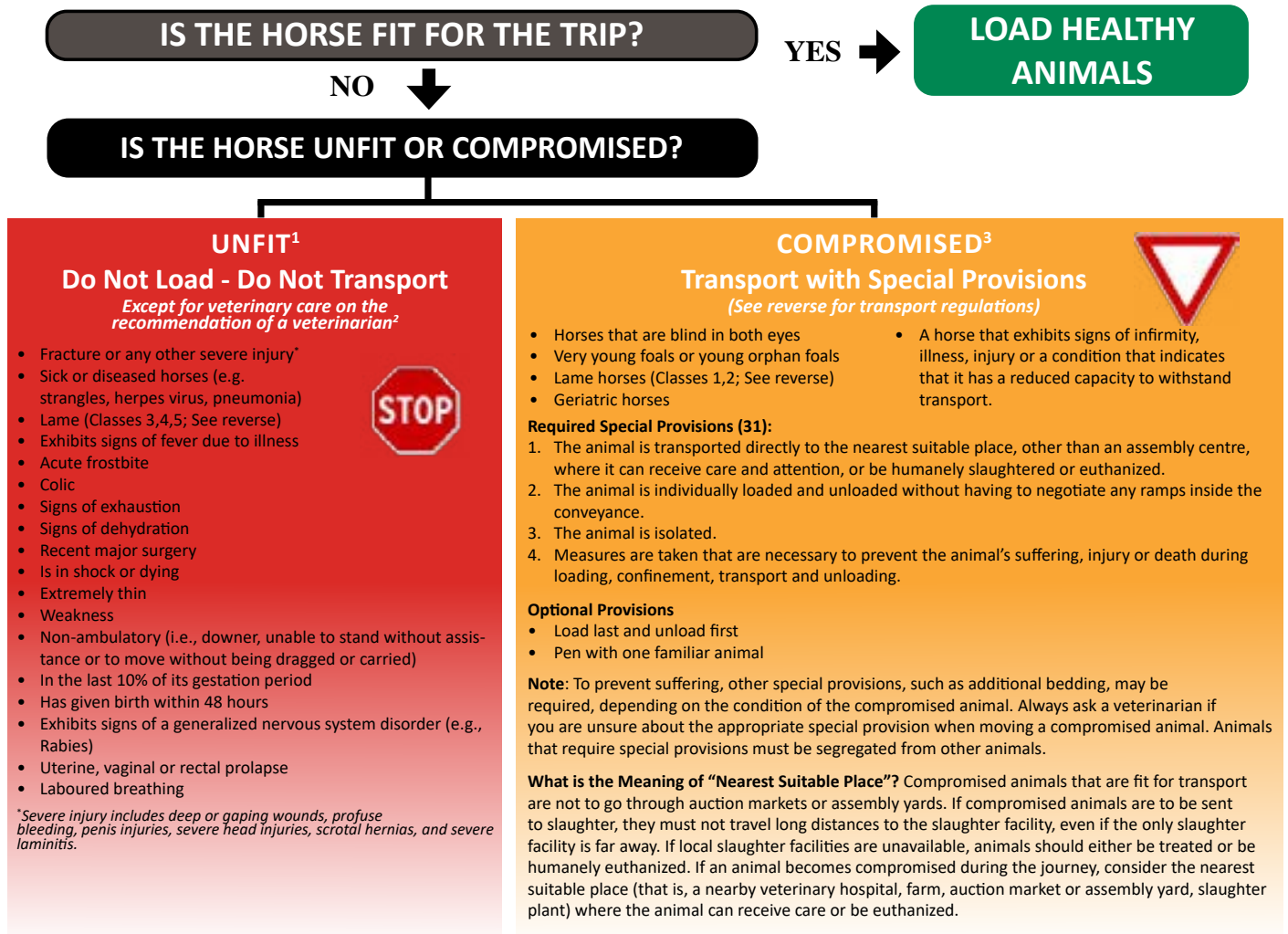




Transport Decision Tree



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

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):

- 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.

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 foot-holds, 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;
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- 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.