

Overview

This standard covers planning the movement of livestock, in accordance with company and relevant legislative requirements as well as monitoring the movement of livestock against the movement plan.

The plan could include a range of livestock movements, such as complex grazing patterns (rotation), the relocation of the outdoor pig herd, planning the movement of livestock ready for market, movement from farm to common land, as well as more routine movements: taking cows to the milking parlour, routine stock procedures or taking animals to suitable accommodation at different stages of the production cycle. It should also include having procedures in place to respond to unplanned events caused by changes in the weather or other reasons.

Planning will need to take account of the effect movements will have on the enterprise and whole farm business. It will also be necessary to monitor and review the effectiveness of the movement, whether planned or unplanned.

The health and welfare of the livestock and prevention of disease transfer is paramount.

This standard is for those who are required to move animals from one place to another.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. plan for the movement of livestock, taking into account the reasons for movement and possible problems that may arise, as well as the effect movements will have on the enterprise and whole farm business
2. confirm the availability of a suitable location or premises to which the livestock can be moved
3. identify and confirm the availability of the resources required to implement the planned movement of livestock
4. select an appropriate route for the movement of livestock
5. develop protocols for livestock movement procedures that farm staff can follow and that will meet the requirements of relevant legislation, industry codes of practice and organisational policies
6. communicate the livestock movement plan to those involved with the implementation and any other interested parties
7. establish measures to maintain suitable levels of hygiene and bio-security when moving livestock and confirm that they have been implemented
8. consider the health status of the livestock being moved and possible risks posed by adjacent animals
9. confirm that working methods maintain health and safety and are consistent with relevant legislation, codes of practice and organisational requirements
10. confirm that those involved in the movement of livestock are using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
11. monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the livestock movement plan
12. respond to unplanned requirements for the movement of livestock
13. monitor the effectiveness of any unplanned movement of livestock
14. complete required movement recording systems within designated timescales
15. confirm that appropriate records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation, codes of practice, quality assurance requirements and organisational policies

Plan and monitor the movement of livestock

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the circumstances that require livestock to be moved such as seasonality, age, sexual maturity, nutritional requirements, the need for isolation, buying, selling
2. the relevant regulations that determine when an animal is deemed fit to be moved
3. the possible effects the movement of livestock will have on the enterprise, the whole farm business and other interested parties
4. the importance of ensuring that the movement of livestock is planned and communicated clearly to all relevant parties
5. the factors affecting the choice of route when moving livestock
6. how to determine the human, financial, material and capital resources necessary to achieve the livestock movement plan
7. how different livestock have specific needs, before, during and after movement and how to recognise these by behavioural changes
8. how bio-security and the health of the animal may be compromised as a result of livestock movement and what measures can be put into place to prevent this
9. the staff competencies needed for livestock movement to be successful
10. the importance of confirming that the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) is used when moving livestock
11. when it is necessary to mark or identify the animals being moved
12. how livestock movements could have potential environmental effects
13. the importance of confirming that the livestock movement plan follows the relevant legislation and industry codes of practice
14. the importance of monitoring the livestock movement plan and the circumstances that may determine the need to change the plan, either immediately or in the long term
15. the circumstances that may require the unplanned movement of livestock
16. the requirements for reporting and recording and the length of time for which records should be retained

Links to other NOS

This standard covers the movement of livestock on farms; transport of animals is covered in standard LANCS55.

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