

**Animal Welfare Inventory  
Report  
To  
AAWS – Livestock  
Production Working Group**

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# Animal Welfare Inventory

## Report to AAWS – Livestock Production Working Group

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# **Animal Welfare Inventory**

## **Report to**

### **AAWS – Livestock Production Working Group**

#### **1. Introduction**

The Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS) is an agreed blueprint for animal welfare in Australia that aims to enhance welfare outcomes for all animals. It has been developed with extensive stakeholder consultation and has been endorsed by the Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC).

Implementation of the strategy through comprehensive action plans will help improve the provision of more effective communication, education and training across the whole community as well as improve the general level of understanding of animal welfare and will identify the best ways of continuing to improve animal welfare outcomes in Australia. The Federal government has allocated \$6M toward the implementation of the strategy.

The first step towards sustainable improvement in animal welfare policies and programs in Australia is to review the current '*state of play*' and to detail the systems currently in place. It is also important to review the adequacy and content of animal welfare training in existing and proposed training programs relevant to this area of animal use. This information will enable improvements to be made by building on the strengths of the current system and will importantly identify areas where further improvements can be made.

Six broad working groups have been established as part of the strategy, covering all animal use sectors. One of these, the Livestock Production Working Group (LPWG) has the responsibility to develop and implement the action plan for the animal production sector. The working group includes representatives from the livestock production and handling sectors, government and community animal welfare organisations. All have been consulted in the development of this report.

At a meeting of the LPWG on 1 & 2 February 2006, it was agreed that members of the working group would provide a concise inventory of relevant animal welfare arrangements within the various sectors that the working group members represent. DAFF subsequently agreed that a consultant Kevin Shiell be retained to assist in drawing together the inventory in consultation with the various working group members and others. In particular this inventory would clearly identify:

- 1) Animal welfare arrangements including:

- Current animal welfare arrangements, activities and achievements, covering legislation, Codes of Practice, Standards, Guidelines, position statements or any other arrangements considered integral to animal welfare in that sector
- Areas where improvements in existing welfare processes/planning would be beneficial
- Areas where processes/planning do not exist

2) Training programs, current and proposed relevant to each sector

A template developed by DAFF to guide working group members in compiling their responses had been circulated and this assisted in outlining the areas for attention. Differences between industries and the need to capture a range of industry programs have meant some development of this “model template.”

The consultant made contact with working group members and arranged further discussions and meetings as required. Following this an initial draft of the inventory for each sector was prepared and further consultations conducted to improve accuracy, completeness and to assist in drawing out the main issues to address in the Action Plan. A draft inventory report was prepared and considered at a meeting of the Working Group held on 16 and 17 May 2006. Further feedback and suggestions were provided.

This final report provides an outline of government regulatory and other arrangements relating to animal welfare, and examines industry-developed initiatives. An inventory for each industry sector is set out, followed by comment on issues and gaps identified from the feedback. The working group considered these issues and gaps at the May meeting and agreed on priority areas to incorporate in the Action Plan. These are set out in section 6 Next Steps.

## 2. Government Regulatory Arrangements

Under the Australian Constitution, state and territory governments have primary responsibility for animal welfare within Australia. Each state and territory government has laws to prevent cruelty and to promote the welfare of animals by legislating standards for their care and treatment. Most states and territories have incorporated the Australian model codes of practice for the welfare of animals under their jurisdiction's 'Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' legislation. The Australian (Federal) Government has responsibility for trade and international agreements.

The following provides an outline framework of animal welfare arrangements existing at the national and state levels, however all components of this framework do not necessarily apply across all livestock sectors:

- Strategies
- Programs
- Legislation
- Regulations/Orders
- Codes of Practice
- Policy or Position Statements
- Research and Development
- Standards
- Guidelines

### 2.1 Federal Government

The principal federal government department involved in livestock animal welfare arrangements is the Australian Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). There is also involvement of other departments in specific areas such as the Department of Transport for requirements for ships carrying livestock by sea.

Detail on DAFF's involvement in animal welfare arrangements is set out on the following web site:

<http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=9AC107E4-BA01-4A19-9A96F8675771441F>

Administration of these arrangements involves cooperation between the Australian, State and Territory governments and includes:

- Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC)
- Primary Industries Standing Committee (PISC)
- Animal Health Committee

- Animal Welfare Working Group
- Australian Animal Welfare Strategy
- National Consultative Committee on Animal Welfare (NCCAW)

Model Animal welfare Codes of Practice have been developed through Federal, State, Territory and industry consultations and these can be accessed through a CSIRO web site <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/sid/11.htm>

At the national level the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) also has a stated involvement in animal welfare. <http://www.apvma.gov.au/>.

## 2.2 State and Territory Governments

The following DAFF link provides access to all State and Territory details on animal welfare arrangements and legislation:

<http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=D1B1A045-3C24-4401-84427826A6F0A1F8>

Each state and Territory has legislation against the offence of cruelty to animals and most have an Animal Welfare Advisory Committee to provide advice on animal welfare issues and on state legislation. The following provides an access inventory to each State and Territories arrangements:

### **Australian Capital Territory –**

Animal welfare - <http://www.environment.act.gov.au/petsandlocalwildlife/animalwelfare>

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/act/consol\\_act/awa1992128/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/act/consol_act/awa1992128/)

Animal Welfare Standards – ACT Codes of Practice -

<http://www.environment.act.gov.au/petsandlocalwildlife/animalwelfare/animalwelfarestandards-codesofpractice>

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee -

<http://www.environment.act.gov.au/petsandlocalwildlife/animalwelfare/animalwelfareadvisorycommittee>

Department – Environment

### **New South Wales**

Animal Welfare - <http://www.agric.nsw.gov.au/reader/welfare>

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol\\_act/poctaa1979360/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/poctaa1979360/)

NSW Agriculture – Animal Welfare Branch

<http://www.uq.edu.au/vetschool/index.html?page=36100>

Codes of Practice – National Model Codes

Department – Primary Industries – Agriculture

## **Northern Territory**

Animal Welfare

[http://kakadu.nt.gov.au/servlet/page?\\_pageid=159&\\_dad=portal30&\\_schema=PORTAL30&\\_type=site&\\_fsiteid=195&\\_fid=26214&\\_fnavbarid=26270&\\_fnavbarsiteid=195&\\_fedit=0&\\_fmode=2&\\_fdisplaymode=1&\\_fcalledfrom=1&\\_fdisplayurl=](http://kakadu.nt.gov.au/servlet/page?_pageid=159&_dad=portal30&_schema=PORTAL30&_type=site&_fsiteid=195&_fid=26214&_fnavbarid=26270&_fnavbarsiteid=195&_fedit=0&_fmode=2&_fdisplaymode=1&_fcalledfrom=1&_fdisplayurl=)

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nt/consol\\_act/awa128/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nt/consol_act/awa128/)

Codes of Practice – National Model Codes

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee -

[http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/animalwelfare\\_committee](http://www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au/dcdsca/intranet.nsf/pages/animalwelfare_committee)

