Materials should be nontoxic.
- 1.1.5 Housing facilities should be designed and constructed to ensure the animals' comfort and to enhance their good health.
- 1.1.6 The floors of housing facilities, including surfaces of paddocks, should be properly drained, not only to keep them as dry as possible for the animals but also to minimize the potential for the spread of diseases that develop in dirty, moist environments.
- 1.1.7 Floors of barns and handling alleys should always provide good traction and be kept as clean and dry as possible, to minimize injuries, leg or foot deformities, and discomfort of the animals.
- 1.1.8 Handling alleys and housing pens must be free of sharp edges and protrusions to prevent injury to personnel and animals.
- 1.1.9 Mechanical and electrical devices used in housing facilities or devices to which the animals have access, must be safe. Strict attention must be paid to electrical equipment for stray or tingle voltage.
- 1.1.10 Working and calving areas and sick pens should permit easy visual inspection of animals at any time.
- 1.1.11 Newly built or renovated housing facilities for cattle should be designed to allow animals to be easily evacuated in cases of emergency.
- 1.1.12 In all types of housing systems cattle should be free to stand up and lie down comfortably at all times.
- 1.1.13 Tethering devices if used must be safe for the animals and should not interfere with their actions of standing up or lying down. Tethering devices should be carefully inspected for their proper functioning and safety to animals. Any cattle that are kept on tethers should be routinely exercised.

Section 2. Calving facilities

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 In moderate climatic conditions beef cows may calve outside on the pasture or range. If calving season extends into the time of more severe weather conditions, sheltered calving areas either constructed or natural should be provided. In confined facilities separate calving pens should be available if needed.
- 2.1.2 The size of calving areas needed depends on the overall herd size and on the seasonality of calving.
- 2.1.3 Calving pens must be free of protrusions and sharp edges.

- 2.1.4 All occupied calving pens should be clean and should have an adequate amount of fresh, dry bedding material.
- 2.1.5 Whenever possible, to reduce the excitability of cows during parturition and to minimize potential problems, cows should be familiar with their handler and with the calving areas prior to expected calving date.

Section 3. Feed and water

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 Diets for all classes of beef cattle should be formulated in accordance with the recommendations of the National Research Council (US) subcommittee on beef cattle nutrition in *Nutrient requirements of beef cattle*. In formulating diets, producers should take into consideration the environmental conditions, breed or breed cross, age, body condition, intake levels, and reproductive status of the animals. Additional dietary energy is needed in the last third of pregnancy and for about 2 months following calving.
- 3.1.2 When animals are fed high-energy diets, increased and regular attention should be paid to avoid nutrition-related health problems, such as grain overload and bloat. Abrupt changes in diet should be avoided.
- 3.1.3 All feed components used in the diet must be good quality and free of spoilage that might be detrimental to the animal. Unusual feedstuffs may be incorporated into the diet only when research has shown that they have no adverse effect on the animal's health or on the quality of the final product.
- 3.1.4 All feed and water additives must be approved by the appropriate government agencies and be administered accordingly. If used, growth promotants must be government approved and must be administered in accordance with label recommendations.
- 3.1.5 Cattle should have access to fresh clean water at all times. The average daily demand for cattle weighing 500 kg (1,100 lbs.) is about 45 L (10 gallons) per animal and increases in hot weather up to 90 L (20 gallons) per animal.
- 3.1.6 Adequate feed must be provided regularly. Feed interruption longer than 24 hours should be avoided.
- 3.1.7 When cattle are fed in groups, all animals must have access to feed. Whenever restricted feeding is practiced, all animals should have simultaneous access to the feeders so that they may eat at the same time.

Section 4. Pastures

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 Cattle on pasture should be inspected regularly paying particular attention during high risk periods (e.g., seasonal change, calving period, and introduction of new animals to the herd).
- 4.1.2 Cattle on pasture or range should have access to sufficient quantity and quality of feed and water.
- 4.1.3 Application of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and sewage sludge on pastures must be timed and conducted to prevent any risk to the grazing animals or to the end product. Before and regularly during the grazing season pastures should be monitored for poisonous plants. Environmental conditions, including flooding and air pollution, can contaminate pastures.

- 4.1.4 Producers should be aware that cattle may ingest materials other than normal feedstuffs. Therefore, cattle should not be allowed access to potentially toxic materials such as lead batteries, petroleum products, and some paints.
- 4.1.5 Salt and minerals as required should be available at all times.
- 4.1.6 All fences, electric or conventional, on pastures and ranges should be safe and be maintained in good, functional condition.
- 4.1.7 Cattle on pasture or range should have access to a well-drained resting area and to natural or constructed shelter against adverse weather conditions.
- 4.1.8 Fly and insect populations should be regularly monitored and appropriate control measures be applied whenever needed.

Section 5. Delivery and neonatal care

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 Cattlemen must be familiar with the signs of approaching parturition and be ready to provide assistance as necessary.
- 5.1.2 Delivery without complication is the most common case in cattle. Therefore, before administering assistance to a cow, cattlemen should be familiar with the signs of normal delivery. Cows having difficulty with calving (dystocia) should be assisted immediately by a competent person using proper equipment and accepted veterinary techniques.
- 5.1.3 Whenever possible, each newborn calf should have its navel treated with a suitable disinfectant.
- 5.1.4 Each calf should receive colostrum as soon as possible preferably within 4 hours after birth.

Section 6. Early weaned calves

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 In the present beef cattle management systems most calves stay with their dams for at least 5 months after birth. Particularly during the 1st month of life, calves should be observed regularly (preferably daily) to ensure that they are adequately nourished and are healthy.
- 6.1.2 Early weaned calves need specialized care from a competent person using accepted animal-husbandry practices.
- 6.1.3 Every effort should be made to ensure that early weaned calves receive sufficient colostrum to protect them from disease during their postnatal development. Newborn calves should consume at least 1.5 - 2 L (2.6 – 3.5 pt, or about 5% of body weight) of colostrum as soon as possible after birth and certainly within the first 4 hours of life. Thereafter calves should consume at least 8-10% of body weight in colostrum or whole milk over each 24 hour period divided into three feedings for the first three days of life.
- 6.1.4 Early weaned calves should receive only high-quality milk replacers appropriate for their age as specified by the product label. A good-quality roughage or commercial ration should be available on a free choice basis by at least 2 weeks of age, to promote rumen development.
- 6.1.5 Early weaned calves must have access to clean, fresh water at all times.

- 6.1.6 Utensils for feeding liquids should be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized immediately after each use. Troughs and buckets should be clean and any stale feed be removed. Automatic feeding equipment should be cleaned regularly and frequently.

