

Transport Decision Tree

IS THE HORSE FIT FOR THE TRIP?

LOAD HEALTHY ANIMALS

illness, injury or a condition that indicates

that it has a reduced capacity to withstand

NO

IS THE HORSE UNFIT OR COMPROMISED?

UNFIT1

Do Not Load - Do Not Transport

Except for veterinary care on the recommendation of a veterinarian

- Fracture or any other severe injury
- Sick or diseased horses (e.g. strangles, herpes virus, pneumonia)
- Lame (Classes 3,4,5; See reverse)
- Exhibits signs of fever due to illness
- Acute frostbite
- Colic
- Signs of exhaustion
- Signs of dehydration
- Recent major surgery
- Is in shock or dving
- Extremely thin
- Weakness
- Non-ambulatory (i.e., downer, unable to stand without assistance or to move without being dragged or carried)
- In the last 10% of its gestation period
- Has given birth within 48 hours
- Exhibits signs of a generalized nervous system disorder (e.g., Rabies)
- · Uterine, vaginal or rectal prolapse
- Laboured breathing

*Severe injury includes deep or gaping wounds, profuse bleeding, penis injuries, severe head injuries, scrotal hernias, and severe laminitis.

COMPROMISED³

Transport with Special Provisions



- Horses that are blind in both eyes
- Very young foals or young orphan foals
- Lame horses (Classes 1,2; See reverse)
- Geriatric horses

Required Special Provisions (31):

1. The animal is transported directly to the nearest suitable place, other than an assembly centre, where it can receive care and attention, or be humanely slaughtered or euthanized.

transport.

- The animal is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance.
- The animal is isolated.
- Measures are taken that are necessary to prevent the animal's suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading.

Optional Provisions

- Load last and unload first
- · Pen with one familiar animal

Note: To prevent suffering, other special provisions, such as additional bedding, may be required, depending on the condition of the compromised animal. Always ask a veterinarian if you are unsure about the appropriate special provision when moving a compromised animal. Animals that require special provisions must be segregated from other animals.

What is the Meaning of "Nearest Suitable Place"? Compromised animals that are fit for transport are not to go through auction markets or assembly yards. If compromised animals are to be sent to slaughter, they must not travel long distances to the slaughter facility, even if the only slaughter facility is far away. If local slaughter facilities are unavailable, animals should either be treated or be humanely euthanized. If an animal becomes compromised during the journey, consider the nearest suitable place (that is, a nearby veterinary hospital, farm, auction market or assembly yard, slaughter plant) where the animal can receive care or be euthanized.

Content for the Transport Decision Tree was created by the Equine Code Development Committee and is based on the Health of Animals Regulations

- it is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance;

- it is isolated during confinement and transport;

- and, a veterinarian recommends that the animal be transported to receive veterinary care.

¹ Section 136 (1) in Part XII (Transport of Animals) of the Health of Animals Regulations defines "unfit" (31).

² Section 139 (1) in Part XII (Transport of Animals) of the Health of Animals Regulations specifies that an unfit animal can only be transported directly to a place (other than a slaughter establishment or assembly centre) for veterinary care if (31):

⁻ measures are taken to prevent the animal's unnecessary suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading;

³ Section 136 (1) in Part XII (Transport of Animals) of the Health of Animals Regulations defines" compromised" (31).



Transport Decision Tree (continued)

Guidelines for Transporting Horses

References, but does not exactly replicate the Federal Transport Regulations (as of 2020) www.inspection.gc.ca

DO

- Isolate incompatible animals (animals that are likely to suffer, sustain an
 injury or die if they are confined and transported together) (e.g., animals of
 different species or substantially different weights and ages; or if incompatible by nature [i.e., stallions, jacks]; mares with suckling foals; and horses with
 shoes on their hind legs).
- Ensure that animals segregated in trucks receive extra protection from cold and wind chill; supply ample bedding.
- Provide proper ventilation, drainage and material to absorb and prevent the pooling or escape of water, urine and liquid manure.
- Ensure that the animal is able to stand at all times with all feet on the floor, with head elevated, with sufficient space to permit a full range of head movement, and without any part of its body coming into contact with a deck, roof or top of the conveyance.
- Either strew the vehicle with sand or have the vehicle fitted with safe footholds, in addition to proper bedding.
- Ensure that animals unloaded for feed, water and rest remain at the rest stop for a minimum of eight hours or longer to ensure all animals receive feed and water.

DO NOT

- Continue to transport an animal that becomes unfit beyond the nearest place it can be treated or be humanely killed.
- Handle an animal in any way that is likely to cause the animal's suffering, injury or death.
- Use electric goads or prods.
- Load or unload animals in a way that would cause suffering, injury or death.
- Crowd animals to such an extent as to cause suffering, injury or death.
- Transport livestock in conveyances that are not suitable for the species of animal

Lameness Classes

These categories can be used to determine the status of an animal's mobility, from normal to non-ambulatory.

Transport as Soon as Possible

Class 1

Visibly lame but can keep up with the group.

Class 2

Unable to keep up; some difficulty climbing ramps. Load in rear compartment.

Do Not Load or Transport*

Class 3

Requires assistance to rise, but can walk freely.

Class 4

Requires assistance to rise; reluctant to walk; halted movement.

Class 5

Unable to rise or remain standing.

* Any animal, including Lameness Classes 3, 4 or 5, may only be transported for veterinary treatment with special provisions⁴, including the recommendation of a veterinarian.

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⁻ it is individually loaded and unloaded without having to negotiate any ramps inside the conveyance;

⁻ it is isolated during confinement and transport;

⁻ measures are taken to prevent the animal's unnecessary suffering, injury or death during loading, confinement, transport and unloading;

⁻ and, a veterinarian recommends that the animal be transported to receive veterinary care.