

Receive livestock in food operations

Overview

This standard covers the skills and knowledge needed to receive livestock in food operations.

You will need to understand how to and show you can prepare to receive livestock, check the condition of the livestock and report discrepancies as well as unload and pen livestock.

This standard is for you if you work in food operations and the associated supply operations and your role requires you to receive livestock.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Prepare to receive livestock

1. direct vehicles to the holding area for unloading of livestock
2. check that the delivery vehicle is in the agreed position
3. check that the vehicle is secured and safe to unload in accordance with safety procedures
4. arrange for appropriate space to receive the livestock
5. check that the holding area is suitable and in the correct condition to receive livestock
6. check that the route from the vehicle to the holding area is clear
7. check that all ramps, rails and handling equipment for unloading livestock comply with relevant health and safety regulations
8. report any problems to the appropriate person

Accept livestock

9. check the condition of the livestock and whether they are suitable to be accepted in accordance with relevant company procedures
10. receive documentation from the delivery driver and carry out appropriate checks
11. identify and report any discrepancies to the relevant person
12. follow instructions to deal with any unacceptable livestock

Unload and pen livestock

13. gather livestock and move them to their holding area in a manner that complies with relevant health, safety and welfare regulations
14. pen livestock in their holding area in a manner that complies with relevant health, safety and welfare regulations
15. check that livestock have a readily available and constant supply of drinking water
16. check the numbers of all livestock in the holding areas comply with relevant health, safety and welfare regulations
17. deal with any difficulties within the limits of your authority
18. direct vehicles away from holding area when unloading is completed

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. your responsibilities under animal welfare regulations and legislation
2. your responsibilities under health and safety regulations and legislation
3. why dead, diseased, injured or dirty livestock must be identified
4. how to recognise signs of ill-health, stress and potential problems in different species of livestock in relation to appearance, posture, movement and behaviour, and what to do if any problems are observed
5. how to keep livestock healthy during transport and minimise the chances of stress or injury
6. methods of handling different species of livestock
7. how to introduce livestock into holding areas in a way which minimises their stress
8. why it is important for animals to be moved along a clear route from vehicle to holding area
9. the effects of stress and damage on carcass meat
10. methods of securing the vehicle and preparing it for unloading and why it is important
11. how to check and prepare holding areas and equipment for unloading, and why preparations are important
12. types of holding facilities for different livestock and how to prepare them
13. why the size and type of holding facility is important
14. regulations relating to holding locations for vehicles containing livestock
15. why environmental conditions for holding livestock are important
16. potential hazards to livestock and people which may occur in the holding areas and how these can be minimised
17. procedures for receiving and unloading livestock
18. documentation and reporting procedures
19. reasons for keeping records and why it is important they meet company standards
20. reasons for checking records and identifying mismatches
21. limits of your authority in dealing with difficulties and concerns

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