Should this animal be loaded?
Guidelines for Transporting Cattle, Sheep & Goats

Do Not Load
Do Not Transport

Delay Transportation and Reassess
- Exhaustion
- Calving/lambing/kidding
- Weakness
- Fever:
  - Cattle: > 102.5°F (39.2°C)
  - Sheep/goats: > 103.3°F (39.6°C)

Euthanize
- Non-ambulatory (see box below)
- Fractures of limb or spine
- Arthritis with multiple joints
- Cancer eye (severe)
- Cancer/leukosis (extensive)
- Extremely thin
- Pneumonia (unresponsive with fever)
- Prolapsed uterus
- Water belly
- Nervous disorders, such as rabies must be reported to CFIA
- Hernia that impedes movement, is painful, touches the ground

Transport Direct to Processor as soon as possible
- Abscess
- Blind
- Frost bite
- Cancer eye (eye intact)
- Lameness Class 1 & 2 (see reverse)
- Left/right displaced abomasum (without weakness, toxicity)
- Lumpy jaw
- Penis injuries
- Pneumonia (without fever)
- Prolapsed vagina or rectum
- Animals that have given birth within 48 hours

Transport Direct to Emergency Processing Facility
Advise inspector at the destination plant.
- Bloat*
- Hardware with localized signs
- Intestinal accidents
- Recent injury*
- Urethral blockage (acute)*
- Broken tail or jaw

*Animals must travel in a small compartment, either individually segregated or with one quiet animal.

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.

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
**Federal Transportation Regulations**

**DO**
- Segregate animals of different species, or substantially 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 calves too young to exist on hay and grain are provided with suitable food and water at intervals of no more than 18 hours.
- 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.

**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: no evidence of pain.

**Not Recommended for Transport**
- **Class 2**
  Unable to keep up; some difficulty climbing ramps. *Load in rear compartment.*

**Do Not Load or Transport**
- **Class 3**
  Requires assistance to rise, but can walk freely.

**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 transported for veterinary treatment.*

**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
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs 1-877-424-1300 www.omafra.gov.on.ca

Please contact your veterinarian for advice or help with specific cases.