Section 7. Reproduction management

7.1 General

- 7.1.1 Generally, beef cows are bred naturally. Where artificial insemination is practiced, proper restraining devices should be available to facilitate an easy and effective insemination. Cows to be inseminated should be handled as quietly as possible to avoid unnecessary stress or interfere with conception.
- 7.1.2 To prevent dystocia and other health problems, the timing of first breeding should take into account the overall physical development of the heifer. It is recommended that heifers be at least two-thirds of estimated mature body size at first breeding.
- 7.1.3 To reduce the likelihood of calving difficulties, sires should be carefully selected on the basis of their own birth weights and calving ease. Sire selection should also take into account the breed, size, age, and previous calving record of the females to which the bulls will be exposed.
- 7.1.4 Cows and heifers should be managed so that they are in suitable body condition at the time of calving.

Section 8. Herd management

8.1 General

- 8.1.1 Everyone working with cattle or managing animal facilities must understand and accept their responsibility to prevent unnecessary suffering of animals.
- 8.1.2 An important skill of cattlemen is the ability to recognize early signs of distress or disease in animals so that the cause can be identified and prompt, appropriate remedial action taken.
- 8.1.3 The manager of a beef cattle operation should design a contingency plan for situations that might endanger the lives or health of animals on the premises (e.g. fire, mechanical failures, and acts of God). Cattlemen must be familiar with the plan and, in an emergency, be able to take the proper action.
- 8.1.4 When working with cattle, cattlemen should always avoid sudden movement or actions that may frighten the animals.
- 8.1.5 Cattlemen should always be alert to the potential danger from aggressive animals and take the precautions needed to ensure their own safety and that of others.
- 8.1.6 Handling and restraining devices must be used humanely. Cattlemen should handle animals quietly but firmly at all times and with care to avoid unnecessary injury, pain, and distress. Any enforced action must be consistent with the animals' natural movement and typical physical capabilities.

Section 9. Herd health management

9.1 General

- 9.1.1 All animals and facilities should be inspected routinely and, if necessary, appropriate action should be taken immediately.
- 9.1.2 Adequate restraining devices should be available for treatment if necessary.

- 9.1.3 The manager of a beef cattle operation should develop, in consultation with a veterinarian, sound vaccination and sanitation programs appropriate to the facilities and to the management system involved. Increased cattle population density in general requires greater attention to disease prevention.
- 9.1.4 Distressed cattle should be dealt with humanely, effectively, and promptly to prevent avoidable suffering. Abnormal health conditions must receive proper treatment. Sick, injured, or disabled cattle in severe distress should not be subjected to the rigors of loading and transportation. These animals should be euthanized or slaughtered on the farm. Under no circumstances should sick, injured, or disabled animals be transported either to livestock auction markets or long distances to meat packers. Slaughter at local abattoirs is an alternative if the animals are free of residues and have salvageable meat value.
- 9.1.5 Dead animals must be removed immediately and disposed of in an appropriate manner according to law.
- 9.1.6 Suspicion of a reportable disease as defined by the Health of Animals Act must be immediately brought to the notice of a veterinarian.
- 9.1.7 Overly aggressive, horned animals should be segregated or properly dehorned so as to prevent injury to other animals (see paragraph 10.1.4).

Section 10. Treatment of animals

10.1 General

- 10.1.1 When animals require medication, it must be administered as directed by the veterinarian or manufacturer. Treated animals must be properly identified. Only medications approved for use in cattle must be used. Their use must adhere strictly to the recommended dosage and withdrawal period prior to the marketing of the animals. All cattlemen should maintain health records of treatments and medication used.
- 10.1.2 Strict attention must be paid to dosage levels and withdrawal times either as indicated by label information or as recommended by a veterinarian.
- 10.1.3 Medication must be administered by competent and knowledgeable personnel.
- 10.1.4 Minor surgical practices must be conducted only by competent personnel using proper equipment and accepted techniques. Castration and dehorning should be performed at an early age, preferably before weaning, when recovery time is relatively short. Personnel conducting these procedures must take all precautions to avoid unnecessary pain to the animal during the surgery and suffering during its recovery period. When it is necessary to castrate or dehorn a mature animal, the operation should be conducted in consultation with a veterinarian.
- 10.1.5 Other surgical procedures must be conducted only by veterinarians or competent, properly trained personnel using accepted surgical techniques and in accordance with the law.

Section 11. Identification

11.1 General

- 11.1.1 Permanent identification is an essential aspect of the cattle industry as legal proof of ownership.
- 11.1.2 The industry encourages the development of the least painful means of identification.

- 11.1.3 Under some circumstances, hot iron or freeze branding is necessary. It is acknowledged that branding is a brief, painful experience. When branding is required, it should be done quickly, expertly, with the proper equipment, and in accordance with accepted standards. Brands should be an appropriate size to achieve clear identification and cause the least possible pain to the animals.
- 11.1.4 In consideration of the welfare of the animals, cattle should not be rebranded - particularly as bills of sale are a record of ownership. Governments and industry are encouraged to eliminate any current regulations requiring rebranding.
- 11.1.5 Wattling, ear splitting, and other unnecessary surgical alteration of cattle for identification or cosmetic purposes are strongly discouraged.

Section 12. Loading and farm to farm transportation

12.1 General

- 12.1.1 Properly designed and maintained loading facilities should be provided for easy and safe movement of animals. Proper design of loading chutes in accordance with accepted standards, can make a significant difference to the safety of both cattle and cattlemen (see paragraph 16.5.2).
- 12.1.2 All vehicles used to transport cattle should permit easy loading and unloading and provide for the safety of cattle and personnel during transport.
- 12.1.3 All vehicles used to transport cattle should have properly maintained flooring, gates, and latches; adequate ventilation; and proper cover to protect against extreme weather conditions.
- 12.1.4 Safe load levels should be strictly adhered to with regard to weight of animal and space allocation.
- 12.1.5 When required to hire transporters, cattlemen should hire only those known to be responsible in their handling of animals and who use vehicles properly equipped for the transportation of beef cattle.
- 12.1.6 When the vehicle is not full, cattle should be safely partitioned into smaller areas to provide stability for the cattle and the vehicle (for commercial trucking, see Section 15).

Section 13. Cruelty and neglect

Situations can arise in which some livestock owners, either through ignorance or neglect, inflict unnecessary hardships upon livestock in their care. Unnecessary hardship can take many forms including brutality, or more often neglect. Neglect can take the form of starvation and can occur accidentally especially in isolated areas where the farmer becomes incapacitated either physically or mentally. Charges can be laid under the Criminal Code of Canada.