Department – Business Industry and Resource Development and Primary Industries

Fisheries and Mines

## **Queensland**

Animal Welfare

[http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/xchg/dpi/hs.xsl/27\\_125\\_ENA\\_HTML.htm](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/xchg/dpi/hs.xsl/27_125_ENA_HTML.htm)

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/qld/consol\\_act/acapa2001229/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/qld/consol_act/acapa2001229/)

Codes of Practice – National Model Codes

QDPIF site linking to animal welfare sights both throughout Australia and internationally

<http://www2.dpi.qld.gov.au/animalwelfare/10185.html> - centres

Department – Primary Industries and Fisheries

## **South Australia**

Animal Welfare

[http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/search/deh\\_search.php?yaql=animal+welfare&yhstem=all&yhsyn=deh&yaqlphraseon=on&yhcoll=deh&yhcoll=biodiversity&yhcoll=botanicg](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/search/deh_search.php?yaql=animal+welfare&yhstem=all&yhsyn=deh&yaqlphraseon=on&yhcoll=deh&yhcoll=biodiversity&yhcoll=botanicg)

[ardens&yhcoll=coasts&yhcoll=reporting&yhcoll=heritage&yhcoll=mapland&yhcoll=par  
ks&yhcoll=sicom&yhcoll=sustainability&x=50&y=11](#)

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/sa/consol\\_act/poctaa1985360/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/sa/consol_act/poctaa1985360/)

Codes of Practice – National Model Codes

Department – Environment and Heritage and the Department of Primary Industries and Resources South Australia

### **Tasmania**

Animal Welfare - <http://www.dpiwe.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/WebPages/EGIL-535VVF?open>

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/tas/consol\\_act/awa1993128/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/tas/consol_act/awa1993128/)

Code of Practice – Tasmanian Animal Welfare Standards

Department – Primary Industry and Water

### **Victoria**

Animal Welfare - [http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/DPI/nrenfa.nsf/childdocs/-](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/DPI/nrenfa.nsf/childdocs/-180715ADC627966E4A256B750004BDD5-6166E48F26CF64DACA256EDD0082EDF1?open)

[180715ADC627966E4A256B750004BDD5-6166E48F26CF64DACA256EDD0082EDF1?open](#)

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol\\_act/poctaa1986360/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_act/poctaa1986360/)

Vic. Codes of Accepted Farming Practices

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee -

[http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/nrenfa.nsf/childdocs/-](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/nrenfa.nsf/childdocs/-180715ADC627966E4A256B750004BDD5-6166E48F26CF64DACA256EDD0082EDF1-)

[180715ADC627966E4A256B750004BDD5-6166E48F26CF64DACA256EDD0082EDF1-F3A3CF5AA1E56F23CA256D750016622D?open](#)

Bureau of Animal Welfare - [http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/DPI/nrenfa.nsf/childdocs/-](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/DPI/nrenfa.nsf/childdocs/-180715ADC627966E4A256B750004BDD5-6166E48F26CF64DACA256EDD0082EDF1-51BF0C52049FE5A3CA256D750014EC47?open)

[180715ADC627966E4A256B750004BDD5-6166E48F26CF64DACA256EDD0082EDF1-51BF0C52049FE5A3CA256D750014EC47?open](#)

Department – Primary Industries

## **Western Australia**

Animal Welfare – <http://www.dlgrd.wa.gov.au/localGovt/animalWelfare/overview.asp>

Legislation - [http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/wa/consol\\_act/awa2002128/](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/wa/consol_act/awa2002128/)

Codes of Practice – WA Codes

Department – Local Government and Resource Development and the Department of Agriculture and Food

Livestock Welfare Reference Group – recently established involving livestock producer and government representatives

## **Other:**

- State Veterinary Registration boards also have a secondary involvement in animal welfare
- Animal Welfare in New Zealand - <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/animal-welfare>

## **Comments**

Integral to each of the state animal welfare jurisdictions is the role of authorised officers under the State Act. This may be departmental personnel, Police, RSPCA inspectors or Animal Welfare League Inspectors in some states. Whilst police hold the powers under the POCTA legislation, they often tend to defer to authorised inspectors from the department or other organisations.

Concerns were raised about the potential conflict that exists with voluntary, charitable member organisations such as the RSPCA or Animal Welfare League being approved inspectors under animal welfare legislation, at the same time as advocating reforms to government on animal welfare issues. The concern being that with the increasing level of activism that is evident overseas on animal welfare issues, the potential for this conflict to emerge becomes greater.

As well, issues were raised that state legislation, which creates an offence of animal cruelty does not necessarily provide for improved management of animal welfare, particularly in the livestock sector where flexibility and responsiveness to external factors are important. This is recognised in some jurisdictions through administrative arrangements that focus on informing and assisting in the care of animals as well as providing for penalties for acts of cruelty. In Victoria there has been a move to examine the potential for separate regulation of farm animals.

Another aspect of this concern relates to the knowledge and competency of magistrates to assess production systems in determining whether an action is cruel in a case before the courts. Decisions to exonerate property invaders despite significant biosecurity risks and costs were raised.

Concerns were also raised by a number of stakeholders about inconsistencies between laws relating to animal welfare in each state in Australia, and in some cases about the administration of these laws.

National Model Codes of practice are taken into consideration when framing animal welfare legislation in the states however their adoption and standing varies.

Animal Health Australia (AHA) has developed a Business Plan to rewrite the Model Codes to incorporate both the national welfare standards and industry “best practice” guidelines for each species or enterprise. The initial task will be to re-format each of the 22 existing Model Codes into a document that combines Australian Welfare Standards and supporting Guidelines for that species or enterprise, using a standard template.

DAFF are also commissioning a legal evaluation of existing state legislation as an initial step toward achieving a more consistent approach.

Cross-jurisdictional concerns have also become an issue for the livestock export industry that is required to meet Federal animal welfare Standards in the export process from selection on farm through to export. Despite being subject to these Standards and the AQIS inspection system, there appears to be scope for intervention in the export process under the state jurisdiction.

Animal Health and Disease Control Programs - Whilst not being regarded primarily as animal welfare arrangements there are many animal health, disease control, prevention programs and arrangements that benefit animal welfare. These include a range of endemic disease programs operating through state departments and the AHA, as well as state department extension and advisory services where they exist.

Detailed exotic disease preparedness programs also exist under cooperative arrangements involving the national, state and territory governments and industry. Animal welfare is an important consideration in these programs

### 3. Industry and Specific Interest Programs

Livestock production and related industries have initiated a number of arrangements aimed at ensuring the humane treatment of animals. These have been developed in response to perceived needs, and broadly within the framework of industry assuming an increased responsibility for managing a continuous improvement process.

These arrangements take a number of forms:

- Industry level initiatives
  - Policy/position statements
  - Strategies
  - R&D
  - Quality assurance schemes
  - Technical and advisory services
  - Training
- Commercial:
  - Within company directives
  - Commercial buyer specification
  - Commercial Supplier programs
- Third party programs
  - RSPCA

In some instances these arrangements are part of a co-regulatory framework, such as in the Cattle Feedlot and Dairy industries, whilst in other industries they rely on industry and commercial pressures for their adoption.

