

About this dossier

Output on: 2021/09/14 00:22
(Europe/Luxembourg)

Status: closed (submitted)

Created: 2021/09/01 11:34

Last updated: 2021/09/10 16:24

ID: 20210901-EROOVBOF

Application Form

Part II, Section 6 of Annex - Welfare requirements for animals

Country	Belgium	Year	2020
----------------	---------	-------------	------

Have you any data to report in this period ?	Yes
---	-----

6.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

The greatest number of animal welfare inspections on farm is carried out by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FASFC). The FASFC inspects animal welfare on those farms that have been selected for inspection for other purposes according to their control plan. For these inspections there's no risk analysis for animal welfare so the selection of the farms happens at random. Where these inspections are concerned the level of compliance is quite good. On top of this the Animal Welfare Units in the three Regions (Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels) also carry out inspections. These inspections are planned based on information received from FASFC, slaughterhouses, collectors of animal waste, municipalities or complaints from citizens. This means these inspections are more targeted and as a consequence the level of compliance is lower.

6.2 Official controls, non-compliances and actions/measures on animal welfare on farms

Animals kept for farming purposes (animal category)			Non-compliances		Actions/measures	
	Number of production sites	Number of official controls performed	Total number of controlled production sites	Number of controlled production sites where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
Pigs (as defined in the Council Directive 2008/120/EC)	6001	836	834	102	61	38
Laying hens (as defined in the Council Directive 1999/74/EC)	752	16	16	2	2	
Chickens (as defined in the Council Directive 2007/43/EC)	823	83	83	6	3	
Calves (as defined in the Council Directive 2008/119/EC)	14279	1017	1006	98	50	
Other (specify)						
Cattle (except calves)	21922	1811	1801	133	72	
Sheep	26317	1340	1339	185	12	
Domestic fowls (Poultry of the species Gallus gallus except laying hens)	1733	78	77	3	3	

6.3 Analysis and action plan for animal welfare on farms

In general the level of compliance on farms is quite good. The highest number of infringements are noted on farms with small ruminants or pigs. On farms with small ruminants the infringements concern for the most part the lack of or incorrect keeping of the registers. On pig farms the most common infringements concern insufficient enrichment material or insufficient lighting. Especially the provision of sufficient enrichment material remains a point of attention. Efforts will continue to be made with regard to sensibilisation and enforcement. In the Brussels region, no inspections were made in 2020 due to Covid restrictions in farms but there are less infringements usually because in Brussels these are mainly small hobby breeders.

6.4 Animal welfare during transport

Protection of animals during transport (by species)	Number and category of non-compliances								Actions/measures
	Number of official controls performed	Fitness of animals	Transport practices, space allowance, height	Means of transport	Water, feed, journey and resting times	Documents	Other	Administrative	Judicial
Bovine	2453	177	11	4	0	10	17	104	4
Porcine animals	2976	158	28	10	0	3	4	56	
Ovine/caprine	51	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Equidae	14	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	
Poultry	1386	3	22	10	0	23	14	14	
Other species									
Rabbits	326	0	2	1	0	2	3	1	

6.5 Analysis and action plan for animal welfare during transport

Flanders: Most of the transport controls are done on arrival at the slaughterhouse. The Animal Welfare Unit also carries out a small number of road checks in cooperation with the police. A significant part of the observed infringements are committed by foreign transporters, which poses difficulties for enforcement. These infringements are sent to the national contact point of the member state concerned. In Flanders there's since the end of 2020 an additional number of official veterinarians that have been assigned to carry out animal welfare inspections in slaughterhouses. This includes inspections on transport at arrival. This system will be evaluated and if needed adapted in 2021. Brussels: Most of the transport controls are done on arrival at the slaughterhouse. Transport to the slaughterhouse represents the largest part of the transport of agricultural animals in the territory. Some road checks are also carried out by the police during certain occasional events (Eid Feast). Infringements are generally committed by carriers coming from other Belgian regions and these are in 99% of cases, linked to the transportability of animals (animals at the end of gestation or having given birth, animals with fractures). Reports (procès-verbaux) are sent to the breeder of origin and to the transporter.

6.6 Animal welfare at the time of killing

Flanders: The Animal Welfare Unit inspects each slaughterhouse at least once every year. Additionally, each slaughter day there's also an official veterinarian from the FASFC present, who also looks out for animal welfare. Since the end of 2020 the slaughterhouses are also almost daily inspected by official veterinarians employed by the Flemish government, who focus solely on animal welfare. This system will be evaluated and if needed adapted in 2021. In 2020 22 PV's were drawn up for infringements committed by slaughterhouses.

6.7 Comment box

The numbers mentioned under "administrative actions/measures" are the numbers of inspections which have resulted in an official warning or a PV (proces-verbal). The number of farm inspections for sheep includes these for goats.