13.1 General

- 13.1.1 Cattlemen should have due regard for the welfare of all livestock.
- 13.1.2 If animals are neglected, deprived of the basic necessities, or subjected to cruelty or abuse, all those in the cattle industry have the responsibility of taking corrective action including reporting serious situations to the proper authorities.
- 13.1.3 Ignorance of proper husbandry practices is no excuse for inflicting hardship on animals.

Section 14. Feedlots

14.1 General

- 14.1.1 New arrivals must initially be isolated from the other feedlot cattle. The area must be kept clean, dry, and protected from the elements.
- 14.1.2 New arrivals must have access to an adequate supply of suitable-quality water supply. This should be easily identifiable, as many new arrivals may be familiar with natural water sources only.
- 14.1.3 New arrivals must have access to suitable-quality feed; they should be introduced gradually to the feedlot ration.
- 14.1.4 An adequate supply of clean bedding should be available at all times. The bedding areas should be prepared before the animals enter the feedlot.
- 14.1.5 New arrivals must be closely monitored for health and for feed and water intake.
- 14.1.6 Isolation pens should be available to accommodate sick animals safely and effectively.
- 14.1.7 Any animal requiring medical treatment should be identified, treated, and a record of treatment kept (see paragraph 9.1.3 and section 10.1).
- 14.1.8 A dry, sheltered, and, if necessary, elevated resting area should be available at all times.
- 14.1.9 Feedlots should be properly drained with particular attention to feeding and watering areas. Excessive buildup of wet manure must be avoided in keeping with good animal-husbandry practices.
- 14.1.10 Appendix 2 lists the minimum space per animal that must be available in close confinement housing. The space allowance for cattle housed in groups should be calculated in relation to the whole environment, to the size of the group, and to the age, sex, weight, and behavior of the stock.
- 14.1.11 To prevent health problems (see paragraph 3.1.2), cattle should be introduced gradually (i.e., over 2-3 weeks) to high-concentrate rations.
- 14.1.12 A feedlot facility should have properly designed and maintained loading facilities.

Section 15. Commercial transportation

15.1 Definitions

- 15.1.1 **Vehicle** - Any means of conveyance used for the transportation of all classes of livestock, including trucks, tractor-trailers, railway cars, ships, and airplanes.
- 15.1.2 **Container** - A box or crate that is constructed for the shipment of livestock and that can be moved independently from one mode of transportation to another.

15.2 General

- 15.2.1 Transport crews should be properly instructed on, and knowledgeable of, the basic factors in transporting cattle humanely. In addition, crews should be skillful in transporting cattle under varying climatic conditions. Furthermore, responsibility for ensuring that personnel directly involved with the care of livestock are adequately trained and knowledgeable in transporting cattle rests with the employers.

- 15.2.2 Truck drivers should start, drive, and stop their vehicles as smoothly as possible. They should practice defensive driving by ensuring that adequate space is available to stop should an emergency require an unexpected stop. In addition, they should negotiate turns in the smoothest possible manner. Turning sharply should be avoided.
- 15.2.3 Knowingly inflicting physical injury or unnecessary pain on cattle when loading, unloading, or transporting animals is not acceptable.
- 15.2.4 Transport crews are responsible for the welfare of the cattle during the entire stage of transit that they have agreed to undertake.
- 15.2.5 Each load should be checked within the first 35 km after loading. The driver should check for signs of general discomfort of the cattle, such as overheating and overcrowding. When required, the distribution of animals in the load should be readjusted as soon as redistribution is both possible and allowable. Furthermore, all loads should be checked periodically while being transported. On longer hauls, cattle should be checked every 2 - 3 h.
- 15.2.6 The transportation of cattle from point of origin to final destination should, while adhering to the provisions of the highway traffic acts and municipal bylaws, be by the most direct route and be completed as quickly as possible without causing undue stress to the animals.
- 15.2.7 Employers have an obligation for the proper training of employees on humane handling, on appropriate use of equipment, and on general livestock care. Furthermore, shippers are responsible to ensure that only qualified transporters are used, who are knowledgeable in the care and transporting of livestock, and that animals tendered for transport are suitably fit to undergo transportation.

15.3 Loading and unloading

- 15.3.1 In a new situation or location, all normal, healthy cattle are alert and investigative. Consequently, every change or disturbance in surroundings, such as noises, breezes, movement of objects, and flashes of light, should be avoided because animals in unfamiliar situations are easily frightened. Abrupt movements by drivers and loaders should also be avoided.
- 15.3.2 The use of electric prods is discouraged. However, when they are in use and required to move cattle, care must be taken not to use prods on the genital and anal areas, head, and udder of cattle.
- 15.3.3 Cattle should neither be loaded or unloaded in such a manner as to cause injury or avoidable suffering. When possible, the use of internal or external ramps is recommended. The tilting of the box of a dump truck is totally unacceptable.
- 15.3.4 The loading of cattle into vehicles is more easily accomplished if the alleys and ramps have no sharp turns that could impede movement or could cause injury to the animals. Ideally, the loading and unloading paths and ramps should be curved and should have solid walls. The inside wall should be made slightly lower so that the animals can see the tops of the heads of their forerunners. All alleys and ramps should be properly illuminated. When animals are handled with care, such an arrangement will give them the feeling of approaching the main body of the herd. As a result, their insecurity and fear will be minimized. Angles of elevation of loading ramps should not exceed 25 degrees. Preferably, loading and unloading docks should be elevated so that they are level with the vehicle in order to permit the cattle to step safely onto or off the vehicle.
- 15.3.5 Ramps and chutes should be strong and solid, should provide safe footing, and should have sides high enough to prevent cattle from falling or jumping off.
- 15.3.6 No gap should exist between the ramp, its sides, and the vehicle. Internal ramps should be used at all times.

- 15.3.7 Vehicle doors and internal gates should be sufficiently wide to permit cattle to pass through them easily without getting bruised or injured.
- 15.3.8 Cattle should not be rushed during loading and unloading.
- 15.3.9 Tethering devices must be removed from calves immediately if they restrict breathing or otherwise cause discomfort.
- 15.3.10 Excessive use of identification devices such as ear tags must be avoided. Back tags should be used for short-term or temporary identification.

15.4 Vehicles

- 15.4.1 All vehicles used for transporting cattle should have sides that are secure, strong, and high enough to prevent cattle from jumping from, falling off, or being pushed out of the vehicle. Vehicle design and construction should prevent protrusion of any part of an animal from the vehicle to prevent injury.
- 15.4.2 Vehicle floors should provide for secure footing. It is recommended that sand, sawdust, or straw be used.
- 15.4.3 Vehicles must be properly ventilated.
- 15.4.4 Vehicles used for transporting cattle should be well constructed, with secure, smooth fittings, and should be free of protruding bolt heads and any other sharp protrusions.
- 15.4.5 Provisions must be made for drainage or absorption of urine, or both.
- 15.4.6 Portable ramps should be stable and should provide sufficient footing to ensure that cattle can set proper traction. Sides should be high enough to prevent injury to the animals.
- 15.4.7 All vehicles used for transporting of cattle must be appropriate to the species.

