



YOUR LETTER OF

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European Commission  
Health and Consumer Protection Directorate -  
General  
Mr. B. Van Goethem  
1049 Brussel

SUBJECT Protection of animals during transport - report for 2013

Dear Director-General,

Please find enclosed the annual report on the protection of animals during transport (regulation 1/2005) for the year 2013.

Inspections during transport by road: 82 vehicles have been inspected during missions of the FASFC (Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain) in cooperation with the police. None of these vehicles was found to be in non-compliance. 6 of these vehicles were poultry vehicles, but the number of poultry transported was not registered.

Inspections at the place of destination: All these inspections have been carried out at the slaughterhouses. Transport checks at slaughterhouses are executed by private veterinarians that have a contract with the FASFC. At least 5 % of all incoming trucks (with a minimum of 1 truck a day) are inspected. Because of the large amount of checklists these are not put in the electronic system individually, but each fortnight the veterinarians send a summary to the FASFC which is put in instead. The inspectors of the FASFC also visit the slaughterhouses regularly to supervise the work of the private veterinarians, during which time they also carry out inspections on transport vehicles.

Inspections at markets: There are no markets for pigs that take place in Belgium. Markets employ a veterinarian who is tasked with verifying that the legislation is complied with. These veterinarians also report to the FASFC. The inspectors of the FASFC visit the markets regularly and carry out inspections. The infringements that are reported are those that were noted by the market veterinarians and the ones that were observed by the inspectors of the FASFC. They concern notably animals that were not fit for transport.

Inspections at the place of departure: All animals destined for export for which a certificate is mandatory, are inspected at their place of departure by a private veterinarian that has a contract with the FASFC. If any infringements are detected the animals are not allowed to leave. There is no record keeping of the cases for which a certificate was refused.

Inspections at staging points: There were no inspections in 2014.

Inspections at transfer points: There are no transfer points in Belgium.



At the moment, the summary of the checklists that are completed by the private veterinarians at the slaughterhouses doesn't allow to record the category of the observed infringements. This summary is in the process of being adapted, so this will be possible in the future.

Below are the results of the inspections by the official inspectors of the FASFC. These results are also taken into account in the table in annex.

Total number of vehicles inspected: 356

	Bovine	Porcine	Small ruminants	Equidae	Poultry and rabbits
Number of vehicles inspected	229	92	8	8	22

Total number of vehicles with infringements: 64

Number of infringements:

	Bovine	Porcine	Small ruminants	Equidae	Poultry and rabbits
Fitness of animals for transport	1	2	0	0	0
Transport practices, space allowances, height	1	1	0	0	0
Means of transport	6	0	0	0	3
Watering and feeding, journey times and resting periods	0	0	0	0	0
Documentation	68	6	1	2	11
Other cases of non-compliance	0	0	0	0	0



Actions for the future:

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2014 animal welfare has become a Regional competency instead of a federal one. This means that the Regional level now has become responsible for the inspections on animal welfare during transport and this may lead to a different way of organising these inspections.

Yours sincerely,

The Head of Unit,

D. E. Van Tilburgh