A number of other professional, community and third party organisations have arrangements in place that relate to the welfare of livestock production animals. These have not been included in the inventory as such but they all have an influence in the arrangements that exist. These organisations include:

Veterinary Training Institutions:

- University of Melbourne <http://www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/>
- University of Queensland <http://www.uq.edu.au/nravs/>
- University of Sydney <http://www.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/>
- Murdoch University <http://www.vetbiomed.murdoch.edu.au/>

Animal Health Australia (AHA) - <http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/>

Animal Welfare Science Centre - <http://www.animal-welfare.org.au/>

Graduate Certificate in Animal Welfare run by Monash University, under the auspices of the Animal Welfare Science Centre - <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/pgrad/aw-info.html>

University of Queensland Chair in Animal Welfare

<http://www.uq.edu.au/vetschool/index.html?page=36100>

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) – <http://www.rspca.org.au/>  
Animals Australia – <http://www.animalsaustralia.org/>

Practising veterinarians have a primary role in animal welfare at both the practical and overall policy level through the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) <http://www.ava.com.au/>. The veterinarian's responsibility for consideration of the welfare of animals is a primary obligation under the AVA Code of Conduct  
[http://www.ava.com.au/community.php?c=0&showpage=0&ctrail\\_add>About%20Us](http://www.ava.com.au/community.php?c=0&showpage=0&ctrail_add>About%20Us)

## 4. Sector Inventories

These sector inventories highlight the major animal welfare arrangements that are in place, either from a regulatory perspective or arising from an industry or third party initiative.

### 4.1 Cattle

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Cattle</a>	
Cattle transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
	“Fit to load” MLA guide to animals fit for transport		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA

NVD Scheme	Vendor Declarations – MLA industry developed travel documentation and waybill		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm</a>		
Cattle Production	Livestock Production Assurance (LPA). LPA1 – an on-farm food safety program. This is not an animal welfare program, but is an entry point for LPA2				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level1LPA/Default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level1LPA/Default.htm</a>
	LPA2 – an on-farm Quality Assurance program. Currently under development and will cover animal welfare.				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/default.htm</a>

	Cattlecare – An early industry initiated QA program. Whilst not focused on animal welfare, aspects of the code have animal welfare benefits. The current industry initiative is now focused on incorporation into LPA (see above)				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/CATTLECARE™.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/CATTLECARE™.htm</a>
	Safemeat cross reference to animal welfare codes		<a href="http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/AnimalWelfare/">http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/AnimalWelfare/</a>		
<b>Training</b>					
NTIS Rural Production Training Package	Certificate II, III, IV in Agriculture (Beef Production) all include units on animal health and welfare.				<a href="http://www.ntis.gov.au/Default.aspx?/trainingpackage/RTE03">http://www.ntis.gov.au/Default.aspx?/trainingpackage/RTE03</a>
	Diploma and Advanced Diplomas of Agriculture (Beef Production) including study in management and development of systems to maintain good animal health and welfare.				

Pastoral companies	Some of the major pastoral companies have in-house training for their staff in stock handling				
EDGE training	Including Nutrition, Breeding, MSA				
More Beef from Pastures	Includes pasture/feed management, health and welfare,				
Low Stress Stockhandling	Supported by FarmBis in some States and Territories				
Best practice guide on branding, castration and dehorning	Currently being developed by MLA in conjunction with education facilities and will be distributed in late 2006				A manual and easy to use field booklet will be developed
<b>R&amp;D</b>	<p>MLA developed an AW R&amp;D investment strategy in 2004 following extensive stakeholder consultation which supports research across 6 priority areas.</p> <p>This program invests \$1.5 Million pa into welfare research to improve welfare outcomes and build capacity.</p>		A copy of the strategy can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/InformationCentre/AnimalHealthandWelfare/Animalwelfare/MLA+On-farm+Animal+Welfare+strategy.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/InformationCentre/AnimalHealthandWelfare/Animalwelfare/MLA+On-farm+Animal+Welfare+strategy.htm</a>		

## 4.2 Sheep meat and Wool

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Sheep Mulesing Appendix</a> approved by PIMC Oct 2005	
Sheep transport	National Model Code of Practice for the Land Transport of Sheep			<a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/byteserve/agriculture/livestock/downloads/draft_land_transport_of_sheep_v28.pdf">http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/byteserve/agriculture/livestock/downloads/draft_land_transport_of_sheep_v28.pdf</a> (draft)	
	MLA preparation of animals for transport brochure		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA

NVD Scheme	Vendor Declarations – MLA industry developed travel documentation and waybill		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm</a>		
Sheep Production	Livestock Production Assurance (LPA). LPA1 – an on-farm food safety program.				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level1LPA/Default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level1LPA/Default.htm</a>
	LPA2 – an on-farm Quality Assurance program. Currently under development				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/default.htm</a>
	Flockcare – An early industry initiated QA program. Whilst not focused on animal welfare, aspects of the code have animal welfare benefits. The current industry initiative is now focused on LPA (see above)				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/CATTLECARE™.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/CATTLECARE™.htm</a>

	Producers guide for the lot feeding of Lambs				<a href="http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/3630.htm">http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/3630.htm</a>
	Safemeat cross reference to animal welfare codes		<a href="http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/">http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/</a>		
	AWI – Industry programs		<a href="http://www.woolinnovation.com.au/LivePage.aspx?pageId=139">http://www.woolinnovation.com.au/LivePage.aspx?pageId=139</a>		
Mulesing	National Mulesing Accreditation Program – Under development		Contractor and grower training, assessment and accreditation	Mulesing Appendix to Model Sheep COP approved by PIMC Oct 2005	
	Compact and Declaration of Commitments with retailers – covers mulesing program and R&D				Compact signed between Aust wool industry, US and UK retailer organisations
Shearer and Wool handler training	Covers coaching for shearers and wool handlers		<a href="http://www.woolinnovation.com.au/LivePage.aspx?pageId=561">http://www.woolinnovation.com.au/LivePage.aspx?pageId=561</a>		

	“Fit to load” MLA guide to animals fit for transport		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA
EDGE training	Including Nutrition, Breeding, MSA, Wean more lambs, Money making mums				
More Sheep and Wool from Pasture	Currently being developed by MLA and AWI with launch in Autumn 2007				
<b>R&amp;D</b>	<p>MLA developed an AW R&amp;D investment strategy in 2004 following extensive stakeholder consultation which supports research across 6 priority areas.</p> <p>This program invests \$1.5 Million pa into welfare research to improve welfare outcomes and build capacity.</p>		<p>A copy of the strategy can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/InformationCentre/AnimalHealthandWelfare/Animalwelfare/MLA+On-farm+Animal+Welfare+strategy.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/InformationCentre/AnimalHealthandWelfare/Animalwelfare/MLA+On-farm+Animal+Welfare+strategy.htm</a></p>		

