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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 2010

Dear Director-General,

Please find enclosed the annual report on the protection of animals during transport (regulation 1/2005) for the year 2010.

Inspections during transport by road: 91 vehicles have been inspected during missions of the FASFC (Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain) in cooperation with the police. 2 of these vehicles were found to be in non-compliance. The number of animals present in these vehicles is not noted during these missions. These figures concern only the inspections that were organised by the central level of the FASFC. In addition, there are also roadside inspections by the provincial units of the FASFC, also in cooperation with the police. No statistics are recorded concerning the inspections by the provincial units, but the target is one vehicle a month.

Inspections at the place of destination: These are the inspections that are carried out at the slaughterhouses. Transport checks at slaughter house 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.

Inspections at markets: There are no markets for pigs, domestic birds or rabbits 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 infringements that are reported are those that are noted by these veterinarians. 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 is only one functioning staging point in Belgium. There were no inspections in 2010.

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

The official inspectors from the FASFC also carry out a supervision of the work of the veterinarians in the field, during which time they also complete checklists that are put in the electronic database. However, the results of these inspections were not put into the table because at the moment it is not noted whether these inspections have taken place at a slaughterhouse, an assembly centre or somewhere else. Efforts will be made to be able to include these inspections in the table next year.

Total number of vehicles inspected: 307

	Bovine	Porcine	Small ruminants	Equidae	Poultry
Number of vehicles inspected	176	67	5	7	34

Total number of vehicles with infringements: 82

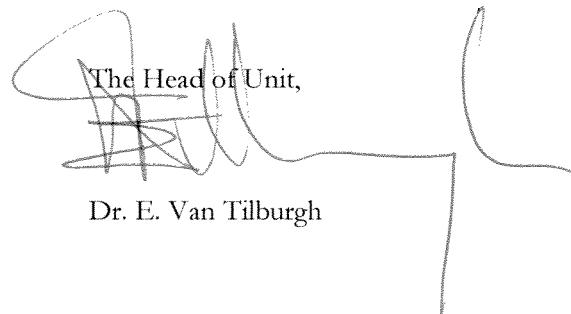
	Bovine	Porcine	Small ruminants	Equidae	Poultry
Number of vehicles with infringements concerning documents	38	3	0	3	4
Number of vehicles with infringements concerning the vehicle	19	8	1	0	1
Number of infringements concerning loading	4	4	1	0	0
Number of infringements concerning fitness for transport	2	2	0	0	0



Actions for the future:

- A training on the welfare of animals during transport will be organized for the inspectors of the FASFC, including the following subjects: general concepts of animal welfare during transport, requirements of the vehicle, fitness for transport, driving and resting times and the use of the tachograph and the satellite navigation system.
- For the moment, there are no inspections at unloading at holdings after long journeys. It will be looked at how these could be included in the inspection plan in a feasible manner.
- There are still some vehicles that were approved for long journeys before the satellite navigation system became mandatory. If possible, these vehicles will be re-inspected in the near future.

Yours sincerely,


The Head of Unit,
Dr. E. Van Tilburgh