

# Animal Handling and Welfare Transportation Policy

Caledonia Packing requires all transporters to handle all animals in a manner to comply with 9 CFR 313. Caledonia Packing reserves the right to refuse any truck that violates FSIS regulations and will take any measures deemed necessary to ensure the animals are addressed in accordance to FSIS regulations. Animal welfare will always take precedence and the facility will make a disposition on a case by case basis.

## Condition of Trailers

- Trailers provide animals with adequate protection from the elements (wind, rain, heat, cold, etc.) to include the use of winter side slats when necessary.
- Livestock should not exceed load density recommended by the National Institute of Animal Agriculture.
- Trailers should be cleaned regularly to prevent accumulation of fecal material and to ensure adequate footing for livestock.

## Trucking Practices

- Careful driving is necessary to prevent bruises, shrink and injuries. Sudden stops or accelerations should be avoided to prevent injuries and stress. Trailers should be loaded in a manner to prevent bruises and injuries.
- Reduce Noises; practices that increase the stress of the animal should be avoided (yelling, swatting, loud noises)
- Feeding, watering and rest stops for animals on long hauls are required after 24 hours and less than 28 hours to remain compliant with FSIS.
- Excessive physical abuse or striking of the animal is strictly prohibited; egregious inhumane acts are prohibited.
  - **Egregious inhumane treatment:** An egregious situation is any act or condition that results in severe harm to animals, for example:
    - Making cuts on or skinning conscious animals;
    - Excessive beating or prodding of ambulatory or non-ambulatory disabled animals or dragging of conscious animals;
    - Driving animals off semi-trailers over a drop off without providing adequate unloading facilities (animals are falling to the ground);
    - Running equipment over conscious animals;
    - Stunning of animals and then allowing them to regain consciousness;
    - Multiple attempts, especially in the absence of immediate corrective measures, to stun an animal versus a single blow or shot that render an animal immediately unconscious;
    - Dismembering conscious animals, for example, cutting off ears or removing feet;
    - Leaving disabled livestock exposed to adverse climate conditions while awaiting disposition, or Otherwise causing unnecessary pain and suffering to animals, including situations on trucks.

## Animals in Transit

In the event of a truck accident, animals will be handled as humanely and by the best means of available resources in as timely as manner as safety permits.

- The plant will provide assistance when appropriate and this will be determined on a situational basis.
- Animals that present signs of pain and suffering will be humanely euthanized.
- Contact emergency response teams/dispatchers and producer(s).

## Non-Ambulatory Animals

- All non-ambulatory disabled livestock must be rendered senseless prior to being moved. No conscious animals will be dragged.
  - All non-ambulatory cattle arriving at packing plants in the U.S. are to be condemned. Non-ambulatory pigs may be slaughtered if inspected and passed by a USDA veterinarian.
- A stunner will be available to euthanize any non-ambulatory animals.
- Caledonia Packing does not accept non-ambulatory disabled livestock.

## Unloading

- Caledonia Packing will allow truck drivers or producers to handle and unload livestock.
- Trailers must be properly aligned with the unloading area to prevent extremities from being caught in gaps and/or preventing gaps where an animal could escape.
- All livestock will be unloaded with minimal excitement to the animal. Plant personnel will monitor slipping/falling during unloading. Electric prods or canvas slappers will be used only when absolutely necessary.
- If animals escape contact the facility management.

## Holding Area

- Non compatible animals will be segregated in situations when one animal is exhibiting aggressive and/or abusive behavior or causing unnecessary excitement to other animals.
- All animals received will be held in pens out of environmental elements such as rain and snow.
- Pens will not be overcrowded (less than 75% full) to allow animals to lay down if necessary.
- All animals must have unrestricted access to clean, potable water at all times. If water is inaccessible the pen may not be used and any animals in the pen must be moved to a different holding pen.

## **Animal Welfare and Antibiotic/Residue Affidavit**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this document:

I have read and agree to comply with the animal handling and welfare requirements for Caledonia Packing as described by the Animal Handling and Welfare Transportation Policy.

I am personally guaranteeing the livestock I have presented for slaughter have not been administered antibiotics *(If antibiotics have been administered a proper clearing time has been allowed as described by the manufacturer or Veterinarian.)*

I am personally guaranteeing the livestock presented for slaughter will not be found with violative levels of residues or compounds of concern such as veterinarian drugs, pesticides and environmental contaminants.

**For a list of violative compounds and levels see:** : <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2014-title40-vol24/xml/CFR-2014-title40-vol24-part180.xml>

I understand that the company or USDA/FSIS are required by law to inform FDA (agencies) of any suspected violative residue. If the facility suspects that an animal may contain monitored residues it reserves the right to test that animal.

The company, agents, or affiliates will be indemnified relating to any action by agencies.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print: \_\_\_\_\_