### 4.3 Dairy

From the outset the dairy industry emphasised that animal welfare is an outcome from sound management practices and as such is not regarded in isolation but as part of integrated practices within the industry. No separate regulation or audit of animal welfare is undertaken however there are significant animal welfare benefits from audited industry QA programs. The outcome is regarded as the principle criterion rather than prescriptive standards. This also applies in the field of research and development, which in itself has significant animal welfare benefits, but may be focused on production limiting concerns such as mastitis.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Legislation</b>	<b>Position/Policy Statements</b>	<b>Codes of Practice</b>	<b>Guidelines manuals</b>
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Cattle</a>	
Cattle transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
NVD Scheme	Vendor Declarations – MLA industry developed travel documentation and waybill		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm</a>		

Licensing	State dairy farmer licensing arrangements covering farmers and downstream suppliers. Focus is on hygiene and food safety but deals with animal health and welfare issues	State based legislation		State Codes of Practice for Dairy Food Safety The Victorian Code – <a href="http://www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au/pdf/DFSV_CodeOfPractice2002.pdf">http://www.dairysafe.vic.gov.au/pdf/DFSV_CodeOfPractice2002.pdf</a>	
On-Farm QA	To meet supplier requirements farmers must have in place an audited on-farm quality system				Company requirements
Animal Welfare Strategy			National Dairy Industry Animal Welfare Strategy		
Dairy Australia Extension Programs	<u>CowTime</u> Examines each step of the milking process dealing with the facilities, cows and milking practices				<a href="http://www.cowtime.com.au/?page=3">http://www.cowtime.com.au/?page=3</a>
	<u>Countdown Downunder</u> Provides advice to help farmers manage mastitis				<a href="http://www.countdown.org.au/">http://www.countdown.org.au/</a>

	<p><u>InCalf</u> Is a national learning program working with dairy farmers and advisers to achieve measured improvement in herd reproductive performance</p>				<p><a href="http://www.incalf.com.au/">http://www.incalf.com.au/</a></p>
	<p><u>TopFodder</u> on-line resource information about silage in Australia</p>				<p><a href="http://www.topfodder.com.au/">http://www.topfodder.com.au/</a></p>
Prohand	<p>Stockpeople program aimed at improving the attitudes and behaviour of stockpeople working in dairies</p>				<p><a href="http://www.animal-welfare.org.au/educate/phcc.pdf">http://www.animal-welfare.org.au/educate/phcc.pdf</a></p>

#### 4.4 Goats

<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Legislation</b>	<b>Position/Policy Statements</b>	<b>Codes of Practice</b>	<b>Guidelines manuals</b>
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Goat</a>	
NVD Scheme	Vendor Declarations – MLA industry developed travel documentation and waybill		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/NationalVendorDeclarations/default.htm</a>		
Goat Production	Livestock Production Assurance (LPA). LPA1 – an on-farm food safety program.				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level1LPA/Default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level1LPA/Default.htm</a>

	LPA2 – an on-farm Quality Assurance program. Currently under development				<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/IndustryPrograms/LivestockQualitySystems/LivestockProductionAssurance/Level2LPA/default.htm</a>
	Best Practice manual for goat production		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/goats/issue1/issue1Story2.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/goats/issue1/issue1Story2.htm</a>		Being developed
	Safemeat cross reference to animal welfare codes		<a href="http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/">http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/</a>		

## 4.5 Pigs

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above		
	Model Codes of Practice Revised National Model Code for Consultation			<a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/nrenfa.nsf/LinkView/5698BEC23A533B43CA25716A00133807D373F10F0A3BF7984A256DEA0011ECC9">http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/nrenfa.nsf/LinkView/5698BEC23A533B43CA25716A00133807D373F10F0A3BF7984A256DEA0011ECC9</a>	
Pig Transport				<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Pigs</a>	
APL Policy	Information on animal welfare policy in the Australian pig industry		Animal Welfare policy		<a href="http://www.australianpork.com.au/index.cfm?menuid=FBA4EC92-B0D0-36D2-5CAFD912331732F1">http://www.australianpork.com.au/index.cfm?menuid=FBA4EC92-B0D0-36D2-5CAFD912331732F1</a>
APL – National Strategy	7 Year strategy currently under development.		APL – National Animal Welfare Strategy		

QA	Australian Pork Industry Quality Program – covering food safety biosecurity and animal welfare			APIQ Welfare Standard – reflecting the Model Code	<a href="http://www.apl.au.com/index.cfm?menuid=E78CE26D-B0D0-36D2-5C719BE99EC85028">http://www.apl.au.com/index.cfm?menuid=E78CE26D-B0D0-36D2-5C719BE99EC85028</a>
	Welfare Audit for the Pork Industry (2004)				<a href="http://www.apl.au.com/media/Pork%20Industry%20Welfare%20Audit.pdf">http://www.apl.au.com/media/Pork Industry Welfare Audit.pdf</a>
RSPCA National Food Accreditation	RSPCA Accredited Pig Products		<a href="http://www.rspca.org.au/food/overview.asp">http://www.rspca.org.au/food/overview.asp</a>		
<b>Training</b>					
APL Pig Welfare website					<a href="http://www.australianpork.com.au/index.cfm?menuID=31E299DE-B0D0-36D2-5C816D526130C13E">http://www.australianpork.com.au/index.cfm?menuID=31E299DE-B0D0-36D2-5C816D526130C13E</a>
APL Brochure	Animal Welfare Alert – Know your rights				Brochure
Prohand	Stockpeople program aimed at improving the attitudes and behaviour of stockpeople working in piggeries				Interactive CD-Rom, video and facilitated discussions <a href="http://www.animal-welfare.org.au/educate/phcc.pdf">http://www.animal-welfare.org.au/educate/phcc.pdf</a>

#### 4.6 Lot feeding

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Cattle</a>	
Cattle transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
TruckCare	Industry initiated Quality Assurance program			<a href="http://www.alta.org.au/Directory/Document_PublicView.asp?Select=8171&amp;site=286">http://www.alta.org.au/Directory/Document_PublicView.asp?Select=8171&amp;site=286</a>	
Cattle Feedlots				<a href="#">National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia</a>	
	Safemeat cross reference to animal welfare codes		<a href="http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/">http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/</a>		

Cattle Feedlots		State – most states refer to requirements to comply with Codes of Practice  Local – planning, licensing and registration requirements		<a href="#">National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia</a>  State Specific Codes of Practice	
	Safemeat cross reference to animal welfare codes		<a href="http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/">http://www.safemeat.com.au/English/Animal_Welfare/</a>		
NFAS	National feedlot Accreditation System  3 <sup>rd</sup> Party (AUS-MEAT) annually audited program. QA system, managed by an industry committee- Feedlot Industry Accreditation Committee (FLIAC).	Refers to legislation  Refers to State Specific Codes of Practice  Local – planning, licensing and registration requirements	"Owners and managers have a legal and moral responsibility to care for the welfare of animals under their care."	Refers to COP  Refers to State Specific Codes of Practice	1 - active maintenance of an animal care statement. 2 – have copy and be familiar with COP 3 – comply with model code for transport (voluntary use of Truckcare accredited carriers)

