

Should this pig be loaded?



**Load
Healthy Pigs**

**Do Not
Load**



Euthanize

- **Non-Ambulatory (see box below)**
- fractures of limbs or spine
- any case where pigs are unable to eat or drink due to injury or disease
- chronic "poor-doers" or extremely thin pigs
- pigs suffering from severe non-responsive disease
- prolapsed uterus
- arthritis involving multiple joints
- nervous disorders, such as rabies must be reported to CFIA; contact your vet before euthanizing
- hernia that impedes movement, is painful, or touches the ground

Non-ambulatory Animals

- Unable to stand without assistance, or unable to move without being dragged or carried. Commonly called "downers."
- Animals should be able to bear weight on all four limbs to be suitable for transport.
- Lameness Class 4 & 5 **should not be loaded** or transported, except for veterinary treatment. Lameness Class 3 not recommended for transport.
- Animals should not be loaded if at risk of going down en route.

Delay Loading



Assess/Seek Veterinary Advice

- fever due to disease process
- sows likely to farrow during transport or upon arrival at market or farrowed within 48 hrs
- pigs showing signs of:
 - exhaustion
 - heat stress
 - weakness
 - porcine stress syndrome

Emergency On-Farm Slaughter

If an animal is fit for human consumption but not fit for transport (i.e. injured but not sick) emergency on-farm slaughter is an option. Emergency on-farm slaughter must be authorized by OMAFRA. The animal must meet specific food safety/animal health criteria and pass OMAFRA inspection prior to slaughter. To arrange emergency on-farm slaughter call 1-888-466-2372 ext. 64230 or 64360. Visit: www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/food/inspection/es-process.htm

**Transport with
Special Provisions**

CAUTION

Transport Direct to Processor as soon as possible (within 24 - 36 hours)

- abscess and local infections (no fever)
- prolapsed vagina or rectum
- Lameness Classes 1, 2 (see reverse)
- penile or vulva injury
- severe dewclaw injury
- first stage anorexia or weight loss (no fever)
- blind
- frost bite

Transport Direct to Emergency Processing Facility

- severe, recent injury
- severe tail bite or vulva bite
- severe smoke inhalation

These pigs must walk on their own and travel in a small compartment, individually or with one quiet pig.

Information on Dealing with Compromised Pigs

Federal Transportation Regulations

DO

- Segregate boars, animals of, different weights and ages, or if incompatible by nature.
- Provide proper ventilation, drainage and absorption of urine.
- Have sufficient headroom for animals to stand in a natural position.
- Either strew the vehicle with sand or have the vehicle fitted with safe footholds, in addition to appropriate bedding.
- Ensure that animals unloaded for feed, water and rest remain at least five hours and longer, if necessary, for all animals to receive food and water.
- Ensure that animals segregated in trucks receive extra protection from cold and wind chill; supply ample bedding.
- Euthanize animals promptly as the conditions outlined on the reverse occur.

DO NOT

- Transport a sick or injured animal where undue suffering may result, or when the animal is liable to give birth during the journey.
- Continue to transport an animal that is injured, becomes ill, or is otherwise unfit to travel beyond the nearest place it can be treated.
- Mishandle an animal on loading or unloading.
- Use goads or prods on the face, anal, udder or genital area.
- Load or unload animals in a way that would cause injury or undue suffering.
- Crowd animals to such an extent as to cause injury or undue suffering.
- Transport livestock in trailers not designed for safe handling of that species or class of livestock.

Source: *Transporting Livestock by Truck (CFIA)*

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.*

Not Recommended for Transport*

Class 3

Requires assistance to rise, but can walk freely.

Do Not Load or Transport*

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 be loaded for transport for veterinary treatment under veterinary supervision.**

Further Information

CFIA (Transportation Emergencies): 1-877-814-2342

Ontario SPCA: 1-888-668-7722

Ontario Farm Animal Council (Animal Care Helpline) (519) 837-1326



This resource may be used or reprinted with credit to the Ontario Humane Transport Working Group. Working Group members include: Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Ontario Farm Animal Council, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Ontario Trucking Association.

To order more copies, please contact Ontario Farm Animal Council: (519) 837-1326 www.ofac.org

Endorsed by:
**Ontario Association
of Swine Veterinarians**

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