15.5 Containers

- 15.5.1 Unless livestock can be seen easily from outside containers, each container must have a sign or symbol to indicate that it contains live animals and to show its upright position.
- 15.5.2 Containers must be secured on or in vehicles, to prevent the containers from moving during the journey.
- 15.5.3 Attention must be paid to container temperature, ventilation, surrounding facilities, and available space during the journey.
- 15.5.4 Containers that hold livestock should be tilted as little as possible during all stages of loading and unloading. They should always be moved smoothly and should never be thrown or dropped.
- 15.5.5 Sudden changes in environment should be minimized during transportation; livestock should not be subjected to excessive, unfamiliar noise.
- 15.5.6 For further information on shipment of animals by air, refer to the International Air Transportation Association - Live Animals Regulations.

15.6 Space requirements

- 15.6.1 Cattle should be provided with enough floor space in a vehicle or container to ensure that they are not crowded in a way that is likely to cause injury or suffering (Appendix 3).

15.6.2 Each animal should be able to stand in its natural position, allowing for comfortable head movement without touching the deck or roof of the vehicle or container.

15.7 Segregation

15.7.1 While livestock are in transit on the same vehicle

- different species should be partitioned separately from each other unless they are compatible by size, species, and disposition
- calves should be partitioned separately from mature cattle
- mature bulls should be partitioned separately from other livestock.

15.8 Protecting cattle

15.8.1 Vehicles should not be used if injury or undue suffering is likely to result from

- improper construction or maintenance of the vehicle
- insecure fittings or the presence of bolt heads, angles, or other projections
- the fittings or other parts of the vehicle being inadequately padded, fenced off, or otherwise obstructed
- improper ventilation
- engine exhaust fumes entering the trailer or container.

15.8.2 Vehicles and containers should be cleaned, and sanitized regularly to prevent the spread of disease. When loads are assembled from a number of sources, cleaning should be done before the first pickup of cattle. Cleaned vehicles and containers should be provided with sufficient amounts of suitable fresh bedding material. All commercial unloading facilities should provide an appropriate area, suitably equipped, where cleaning can be done during all seasons.

15.8.3 Livestock must be protected during transit to prevent suffering caused by exposure to severe weather conditions.

15.9 Food, water, and rest

15.9.1 Cattle destined for long trips should be fed and watered within 5 h of starting their journey. Particular attention should be paid to feeder cattle and calves.

15.9.2 Cattle must not be without food and water for longer than 48 h. This time may only be exceeded if they will reach their final destination without being confined longer than 52 h. This regulation is a federal statute contained in the Health of Animals Act.

15.9.3 By law, transporters must, at those places where animals are loaded or unloaded for feed, water, and rest, maintain or have access to facilities at which such animals may be adequately fed, watered, and cared for and protected from extreme weather.

15.9.4 Calves less than 3 days old should not be transported for auction purposes. Calves too young to be fed exclusively on hay and grain should be provided with suitable food and water at least every 18 h.

15.9.5 Transporters should plan their long-distance trips taking into consideration the location of facilities that offer protection from extreme weather conditions, and where cattle may be unloaded, fed, watered, and cared for in a humane manner.

- 15.9.6 Cattle unloaded to be fed, watered, and rested must be put in a pen with ample, suitable feed and ice-free water and be allowed to rest for at least 5 h. The pen must have sufficient space for all the livestock to lie down at the same time; it must also provide protection from inclement weather.
- 15.9.7 Before the cattle are reloaded, the transporter should ensure that fresh bedding is added to the vehicle floor if required.

15.10 Injured, sick, and disabled cattle

- 15.10.1 Only cattle fit to travel should be considered for transportation unless special precautions are taken to ensure the animal does not suffer (see paragraph 9.1.4).
- 15.10.2 An animal that becomes injured, sick, or disabled during transit must be taken to the nearest appropriate place for treatment; special precautions must be taken to minimize its suffering.
- 15.10.3 An animal that becomes injured, sick, or disabled in transit should be kept separate from other animals.
- 15.10.4 Injured, sick, and disabled cattle should be unloaded in a way that causes them the least amount of suffering (Appendix 4).
- 15.10.5 In the case of an accident, immediate action should be taken to minimize suffering (see Appendix 5).
- 15.10.6 Severely disabled cattle (downers) cattle should not be dragged. Where possible, they should be evaluated by a veterinarian. If the carcass is not salvageable, the animal should be euthanized. Where the animal's carcass could be of value, the animal should be moved in the vehicle to the nearest abattoir, examined, rendered unconscious, and slaughtered (see paragraph 9.1.4).

15.11 Pregnant cattle

- 15.11.1 Pregnant cattle should not be transported if they are likely to give birth during the journey.

15.12 Precautions in cold weather

- 15.12.1 All cattle must be protected from cold winds during travel because wind chill can cause death (Appendix 1).
- 15.12.2 Special precautions should be taken to protect calves because they are more sensitive to cold and quickly suffer frostbite.
- 15.12.3 When calves less than 4 weeks old are moved, they must be provided with an adequate supply of straw to keep them dry and comfortable. Because wet bedding can freeze, it should be removed from the truck after each trip.
- 15.12.4 On the inside of the vehicle, the area with which the animal could come into contact should, when possible, be covered with wood.
- 15.12.5 During winter travel, openings that allow drafts to enter the vehicle box should be covered, to protect the cattle from cold crosswinds. Although some air should be allowed to circulate, all vehicle front vents should be closed.
- 15.12.6 Ventilation and load should be checked during transit to ensure there is neither too much cold air, which could cause frostbite, nor insufficient ventilation, which could cause suffocation.
- 15.12.7 In cold weather, cattle should be inspected about every 2 hours. Every attempt should be made to maintain a draft-free environment for cattle during transit. Warming and cooling can cause severe respiratory problems.

15.12.8 In the event of vehicle breakdowns, traffic accidents, or other delays during transit, appropriate action is required to ensure the well being of the cattle (see Appendix 4).

15.13 Precautions in hot and humid weather

15.13.1 During hot and humid weather, extra precautions should be taken to avoid stress or death caused by high temperatures or high humidity.

15.13.2 Vehicles containing animals should not be parked in direct sunlight. When it is necessary to stop, the transporter should take all possible steps to ensure that the duration of the stop is minimized.

15.13.3 Sand, sawdust, straw, or shavings should be used in vehicles where there is inadequate footing. Sand containing materials known to be irritating or harmful to the animals (e.g., fertilizer or ash) must never be used.

