

DIRECTORATE FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND PROTECTION SERVICES

REPORT ON CHECKS ON ANIMAL TRANSPORT 2011

(see original for table)



DIRECTORATE FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND PROTECTION SERVICES

ACTION PLAN

ANIMAL TRANSPORT

In the light of the results of the checks carried out in 2011 in the area of animal protection during transport and of the follow-up action taken in this area over the past year, an action plan has been drawn up to address the instances of non-compliance observed and increase the effectiveness of controls on animal transport.

We would note that some of the measures referred to in this Action Plan already appear in the animal protection plan for 2012, which was discussed with the regional services of the *Direcção Geral de Veterinária* – DGV (Directorate-General for Veterinary Matters), taking account of the results of the checks performed in 2011. In addition, when actions were being proposed for the Animal Welfare Division and the Follow-up Plan for the 2012 Animal Protection Plan the results of checks in the area of animal protection during transport were taken into consideration.

A series of specific measures were thus proposed with a view to resolving problems detected during 2011 and stepping up checks in 2012.

Among the measures proposed the following are of particular note:

1. Carrying out a series of specific actions with a view to improving implementation of the requirements relating to fitness for transport. These actions include:

1.1 Revision of the handbook of procedures on the fitness of animals for transport. The revised handbook will be distributed to all parties involved in animal transport (producer associations, order of veterinarians, associations of slaughterhouses, etc.)

1.2 Organisation of activities to raise awareness of the issue of the fitness of animals for transport, aimed at private veterinarians. These activities will be conducted in association with the order of veterinarians.

1.3 Organisation of activities to raise awareness of the issue of the fitness of animals for transport aimed at owners of holdings and persons in charge of slaughterhouses.

1.4 Stepping up checks on fitness of animals during transport. The Animal Protection Plan for 2012 will, in line with the relevant provisions, include stricter checks on fitness at the various checkpoints during transport and on cattle holdings. Accordingly, the cattle holdings to be checked will be selected by taking account of the existence of cases where animals unfit for transport were found in the slaughterhouse or at the other transport checkpoints.

1.5 Development of tools enabling data to be gathered with a view to conducting a more detailed risk assessment as regards fitness for transport.

2. Stepping up the checks carried out jointly by the *Direcções de Serviços Veterinários Regionais* – DSVR (Directorates for Regional Veterinary Services) and *Guarda Nacional Republicana* – **Serviço de Proteção da Natureza e do Ambiente** – GNR-SEPNA (National security service charged with protecting nature and the environment) concerning the fitness of animals during transport.



3. Stepping up the checks on supporting documentation used in long-distance animal transport (journey logs and records from the satellite positioning system) with a view to verifying implementation of the procedures defined in Regulation 1/2005 and assessing travelling times.
5. Stepping up follow-up checks (Follow-up Plan for the Animal Protection Plan) on vehicle certification, long-haul transport and assembly centres.