## 4.7 Livestock Export

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Exporter Licensing	All exporters of prescribed livestock must be licensed by AQIS	AMLI Act 1997 and Regulations. Access through DAFF website <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=D2C48F86-BA1A-11A1-A2200060A1B00707&amp;nbsp;">http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=D2C48F86-BA1A-11A1-A2200060A1B00707&amp;nbsp;</a>		Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL) <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=9720F5A9-170C-4DB5-B1C67B928E9CD35E">http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=9720F5A9-170C-4DB5-B1C67B928E9CD35E</a>	Fact sheets, forms and guidelines <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=06BDF57E-566C-4460-9DA95FB6899786CB&amp;contType=outputs">http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=06BDF57E-566C-4460-9DA95FB6899786CB&amp;contType=outputs</a>
Certification	Export consignments must be issued with an Export Permit			ASEL (as above) The ASEL includes requirements covering sourcing, transportation, assembly, loading and shipment of livestock	Fact sheets and guidelines <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=06BDF57E-566C-4460-9DA95FB6899786CB&amp;contType=outputs">http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=06BDF57E-566C-4460-9DA95FB6899786CB&amp;contType=outputs</a>
Registered Premises	All operators of pre export assembly facilities			ASEL (as above)	Fact sheets <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/content/publications.cfm?ObjectID=D11AA1A4-0339-4657-BF419DEF8C547CF0">http://www.daff.gov.au/content/publications.cfm?ObjectID=D11AA1A4-0339-4657-BF419DEF8C547CF0</a>

AQIS Accredited Veterinarians	Veterinarians involved in consignment preparation			ASEL (as above)	Fact Sheets <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=06BDF57E-566C-4460-9DA95FB6899786CB&amp;contType=outputs">http://www.daff.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=06BDF57E-566C-4460-9DA95FB6899786CB&amp;contType=outputs</a>
Australian Government Activities	The government has directed resources to funding animal welfare projects and veterinary services particularly in the Middle East				
	Government to government MOU's on discharge arrangements have been negotiated with a number of middle East countries				
Regulation of livestock shipping	All ships exporting livestock from Australia must be registered with AMSA	Marine Orders 43 <a href="http://www.amsa.gov.au/Shipping_Safety/Marine_Orders/Documents/MO43.pdf">http://www.amsa.gov.au/Shipping_Safety/Marine_Orders/Documents/MO43.pdf</a>			Explanatory Notes <a href="http://www.amsa.gov.au/Shipping_Safety/Marine_Orders/Documents/Explan43.pdf">http://www.amsa.gov.au/Shipping_Safety/Marine_Orders/Documents/Explan43.pdf</a>

Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Cattle</a>	
Cattle transport	Model Code of Practice	State Through Animal Welfare legislation		<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
	MLA preparation of animals for transport brochure		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA
Livestock Export Animal Welfare Group	Advisory and policy co-ordination across involved industry sectors				
Australian Livestock Export Program (MLA/LiveCorp)	Stockperson training		<a href="http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=385">http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=385</a>		Stockman's handbook <a href="http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=385">http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=385</a>
	On-board training for Veterinarians				Veterinarian handbook

	Overseas veterinary and technical support		<p>MLA  <a href="http://www.mla.com.au/AudienceHierarchy/LiveExporters/default.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/AudienceHierarchy/LiveExporters/default.htm</a>  LiveCorp - Asia  <a href="http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=374">http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=374</a>  LiveCorp Middle East  <a href="http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=400">http://www.livecorp.com.au/index1.cfm?category=400</a></p>		Company Operating Plans Training manuals
	Stevedore training				Under development
	New entrant training				Under development
"Is it fit to export?" guide	Currently developing this guide which will look like the "Is it fit to load?" guide				
In house training	Wellard Rural Exports – In-house 3 month staff training program				

## 4.8 Egg production

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Domestic Poultry</a>	
Poultry transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Poultry</a>	
Poultry transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Poultry</a>	
Training	Australia-wide egg producer seminar on how to comply with the new Model Code of Practice		Training in 5 states based on 3 egg producer surveys and code compliance checklist.	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Domestic Poultry</a>	<a href="#">Layer Hen Housing Checklist</a>
	Vaccinator Training				<a href="http://www.aecl.org/index.asp?pageid=433">http://www.aecl.org/index.asp?pageid=433</a> - b
	AECL Husbandry and Welfare published information				<a href="http://www.aecl.org/index.asp?pageid=431">http://www.aecl.org/index.asp?pageid=431</a>

Quality Assurance	Egg Corp Assured (ECA), the National Egg Quality Assurance Program		All ECA licensed businesses must comply with Welfare codes as confirmed by third party auditor.	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Domestic Poultry</a> <a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Poultry</a>	<a href="#">Egg Corp Assured Business Guidelines</a>
Company Brands	Company brands relating to free range or non-caged production systems				
RSPCA Accreditation	RSPCA Accredited Eggs		<a href="http://www.rspca.org.au/food/overview.asp">http://www.rspca.org.au/food/overview.asp</a>		
R& D	<p>AECL is currently supporting a range of projects that aim to address welfare issues relevant to the Australian egg industry.</p> <p>Over the past 5 years AECL has invested more than \$1.5M on research with aims related to improving animal welfare outcomes</p> <p>Past research is available <a href="#">here</a></p>		<p>Current research includes: Strategies to improve moulting practices and reduce reliance on beak trimming; Dr Greg Parkinson, DPI Victoria.</p> <p>Benchmarking layer production in cage and alternative housing systems; Dr Geoff Stewart, UQ</p> <p>The importance of nests for the welfare of laying hens; Dr Greg Cronin and A/Prof John Barnett, DPI Victoria.</p>		

## 4.9 Chicken meat production

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Domestic Poultry</a>	
Poultry transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Poultry</a>	
Slaughtering Establishments	Model Code of Practice for Poultry Processing			<a href="http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/pid/356.htm">http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/pid/356.htm</a>	
Generic Industry Welfare Audit Program	Under development - Co's can add additional requirements				Under development
Company Based Programs	Industry overview		<a href="http://www.chicken.org.au/page.php?id=44">http://www.chicken.org.au/page.php?id=44</a>		
	QA based on a combination of elements from COP's and the Broiler Welfare Audit Program		Contract between grower and processor		Elements included in the company's grower's manual. Some elements are driven by customer requirements

#### 4.10 Road transport

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	See below	
Livestock Transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
				<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Horses</a>	
				<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Pigs</a>	
				<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Poultry</a>	
TruckCare	Industry initiated Quality Assurance program		<a href="http://www.alta.org.au/Directory/Document_PublicView.asp?Select=8171&amp;site=286">http://www.alta.org.au/Directory/Document_PublicView.asp?Select=8171&amp;site=286</a>		

