

# Biosecurity Queensland – Animal Welfare Project 'Duty of Care'



Landholder Drought & Recovery  
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# Duty of Care for Animals

- If you are in charge of an animal, you have a **duty of care** to that animal
- Providing appropriate duty of care has benefits to you, the community & industry.
- Appropriate care includes:
  - providing food and water
  - providing appropriate living conditions
  - understanding your animal's normal behavioural patterns
  - treating disease and injury
  - handling the animal appropriately





# What is appropriate care?

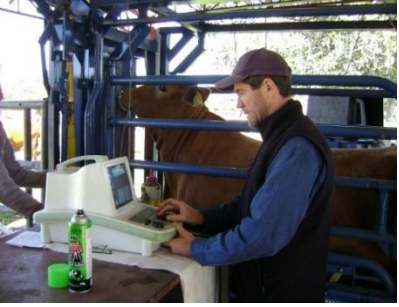


In deciding what is appropriate, you need to consider

- the type of animal, its age, the environment and circumstances
- what is reasonably expected to be undertaken to provide that care

*Weather and climate conditions are not a reasonable excuse for failing to provide appropriate care*

*Allowing an animal to die in the paddock without appropriate care is a breach of the **Act**.*



# Who is a 'person in charge' ?

A person is 'in charge' of an animal if the person;

- Owns the animal
- The animal is in your care or under your control (you have custody of the animal)



# Duty of Care to Livestock

- **Duty of care** applies to all types of animals and animal uses

People who might be in charge of livestock and have a **duty of care** include:

- owners / companies
- managers
- staff
- contractors
- transport drivers
- saleyard staff
- abattoir workers

- If we all work together to provide a duty of care we can meet our obligations

# Transportation of Livestock



- Livestock must be fit for transport, livestock are unfit to travel if:
  - unable to weight bear on all legs
  - severely emaciated
  - severely visibly dehydrated
  - show visible signs of sever injury or distress
  - suffering from a condition that is likely to increase pain & distress
  - blind in both eyes

*(unless under the advice from a Veterinary Surgeon)*

# What does Transporting mean?

- Transporting livestock involves a number of considerations:
  - Mustering / holding / handling livestock
  - Suitability of handling facilities
  - Fit to load
  - Class of livestock
  - Suitability of transport container
  - Loading density
  - Times off water / feed
  - Journey time / spelling
  - Extreme weather conditions (heat / cold stress)

# For Further Information

Contact your local Biosecurity Inspector or  
the Customer Service Centre 13 25 23