



BIOSECURITY IN LIVE EXPORTS

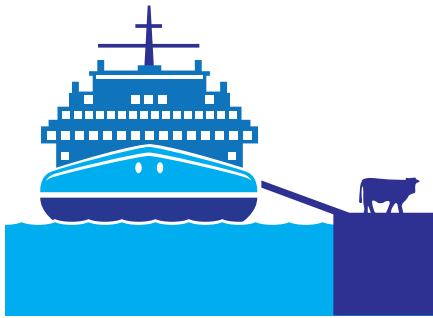
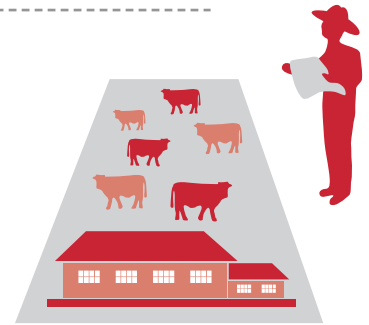


The livestock export industry is boosting its already strong biosecurity efforts along the supply chain to help protect Australia from exotic diseases, such as Foot & Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease, which are present in some markets.

VISITING IN-MARKET / RETURNING HOME

Exporter staff travelling in-market, including LiveCorp Accredited Stockpersons and Australian Accredited Veterinarians, are on the front line, as are the crews on livestock export ships.

- ✓ Exporters provide advice and resources to importers and facilities in destination countries to assist with training and managing biosecurity on the ground.
- ✓ Staff travelling back from infection zones to Australia adhere to strict Border Force protocols at airports and sea ports, including cleaning boots and clothes, and declaring any visits to agricultural areas, farms or feedlots.



OFFLOADING LIVESTOCK IN-MARKET

- ✓ Livestock export ships are considered and treated as biosecurity protection zones, with footbaths routinely set up at entry and exit points, and in high traffic areas.
- ✓ Only essential in-market personnel are allowed onto ships, for compliance checks and similar necessary tasks. Their time on board, movement around the ships and contact with crews are limited.
- ✓ Crew members must remain on board at the destination port unless involved in essential activities such as moving the livestock, to ensure minimal contact with people and trucks on the wharf. Footwear and clothes worn during discharge are thoroughly cleaned once back at sea.
- ✓ No agricultural products are allowed to be loaded on ships returning to Australia.
- ✓ Exporters also encourage importers to ensure livestock trucks are cleaned and, where needed, disinfected before ships arrive at their destination port.

RETURNING SHIPS

All livestock ships have to be thoroughly cleaned and sprayed for insects on their way to Australia — some even slowing down on short trips to get it done — with inspections by the regulator on arrival.

- ✓ High pressure hosing with sea water gets rid of dirt, manure and feed around the livestock pens, ventilation shafts and areas where feed has been stored.
- ✓ Scrubbing by hand with disinfectant cleans the pen railings, and feed and water troughs.
- ✓ High pressure hosing of all areas with sea water, then rinsing with fresh water, completes the washdown.
- ✓ A portable high-pressure machine is used to spray disinfectant on every inch of the livestock pens, which are then rinsed again with fresh water.
- ✓ The ship is fumigated throughout, with electric insect zappers in place to complement the sprays.
- ✓ Australian biosecurity inspectors are the first people on ships when they arrive. Ships are sent back to sea to do it again if there is any trace of dust, manure or poorly stored feed (which is uncommon, due to the diligence of the crews).



RESOURCES

For further information:

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment: www.awe.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/animal

Animal Health Australia: www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au

Emergency Animal Disease Watch hotline: **1800 675 888**



June 2022