	MLA preparation of animals for transport brochure		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA
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#### 4.11 Saleyards

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	See below	
Saleyard operation				<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Animals at Saleyards</a>	
NSQA	National Saleyards Quality Assurance Program		<a href="http://www.ausmeat.com.au/programmes/nsqa/">http://www.ausmeat.com.au/programmes/nsqa/</a>		
Livestock Transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
	MLA preparation of animals for transport brochure		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA

#### 4.12 Meat processing

Program	Description	Legislation	Position/Policy Statements	Codes of Practice	Guidelines manuals
Animal Cruelty Legislation	State prevention of cruelty/animal welfare Acts	State – Each state has animal welfare legislation (see above)	Refer State links to animal welfare websites above	See below	
Abattoir Operations	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Livestock at Slaughtering Establishments</a>	
Livestock Transport	Model Code of Practice			<a href="#">Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Cattle</a>	
	MLA preparation of animals for transport brochure		<a href="http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm">http://www.mla.com.au/TopicHierarchy/News/MediaReleases/Easy-to-use%2Bguide%2Blaunched%2Bto%2Bhelp%2Bimprove%2Blivestock%2Btransport.htm</a>		Available from MLA, State departments and the RSPCA
Industry Standards	National Animal Welfare Standards for Livestock Processing Establishments				Standards Document

	Working Manual to Implement National Animal Welfare Standards at Livestock Processing Establishments				Manual
	Australian Standards for the Hygienic Production, Transportation and Marketing of Meat for Human Consumption			<a href="http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/3150.htm">http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/3150.htm</a>	

## 4.13 Research and Development

A detailed inventory of animal welfare R&D has not been included as part of this project, although a separate project is underway to compile a list of key studies in animal welfare in each sector. R&D programs impacting on animal welfare also cover a range of related issues including animal production, health, management, food safety, biosecurity and transportation.

The purpose of R&D is to achieve greater knowledge and understanding, and in the animal welfare area, a likely outcome will be improved arrangements in the future. These arrangements may take the form of industry or government standards, other government regulatory requirements, industry-operating practices, better knowledge of best practice generally or foundation standards implemented through QA schemes.

Animal welfare is regarded as a high priority area for research and significant work is done in all livestock sectors in prioritising research needs as part of R&D planning.

Research and Development Corporations with research programs contributing to improved animal welfare in the animal production industries include:

- Meat and Livestock Australia <http://www.mla.com.au/default.htm>
- Australian Wool Innovation <http://www.wool.com.au/>
- LiveCorp <http://www.livecorp.com.au/>
- Dairy Australia [http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/template\\_home.asp](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/template_home.asp)
- Australia Pork Limited [http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/template\\_home.asp](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/template_home.asp)
- Australian Egg Corporation Limited <http://www.aecl.org/index.asp>
- Rural Industry Research and Development Corporation <http://www.rirdc.gov.au/>
  
- Co-operative Research Centres (CRC's) involved in the livestock production industries also have significant animal welfare components. CRC for Beef Genetic Technologies - <http://www.beef.crc.org.au/?flashver=7>
- Sheep CRC - <http://www.sheepcrc.org.au/>
- CRC for Innovative Dairy Products - <http://www.dairycrc.com/>
- Pork CRC - <http://www.dairycrc.com/>
- Poultry CRC - <http://www1.poultrycrc.com.au/>

An important issue to emerge in feedback is the need to ensure a strong linkage between R&D outcomes and uptake by industry in QA standards and other support services. It is equally seen as important that government recognise research outcomes and current science in government codes and standards as well as practices and requirements adopted in implementing their regulatory responsibilities. This process is currently seen as a gap in some industries.

A related issue is the practical reality that implementation of some best practice measures identified by research may render Australian producers uncompetitive, simply because of the cost or additional requirements. This has the potential to favour suppliers who operate from other countries at a lesser standard, and therefore may work against the welfare interest of animals at a more global level.

#### **4.14 Training**

Many industries have training programs in place that have components that relate to the health, management and welfare of animals. Some of this training has a direct linkage to QA schemes whilst some is stand-alone. The inventory is far from complete in identifying this training.

The Agri-foods Industry Skills Council has an Animal Care and Training Package, with a number of courses relevant to livestock production industries.

<http://www.agrifoodskills.net.au/training-animal.php>

A gap that is evident from feedback provided is that in many situations there appears to be a lack of specified competency standards applying to roles in the handling, management and regulatory control of animals in the livestock production sectors, with established training to meet these standards.

#### **4.15 General Comments on Sector Inventories**

The sector inventories are complex and there is no standard approach or model for animal welfare arrangements across the livestock industries. This is largely due to the reality that the livestock industries have developed in Australia over many years and in response to the needs of and influences on that sector. They are each at a different stage in this evolution.

The principle responsibility for good animal welfare in the livestock production sector rests with the primary carer for the animals. Whilst this has not been categorised as a formal arrangement, the vast majority of people in this position of responsibility acknowledge and accept this basic fact. Good animal management means good animal welfare and better economic outcomes from livestock production.

It is clear that in a regulatory sense the primary responsibility lies with the States and Territory governments, although there is an exception to that in the livestock exports industry, and inevitably this creates some confusion for industry over jurisdiction, as has been evidenced in WA.

A number of companies have corporate policy statements relating to the management of animal welfare issues within their company and specific training and other instruction

arrangements and these are difficult to draw out in a short time frame. Another area requiring on-going development in the inventory is the identification and evaluation of training that already exists.

For this reason the inventory must be seen as snapshot in time rather than a definitive statement. A number of further measures are emerging some of which have been referred to in the inventory and this continuous improvement process is ongoing.

It is also important to add that in compiling the inventory there has been no attempt to evaluate the measures, although in discussions some issues have emerged that have been drawn out later in comments on issues and gaps.

Animal welfare in all sectors is regarded by the industry as an outcome from sound animal management and handling practices, and has not usually been treated as a discrete discipline in its own right. These sectors have each responded to the fundamental need for animals to be treated humanely and all have implemented initiatives to assist in achieving this outcome. This attitude and initiative provides a strong basis on which to build in the future.

## **5. Issues and Gaps**

The following are the principle gaps or issues that emerged in consultations. They are presented here with along with some suggested options for action. The identification of a gap or issue does however not necessarily indicate an area for priority action.

### **5.1 State differences in managing their responsibilities**

It is to be expected that there is industry concern at the different approaches adopted by State and Territory governments to the administration of animal cruelty responsibilities. This has been re-emphasised by industry working group participants during this process.

National Model Codes of Animal Welfare Practice have been developed in a consultative approach involving all states and industry and these have been endorsed by PIMC. Despite this there are significant differences between States and Territory jurisdictions in how these Codes are treated, whether separate State Codes have been developed and how the Prevention of animal cruelty legislation regards the Codes.