15.13.4 Loading density should be reduced in hot and humid weather (see Appendix 3).

15.13.5 No matter what type of transportation is used, adequate airflow throughout the vehicle or container must be provided to keep cattle comfortable.

15.13.6 Whenever possible, journeys during hot and humid periods should be avoided. During hot and humid periods the transporter should attempt to schedule necessary movements at night and in the early dawn. Periods of intense traffic congestion should be avoided.

15.13.7 Loading and unloading of cattle should be accomplished promptly. Frequency and length of stops where cattle are not offloaded should be kept to a minimum during transit to prevent rapid buildup of heat inside the vehicle.

15.13.8 In the event of unforeseen delays, prescribed emergency procedures should be followed (see Appendix 4). In addition, the shipper or consignee should be contacted.

15.14 Transportation stress

15.14.1 In hot weather, cattle should be handled particularly carefully because physical activity increases heat stress. Wide temperature fluctuations between day and night also increase stress.

15.14.2 Care is essential when forced movement of a stressed animal is necessary. Every animal should be treated with extreme patience and should be allowed to rest when overexerted.

15.14.3 Anyone transporting livestock by truck should refer to Agriculture Canada's *Transporting Livestock by truck* (Appendix 5).

Section 16. Auction markets

16.1 General

16.1.1 All provincial and federal acts and regulations governing all aspects of auction markets must always take precedence.

16.2 Facilities

16.2.1 Secure footing for all animals should be maintained preferably through the use of sand where required.

- 16.2.2 Loading ramps, chutes, and other holding facilities should be constructed of solid materials and should be well maintained. Heavy-duty steel pipe, at least 5 cm (2 in) thick lumber, and concrete are recommended building materials.
- 16.2.3 Facilities should be routinely inspected to remove hazards. Holes in flooring, broken boards and bars, protruding pieces of angle iron, nails, or long bolts around the chute and corrals should be repaired or removed to reduce risk of injury to livestock.
- 16.2.4 All handling and holding facilities should be regularly cleaned and supplied with fresh bedding.
- 16.2.5 Loading ramps should be about 76 cm (30 in) wide to allow cattle to move single file. Ramps should not be steeper than 25 degrees and, preferably, made of concrete. Ideally the ramp should be in a stairstep design. The steps should have no more than a 9 cm (3.5 in) rise and at least a 30 cm (12 in) long tread, with adequate grooving made in the concrete.
- 16.2.6 On wooden ramps, square cleats 3.8 - 5.0 cm (1.5 - 2 in) should be attached to the ramp every 20-cm (8 in). Hardwood or square steel tubing should be used for cleats.
- 16.2.7 Ramps should have at least a 1.5 m (5 ft) level dock at the top; at high volume loading areas, the dock at the top of the ramp should be at least 6 m (20 ft) long.
- 16.2.8 Curved chutes with solid walls work best for efficient movement of cattle. Chute design should allow for a gradual curve with no more than a 15-degree bend (Appendix 6).
- 16.2.9 For the benefit of handlers, a catwalk should be built along the edge of curved chutes and pens. The distance from the catwalk platform to the top of the chute fence is recommended to be 1.06 m (42 in). Overhead catwalks are not recommended in loading chute areas.
- 16.2.10 Except in loading areas, overhead walkways should be installed wherever possible to avoid the presence of humans in cattle alleys.
- 16.2.11 Floors of all pens should be paved, properly drained, and scored or treated to prevent slipping; they must be graded gently to provide good footing. The slope of the floor in individual holding units should be between 2% and 4% (2-4 cm/m). Drainage grates, where required, should be at the side of the pens.
- 16.2.12 Drains should be installed outside the chute area. Cattle will balk and refuse to walk over drain grates in the middle of the floor of chutes or alleys.
- 16.2.13 To encourage the safe and efficient movement of cattle at night, adequate and proper lighting is required around alleys, loading ramps, and the entrance to transport vehicles.
- 16.2.14 Cattle generally move toward light, but lamps should not be shone directly into the animals' eyes. To load cattle at night, either spotlights mounted 3-6 m (10 -20 ft) off the ground or frosted lamps placed inside the truck should be used.
- 16.2.15 One-way gates that prevent cattle from reversing direction of their movement are highly desirable.
- 16.2.16 Feed and water should be provided for cattle being held for longer than 24 h.

16.3 Injured, sick, and disabled cattle

- 16.3.1 All cattle should be inspected on arrival at the auction market facility. Any signs of abuse or neglect should be reported to the Agriculture Canada inspector, provincial veterinarian, brand inspector, or other authorities.

- 16.3.2 Market operators should refuse to accept animals that are clearly not in condition to be moved through their facilities without further injury or stress.
- 16.3.3 Market operators should encourage and facilitate producers to move injured, sick, and disabled animals directly to packing plants.
- 16.3.4 Distressed animals that are accepted should be held separately in appropriate pens.

16.4 Holding and handling

- 16.4.1 Cattle should be loaded, unloaded, and moved through facilities with patience and as quietly as possible to reduce stress and injury; this care ultimately makes the job safer and more efficient.
- 16.4.2 All employees working with cattle should be instructed in basic handling techniques. They should understand animal flight zone and point of balance (see Appendix 7).
- 16.4.3 To reduce stress and prevent injury to livestock, pens should be large enough to allow for adequate space to avoid overcrowding.
- 16.4.4 A range of pen sizes should be available to minimize the need to mix various classes and lots of cattle. In larger pens, adjustable dividing gates should be used to reduce mixing of livestock.
- 16.4.5 During loading or unloading of livestock vehicles, loading docks must always be aligned. Even small gaps can catch or trip animals resulting in physical injury and stress. Self-aligning loading docks are recommended.
- 16.4.6 Cattle feel trapped and will balk if they see a dead end. Cattle should be able to see one pathway of escape ahead. Sliding and one-way gates in single-file and loading chutes should be constructed so that animals can see through them and move forward without balking.
- 16.4.7 The use of electric shock prods, canvas slappers, and other similar devices should be minimized and, if possible avoided when moving cattle through facilities. Prods that connect directly into a 120-V circuit are not permitted.
- 16.4.8 Prods must not be used on the genital and anal areas, head, or udder of cattle.
- 16.4.9 Attention should be paid to noise and odors. Cattle will balk at loud, high, or unfamiliar noises and will investigate unusual smells. Rubber stops installed on gates and squeeze chutes should be installed to reduce noise.
- 16.4.10 Dogs should be kept away from livestock handling areas, unless they are properly trained and supervised.
- 16.4.11 Excessive use of ear tags must be avoided. Back tags should be used for short term or temporary identification.
- 16.4.12 Single-file chutes should be used wherever possible to move cattle through the marketing process to prevent the stress inherent in sorting.
- 16.4.13 Cattle are particularly affected by contrasts between light and dark areas; therefore, care should be taken to ensure that artificial or natural light does not cast shadows across the path of animals.
- 16.4.14 Cattle held for more than 24 h should be provided with adequate feed and water in a bedded facility that has sufficient floor space for all animals to lie down and in which the feed cannot become contaminated.
- 16.4.15 Every animal that is a potential danger to other cattle should immediately be segregated.