This issue is well recognised and several projects are being progressed under the auspices of the AAWS to try and achieve a greater consistency in the approach. In brief these include:

- A business plan developed by Animal Health Australia to rewrite the Model Codes to incorporate both the national welfare standards and industry “best practice” guidelines for each species or enterprise. The initial task will be to re-format each of the 22 existing Model Codes into a document that combines Australian Welfare Standards and supporting Guidelines for that species or enterprise, using a standard template
- DAFF are commissioning a legal evaluation of existing State and Territory legislation as an initial step toward achieving a more consistent approach.

The view has been expressed that the first of these projects can be expected to achieve progress and agreement, and a strong degree of cooperation in the uptake of Standards and guidelines within industry QA schemes. There is concern however that the process of gaining across jurisdiction agreement on a consistent regulatory format is likely to be more problematic.

#### **Options for Action:**

Strong support for progressing projects and strategies that are directed to achieving a more consistent approach to the management of animal welfare as it affects livestock production animals.

## 5.2 Absence of an overarching, flexible “model”

Allied to the first issue is the view that there is currently no template or model under which the arrangements in the various sectors sit. Some may argue that this does exist at a very loose level, with national and state requirements and industry initiatives, but that is about as far as the template extends.

There is also a view that being too prescriptive in directing how governments and industry sectors respond to animal welfare requirements may stifle initiative and innovation.

There has been a stated policy support for co regulation at the national level and this applies to some extent within the meat industry. Such a co-operative approach is seen to offer scope for approaching animal welfare with a greater level of outcomes focus than simply requiring the adherence to prescriptive animal welfare standards that do not necessarily account for specific circumstances.

### **Options for Action:**

This again is a wide-ranging issue and needs to be part of a longer-term strategy. The following comments are intended to encourage further consideration of the broad framework that will apply to animal welfare in animal production industries in the future.

The bringing together of a diverse range of stakeholder participants under the umbrella of the AAWS does possibly provide a model for achieving a more integrated and consistent approach to animal welfare arrangements. Such a model would require acceptance of over-arching principals under which such a framework could exist. As a starting point, the following principles have been taken from the AAWS Vision:

- The welfare of all animals in Australia is promoted and protected by the development and adoption of sound animal welfare standards and practices.
- An approach to animal welfare that recognises the importance of factors such as ethics, culture, societal values, economics, the environment and innovation, as well as a scientific base.
- To build on the existing animal welfare framework in Australia
- To recognise achievements such as national codes of practice, as well as the roles and responsibilities for animal welfare, such as individual animal owners, community organizations, animal industries, and governments.

Other principles could include:

- Acceptance that standards develop over time

- A culture of continuous improvement
- A recognition that economics and resource constraints will impact on implementation of best practice and a balanced progressive approach will need to be adopted
- Accreditation of systems and personnel at the government and industry levels
- An agreed government/industry integrated approach that encourages animal welfare compliance and improvement
- A risk assessment approach to determining priority for action that takes into account
  - Known deficiencies
  - Research outcomes and science
  - Global developments
  - Community concerns – with an understanding of the relationship between expressed concerns and actions in the broader community.
- A commitment to constructive engagement to foster animal welfare improvements globally

### **5.3 Animal cruelty regulation does not necessarily achieve animal welfare**

The overall intention in progressing the AAWS is to achieve the adoption of sound animal welfare standards and practices with continuous improvement, yet the main regulatory instruments in place are aimed at creating an offence of animal cruelty. Establishing cruelty offences and applying penalties does not necessarily lead to the application of sound animal welfare practices or the adoption of new practices leading to continuous improvement.

In some industries this gap is filled by industry or commercial quality systems that use accepted minimum practices as a base with compliance audited by independent qualified auditors. In the main however these systems operate quite separately from any regulatory system and on a voluntary basis.

#### **Options for Action**

- The concept of accepted (accredited) industry farm animal welfare support arrangements could be developed to enhance the better integration of industry/government arrangements for livestock production industries, rather than to have industry programs operating in isolation.
- If agreed by industry it is feasible that approved QA schemes could be called up under appropriate regulation separate to the animal cruelty legislation, and for those who elect to adopt such an arrangement, compliance with that scheme would then be mandatory.
- The specific requirements and Standards of the scheme would not be regulated, but dealt with under the QA scheme through non-compliance and corrective action reports. Essential Standards could be notifiable to regulatory bodies where fundamental animal welfare failings are identified.

- The existing animal cruelty regulation would be maintained for those in the livestock industries electing not to adopt QA or for non-farm animals.

## **5.4 Training and competencies at all levels**

Comments here relate mainly to “within industry” training as distinct from broader community awareness and education that will be dealt with under the Communication strategy.

A number of industries have developed arrangements for training in a range of areas that impact on animal welfare essentials relating to their industries. There is however a gap in some sectors in the recognition of or acceptance of this in terms of delivering improved competencies within the industry.

### **Options for Action:**

Industries to identify core competencies for each sector in the livestock production industry

- Accredite training or delivery agencies who are capable of providing instruction or training to achieve those competencies
- Consideration be given to who accredits, on what basis and audit arrangements

## **5.5 Assessing compliance**

Concerns exist that despite having regulation and industry programs in place that are focused on animal welfare their still remains the issue of how is compliance assessed and what action is appropriate for non compliance.

There is some confusion between the nature of regulatory and inspection regimes and quality assurance programs. The latter is aimed at ensuring the participant has a system in place that is capable of delivering the outcomes required within the agreed standards that underpin the scheme. Non-conformance identified at subsequent audit or through an incident represents a failure of the system and the focus is then on ensuring this is rectified. In itself it is not a compliance regime although in a co-regulatory situation serious non-conformance or repeated failure may lead to subsequent regulatory action.

Concerns that were raised related to specific instances of observed practices that were seen as unacceptable, relating to animal transport, small or hobby farm operators, out of hours delivery to saleyards, non-muzzled dogs and use of cattle prods.

### **Options for Action:**

- Encourage wider adoption of QA
- Education and training (refer competencies and training above)
- Identify core essential animal welfare requirements of QA schemes. Non-conformance may lead to training or additional audit requirements or

notification to regulatory authorities where problems are regarded as unresolvable.

## **5.6 Clarity of functions and jurisdictions and conflicts of interest**

Comments were made earlier (refer 2.2) about potential conflicts that may emerge with charitable member bodies being authorised inspectors under State or Territory animal cruelty legislation.

There is also a concern in some industries that there is overlapping state and territory jurisdictions relating to animal welfare requirements, as in the preparation of animals for live export.

There was also concern that livestock movement restrictions that arise out of Emergency Animal Disease Agreement – Compensation may place producers at risk under duty of care provisions in current state animal welfare legislation

### **Options for Action**

- Established competencies and training of all authorised officers
- Regular audit of all inspectorate operations
- Designation of the responsible regulatory agency where overlapping jurisdictions exists. In an export situation when animals have entered the export process approved by AQIS, it may be appropriate for the national export arrangements prevail
- Examine and resolve the potential conflict between a producer's duty of Care under state or territory legislation and responsibilities under the EAD requirements.