16.4.16 Adequate protection from weather fluctuations characteristic of a given region should be provided for all cattle, particularly for young calves.

16.4.17 Calves less than 3 days old should not be accepted for sale.

16.5 Education

16.5.1 Employers have an obligation to train all employees in the safe and humane handling and treatment of livestock.

16.5.2 All employees should be instructed in basic livestock handling techniques using the following information sheets from the Livestock Markets Association of Canada:

- *How to keep your job by handling cattle more efficiently*
- *How to meet the public's demand for proper animal handling*
- *How to set up proper handling facilities*
- *How to reduce economic loss at loading*
- *How to reduce carcass bruising costs.*

All employers should insist that the techniques described in the information sheets are followed. Employers should hold group discussions with employees using the video *Handling cattle naturally* and other current materials on good handling to instruct them on their responsibilities and obligations.

16.5.3 Market owners should inform the livestock industry and general public about new equipment and handling techniques, which allow livestock to be handled with less stress.

16.5.4 Stakeholders in the livestock industry need to be made aware of the brochure *How to handle cattle more easily* designed for producers, the video *Handling cattle naturally*, and other educational material developed by the Livestock Markets Association of Canada as part of its good handling program.

Section 17. Processors

17.1 General

17.1.1 Operators of registered establishments and other slaughtering facilities are fully responsible for humane preslaughter handling and for the humane stunning and slaughter of cattle on their premises.

17.1.2 It is the responsibility of inspectors under both federal and provincial legislation to monitor the humane handling of cattle.

17.1.3 Violations of humane handling and related regulations, such as overcrowding, careless exposure to inclement weather, or other circumstances that result in unnecessary suffering, should be reported immediately to both plant management and inspection authorities.

17.2 Unloading

17.2.1 Truck unloading areas must be impervious to moisture and be sloped for drainage to maintain proper sanitary conditions.

17.2.2 Unloading facilities must be provided that will not cause injury to animals.

17.2.3 Vehicles and docks should always be aligned. There should be no unprotected gaps between the vehicle and the platform (bottom and sides) (see paragraph 16.4.5).

17.2.4 Unloading should take place as soon as possible after arrival of the transportation vehicle. The packer, the trucker, and the producer should consult to prevent unnecessary delays.

17.2.5 Obviously injured animals or animals unable to move should not be unloaded but should be referred immediately to a veterinarian.

17.3 Handling

17.3.1 Regulations under the Meat Inspection Act require that “No food animal shall be handled in a manner that subjects the animal to avoidable distress, or avoidable pain.”

17.3.2 Cattle should be unloaded and moved through facilities with patience and as quietly as possible to reduce stress and injury and ultimately to make the job safer and more efficient. Sufficient time should be allowed to keep pace with plant requirements without having to put pressure on either the cattle or their handlers.

17.3.3 Cattle are reluctant to enter dark areas. Illumination of alleys helps in moving animals forward.

17.3.4 Cattle are particularly affected by contrasts between light and dark areas; therefore, care should be taken to ensure that artificial or natural light does not cast shadows across the path of animals. The presence of a floor drain also causes a contrast and it is recommended that new or renovated facilities locate floor drains in such a way as to minimize the need for animals to cross them.

17.3.5 Attention should also be paid to noise and odors. Cattle are most reluctant to move towards any source of noise. Cattle are also very responsive to unusual smells. Odors and noise originating in the slaughter area act as deterrents to movement.

17.3.6 The use of electric prods, canvas slappers, and other similar devices should be minimized and, if possible, avoided. Prods that connect directly into 120V circuit are not permitted.

17.3.7 Prods must not be used on the genital and anal areas, head, or udder of cattle.

17.3.8 Every animal that is a potential danger to other cattle should immediately be segregated.

17.3.9 Cattle should be segregated from other species of food animals.

17.3.10 Readers should refer to “Holding and handling” under “Auction markets” Section 16, especially flight zone (see paragraph 16.4.2).

17.4 Ramps, alleys and chutes

17.4.1 Alleys, loading and unloading ramps, and the entrance to transport vehicles should be well illuminated.

17.4.2 Docks of different heights or adjustable ramps to accommodate different-sized vehicles during the unloading process should be provided.

17.4.3 Loading ramps should be about 75 cm (30 in) wide to allow cattle to move single file. Ramps should not be steeper than 25 degrees and preferably made of concrete. Ideally the ramp should be in a stairstep design. The steps should have no more than a 9 cm (3.5 in) rise and at least a 30 cm (12 in) long tread, with adequate grooving made in the concrete.

17.4.4 On wooden ramps, 3.8 - 5.0 cm (1.5 - 2 in) square cleats should be attached to the ramps every 20 cm (8 in). Hardwood or square steel tubing should be used for cleats.

17.4.5 It is preferable to have a flat loading surface at ramp or dock level. Ramps should have at least a 1.5 m (5 ft) level dock at the top; at high-volume loading areas, the dock at the top of the ramp should be at least 6 m (20 ft) long.

17.4.6 Receiving areas should be free from slick surfaces and sharp protrusions. Wherever possible, floor drains should be located at one side of each alley.

- 17.4.7 All floors of alleys and chutes must be paved, properly drained by their slope, and scored or treated to prevent animals from slipping; they must be graded gently to provide good footing.
- 17.4.8 One-way gates that prevent cattle from reversing direction of their movement are highly desirable.
- 17.4.9 Cattle feel trapped and will balk if they see a dead end. Cattle should be able to see one pathway of escape ahead. Sliding and one-way gates in single-file and loading chutes should be constructed so that animals can see through them and move forward without balking.
- 17.4.10 The provision of solid sides for chutes and ramps is helpful in those areas where cattle will be passing other cattle.
- 17.4.11 All ramps and chutes should have high enough sides to prevent animals from escaping, falling, or jumping off.
- 17.4.12 Partitions and gates of rust-resistant metal pipe or tubing are preferred. Smooth-sawed lumber is the minimum acceptable.
- 17.4.13 Cattle will balk at loud or high-frequency noises. Rubber stops installed on gates and squeeze chutes should help to reduce noise.
- 17.4.14 Protruding objects, such as nails and bolts, that might cause injury are not permitted.

17.5 Housing

- 17.5.1 Sufficient pens must be provided to prevent overcrowding, to permit necessary segregation of animals, and to enable all animals to lie down.
- 17.5.2 All floors of pens must be paved, be properly drained by their slope, be scored or treated to prevent slipping, and must be graded gently to provide good footing. The slope of the floor in individual holding units should be between 2% and 4% (2-4 cm/m). Drainage grates, where required, should be at the side of the pens.
- 17.5.3 Every holding area must be adequately ventilated to minimize distress to the animals and excessive accumulation of odors and condensation.
- 17.5.4 Each holding pen must provide animals with access to clean water. Where needed, water heaters should be provided to prevent drinking water from freezing.
- 17.5.5 Cattle held for more than 24 h should be provided with adequate feed and water in a bedded facility that has sufficient room to allow all animals to lie down at the same time and in which the feed cannot become contaminated.
- 17.5.6 Antemortem inspection facilities must be provided and must include a restraining device such as a squeeze. Such devices must provide protection against injury both for the animals and for the inspectors. Adequate lighting must be provided.

17.6 Injured, sick, and disabled cattle and special handling

- 17.6.1 All cattle that are obviously sick, injured, or disabled must immediately be separated from healthy cattle. Special segregation is required for cattle found to be unfit during antemortem inspection.
- 17.6.2 Special facilities must be provided for the unloading and conveyance of crippled animals directly into the plant without dragging or causing them undue suffering.
- 17.6.3 Facilities must also exist to permit the conveyance to the kill floor of animals slaughtered on a transport vehicle.

17.6.4 Pens for held cattle must not drain through other pens.

17.6.5 Pens for held cattle should be adequately lit and have special provisions for sanitation.

17.7 Stunning and slaughter

17.7.1 The selection and training of the personnel are the most important factors in ensuring that slaughter is humane.

17.7.2 No cattle shall be slaughtered without first being rendered unconscious by an experienced person using an approved, humane method (Note also paragraph 17.7.4).

17.7.3 Hoisting of conscious cattle is illegal.

17.7.4 Animals that are ritually slaughtered in accordance with established religious laws, without stunning, must be properly restrained and the slaughter must be carried out by qualified, experienced persons. Such slaughter shall be performed by a single cut that shall result in the rapid, simultaneous, and complete severance of the jugular vein and carotid arteries so as to cause rapid unconsciousness and exsanguination.

17.7.5 Stunning pens should be designed and constructed to accommodate single animals and to permit easy and safe stunning.

17.7.6 Stunning systems must be well maintained and must be used only by operators who are properly trained and who have the ability to apply such systems without causing the animals avoidable pain and suffering, so that unconsciousness of the animals results immediately.

17.8 Education of personnel

17.8.1 Employers have an obligation to train employees properly on humane handling, equipment use, and livestock care and to ensure that employees follow those principles at all times.

17.8.2 Employers should hold group discussions with their employees to instruct them on their responsibilities and obligations. Slides, pamphlets, and bulletins on these topics should be made available to employees.

17.8.3 A knowledge of basic animal behavior helps employees to become more tolerant and understanding of the functions of their job.

17.8.4 Every involved employee must be capable of using restraining or stunning equipment so as not to subject cattle to avoidable distress or avoidable pain.

17.9 Meat inspection act

17.9.1 The Meat Inspection Act now replaces the Humane Slaughter of Food Animal Act. Regulations made under the Meat Inspection Act contain very explicit requirements dealing with humane handling of cattle. *The meat hygiene manual*, developed by Agriculture Canada for the guidance of its inspectors and the operators of registered establishments, sets forth a number of guidelines for the industry.

17.9.2 Adherence to humane handling rules is mandatory for all establishments operating under the act.

17.9.3 Inhumane handling of cattle on plant premises must not be tolerated by an inspector.

Appendix 1 Wind-chill Factors

Wind chills resulting from actual air temperatures and wind speeds can adversely affect unprotected cattle in transit.

Wind Speed (km/h)	Actual air temperature (° C)						
	10	4	-1	-7	-12	-18	-23
Wind-chill factor							
8	9	2	-3	-8	-15	-21	-26
16	4	-2	-8	-15	-22	-29	-34
24	2	-5	-12	-21	-28	-34	-41
32	0	-8	-16	-23	-31	-37	-45
40	-1	-9	-18	-26	-33	-39	-48
48	-2	-11	-21	-28	-36	-42	-51
56	-3	-12	-21	-29	-37	-44	-54
64	-3	-12	-22	-29	-38	-47	-56
72	-4	-13	-22	-30	-39	-48	-57
80	-4	-13	-23	-31	-40	-48	-58

Appendix 2 Minimal space requirements for housing of beef cattle

Type of floor	Calves 225 kg (500lb)		Yearlings		Cows, bred, heifers, or heavy feeders	
	m ²	(sq ft)	m ²	(sq ft)	m ²	(sq ft)
Feedlot without shed						
Unpaved ground*	14	(155)	22	(250)	27	(300)
Paved ground**	4	(45)	5	(55)	8	(90)
Feedlot with shed						
Unpaved ground*	14	(155)	22	(250)	27	(300)
Paved ground**	2.3	(25)	3	(30)	4.5	(50)
Shed area***	1.4	(15)	1.8	(20)	2.7	(30)
Slatted floors	1.5	(17)	2	(22)	--	--

* Unpaved lot slopes 4-8%

** Paved lot slopes 2-4%

*** Shed minimum clear height 2.4m (8 ft) for calves; 3.0m (10 ft) for yearlings and cows.

Source: F. Hurnik

Appendix 3 Safe load levels for different types of vehicles

Maximum number of animals may be determined by dividing total truck floor space by number of square feet required per animal.

Type of vehicle (length and area) Sq ft per animal	Number of cattle									
	(135-158 kg) 300-350 lb	(158-180 kg) 350-400 lb	(180-203 kg) 400-450 lb	(203-225 kg) 450-500 lb	(225-248 kg) 500-550 lb	(248-270 kg) 550-600 lb	(270-315 kg) 600-700 lb	(315-360 kg) 700-800 lb	(360-405 kg) 800-900 lb	(405-450 kg) 900-1000 lb
STAKE TRUCK 20 ft (6 m) 160 sq ft (14.9 m ²)	28	26	24	22	20	19	17	16	14	13
TRAILER 43 ft (13 m) 344 sq ft (32 m ²)	61	56	51	47	43	40	37	34	30	28
TRAILER 45 ft (13.7 m) 360 sq ft (33.4 m ²)	64	59	54	49	46	42	39	35	32	29
TRAILER & PUP 31 & 24 ft (9.5 & 7.3m) 440 sq ft (40.9m ²)	78	72	65	60	55	51	47	43	40	36
POSSUM BELLY (cattle decks) 43 ft (13.1 m) 506 sq ft (43.5 m ²)	90	83	75	69	64	59	54	50	45	41
POSSUM BELLY (cattle decks) 45 ft (13.7 m) 531 sq ft (44.3 m ²)	95	87	79	73	67	62	57	52	47	43

Source: Agriculture Canada.