## **5.7 Other species – camelids, deer, rabbits, buffalo, ostriches and emus**

It can be argued that there is less urgency in formally addressing these industries where the level of operations are less and the potential risks are lower. As well these industries in the main have limited industry level resources and are more inclined to fall in behind other larger industries. Consultation or communication on directions however is desirable

### **Options for Action**

- Focus attention on the core group of industry sectors on the working group
- Include communication with other non involved groups as a component of the communication strategy

## **5.8 Trespass and legal standing of livestock producers**

This is a major issue for some of the intensive industries where animal activists have invaded properties to gain publicity to highlight their animal rights views. These acts of trespass have compromised the biosecurity of the farming establishment and subjected the proprietor to significant cost and potential animal disease concerns.

Current laws limit action that can be taken and the proprietor is at risk if he attempts force to protect his rights in any way. Magistrates have also treated this matter lightly when clear evidence is available despite being aware of the significant cost on the operator.

### **Options for Action**

- Review of trespass laws to provide greater protection to approved livestock farming operations and to provide greater remedy to farm operators who are the victims of these crimes
- Awareness programs for magistrates and others involved in the legal profession

## **5.9 Linking R&D in the standards development process.**

This concern has been outlined above and reflects the need for both industry and government to have in place a process that ensures R&D outcomes and identified best practice are applied.

### **Options for Action**

- Formal linkage and an established process for consideration of R&D outcomes relating to animal welfare for their relevance and application to government and industry standards and in other government and industry animal welfare arrangements

## **5.10 Industry awareness, new entrants to industries and hobby farmers**

Specific concerns raised included:

- The need to improve the knowledge and awareness of the producing sector on QA, technical information, Codes and resources available
- Lack of familiarity of new entrants and hobby farmers with animal management, handling and welfare practices, and an appreciation of exotic disease threats and responses
- Limited knowledge of biosecurity concerns
- Handling of livestock during transportation

### **Options for Action**

- Development of necessary competencies, education and training
- Encouraging the adoption of industry QA arrangements

## **5.11 Lack of community awareness of Australia's high animal welfare standing**

An issue was raised about the assessment of community attitudes to animal welfare matters, particularly given that these attitudes may result from incomplete knowledge brought about by activist activity or sensational or inaccurate media coverage. There was also the view that community attitudes identified in research may not accurately reflect community behaviour or what consumers do when making buying choices, and consumer behaviour needs to be better understood.

There is also the related issue that introduction of some best practice animal welfare requirements may result in Australian suppliers being uncompetitive, leaving the market to other suppliers with lower standards. Australia would in this situation be less able to influence positive change and overall welfare standards may decline. This to a degree highlights that the achievement of progressive improvements in animal welfare requires both balance and compromise.

### **Options for Action**

- Awareness campaigns within the Communications strategy
- Critical and substantive research to determine mainstream community attitudes and its relationship to consumer's behaviour.
- A balanced approach to animal welfare that recognises the need for both progressive improvement and the ability to be involved and influence change.

## **5.12 Misinformation or animal rights propaganda to schools**

Concerns were raised about animal rights propaganda was being available in schools

### **Options for Action**

- Address through the communication strategy

## **5.13 Animal Welfare a misunderstood term**

There does not appear to be an accepted definition of animal welfare, which creates the potential for miscommunication. As well there are no clear measures of animal welfare leaving considerable subjectivity in the debate on what may be accepted practices.

Concerns have also been raised regarding the use of the term animal welfare, particularly in the international arena. Welfare apparently engenders a perception of assistance measures and handouts and leads to confusion regarding the nature of the matters under discussion.

From a livestock production industry perspective there is concerns that the terminology implies a problem of welfare rather than adequately reflecting proactive measures about sound animal handling and management practices. Suggestions such as animal wellbeing and animal care have been canvassed.

**Options for Action:**

- Given the process of the LPWG sits under the umbrella of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy it may be a challenge to initiate a change in the term animal welfare now at that level.
- It may be possible /appropriate for the livestock industries collectively to agree to a common terminology and definitions that could then be reflected in all future reference to the practice of sound animal handling and management practices.

**5.14 The right to be involved**

A concern was raised over the failure in decision-making forums to adequately distinguish between the right to be consulted and the right to “sit at the table.” Special interest groups that have stated objectives based on opposition to the use of animals for food or fibre do not reflect a widely held community view. Whilst their input is legitimate in a consultative sense their involvement in the process as community representatives may distort the true position of “the community.”

There is a contrary view that engaging more extreme groups in the process may assist in improving communication and understanding and the ability to progress the AAWS.

**Options for Action**

Given that representation in the AAWS process has already been determined it may be difficult and counter-productive to seek change at this time.

The following principle may however be relevant in future considerations:

- That a general principle apply of requiring industry and community representative groups involved in the decision-making process to demonstrate their representative credentials.

## 6. Next Steps

A suggestion has been raised that may assist in making progress in areas of agreement that otherwise take considerable time to advance due to the requirement to work through a bureaucratic, consultative process. If all agree, there is scope for an interim tripartite agreement (MOU) between federal, state and territory governments and industry, to reflect this and for more immediate progress to be made. In the meantime the wheels of change could continue to advance the formal implementation requirements.

Discussion at the AAWS Livestock Production Working Group meeting on 16 and 17 May 2006 agreed on the following priority areas to include in the AAWS Action Plan.

### 1. Harmonisation within Government to produce Consistent AW Regulatory Outcomes:

- a. Legislation – uniformly adopted
- b. Departments: Consistent approach in States
- c. Competency based inspectorates
- d. Consistent Enforcement
- e. MOU/ Deed of Agreement (Standards Adoption)

### 2. Review & Re-formatting of MCOP to Australian standards & guidelines

- a. Outcomes based
- b. Evidence based (Scientific basis)
- c. Other species - RIRDC
- d. RIS's, ORR

### 3. QA Programs as a Vehicle for Applying agreed animal welfare standards

- a. Appropriate for each Industry
- b. Incentives for Adoption-market incentives
- c. Characteristics/ Credibility of QA Programs
  - i. Verification/ audit
  - ii. Transparency
  - iii. Government accreditation of Industry QA Programs
  - iv. Nationally Consistent

### 4. R & D

- a. Gap Analysis/ Stocktake
- b. Adoption of R & D outcomes
- c. Co-ordination between sectors (AWCRC)
- d. On community attitudes - Relationship between attitudes & Community behaviour
- e. Consultation

- f. How we measure AW s important
- g. Production is a measurement of AW – determine how productivity fits with other factors, health, stress

**5. Competency Based Training**

- a. Stocktake
- b. Training co-ordination across sectors
- c. National Accreditation processes

**6. Communication & Extension**

- a. Industry:
- b. Schools
- c. Media
- d. Community at large
- e. Consultation

**7. Definition of Animal Welfare/ Animal Wellbeing**

**8. Identification of, and Measurement of performance indicators over time**

- a. Training competency
- b. QA uptake