Appendix 4 Emergency procedures (transportation)

Emergency procedures to be followed by drivers in the event of a breakdown, an accident, or any other delay during transit.

Please post in trucks

1. Telephone home office immediately to report the emergency situation.
2. During business hours, telephone the nearest slaughterhouse as well as the manager of the receiving plant.
3. Telephone the packing plant. (Attach night telephone numbers).
4. If necessary, arrange for the use of another vehicle to move the load to a sheltered area or to the plant.
5. During extremely hot or cold weather, seek shelter for the load until the emergency situation is over.
6. Seek the advice of a veterinarian in the event of distressed or seriously injured cattle.
7. Do something! Use common sense. The comfort of the animals must be kept in mind at all times.

Source: Ontario Trucking Association

Appendix 5 Transporting livestock by truck

If you truck livestock within, out of, or into Canada, you must follow the Regulations of the Health of Animals Act. This pamphlet is a convenient summary of the Regulations that you can keep in your vehicle at all times. It is *not* an official document.

YOU MUST NOT

- Transport a sick or injured animal where undue suffering will result, or when the animal is liable to give birth.
- Continue to transport an animal that is injured, becomes ill, or is otherwise unfit to travel.
- Beat an animal on loading or unloading, except with an approved goad or prod.
- Load or unload animals in a way that would cause injury or undue suffering.
- Crowd animals to such an extent as to cause injury or undue suffering.
- Transport animals if injury or suffering is likely to be caused by inadequate construction of the vehicle, insecure fittings, undue exposure to the weather or inadequate ventilation.
- Use ramps, gangplanks or chutes that are inadequately constructed or maintained and would be likely to cause injury or undue suffering to the animals.
- Confine horses, poultry or swine in a motor vehicle for longer than 36 hours.
- Confine cattle, sheep, goats, or other ruminants in a motor vehicle for longer than 48 hours unless they can reach their final destination in 52 hours.
- Load an animal for a trip of more than 24 hours without 5 hours of rest with food and water available.

YOU MUST

- Segregate animals of different species, of substantially different weights and ages, or if incompatible by nature.
- Allow animals to stand in a natural position.
- Provide drainage and absorption of urine.
- Either strew the vehicle with sand or have the vehicle fitted with safe footholds in addition to adequate bedding.
- Ensure that transported calves too young to exist on hay and grain are provided with suitable food and water at intervals of not more than 18 hours.
- Keep the following record, if engaged in extraprovincial or international transportation: name and address of shipper; name and address of driver; name and address of consignee; number and description of livestock; registration number of motor vehicle; time and place loaded; time and place of feed, water and rest; time unloaded at destination.
- Keep these records for 2 years, and make them available to an inspector on demand.

The regulations require that you keep your vehicle reasonable clean and sanitary at all times. You must also clean and disinfect it whenever an Agriculture Canada inspector asks you to. Remember, every animals transported by motor vehicle may be inspected at *any* time by an Agriculture Canada inspector

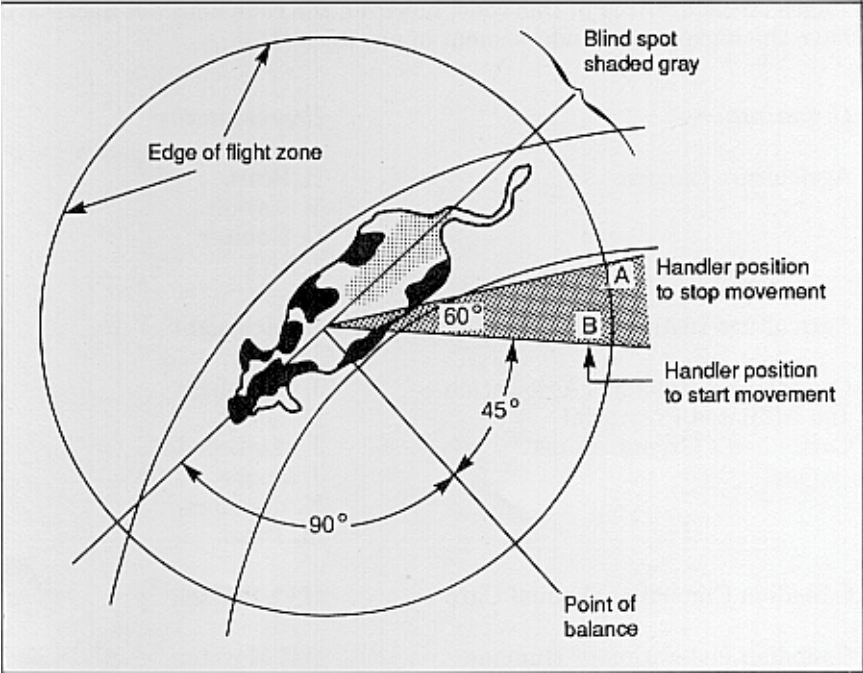
If you would like more information, contact an Agriculture Canada veterinarian.

Appendix 6 Handling facilities



Example of chute using principle of gradual curves suggested in paragraph 16.2.8
(Livestock Markets Association of Canada)

Appendix 7 Schematic illustration of flight zones



The animal flight zone: positions A and B are the most efficient positions for controlling livestock movement. (Livestock Markets Association of Canada)

Appendix 8 Participants

Representatives of the following organizations provided input at various stages of the drafting of this code; however, the code does not necessarily have the unequivocal endorsement of any agency.

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Representative</i>
Agriculture Canada	B. Peart V. Stevens G. Coulter I. Kirk
Agriculture Institute of Canada	D. McKnight
Canadian Cattlemen's Association And Affiliated Provincial Cattlemen's Organizations	J. Campbell D. Greig J. MacDonald J. Magee K. Summers M. Dean
Canadian Council on Animal Care	H.C. Rowsell
Canadian Federation of Humane Societies	D.F. Marston S. Ramage J. Ripley I. Winston
Canadian Meat Council	D. Adams
Canadian Society of Animal Science	L. Connor J. Nicholson
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association	R. Fenton
Livestock Markets Association of Canada	J. Wideman
Ontario Trucking Association --Livestock Division	M. Burke J. Dunlop
University of Guelph	F. Hurnik