



YOUR LETTER OF

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OUR REF 218020/6_08/13

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European Commission
Health and Consumer Protection Directorate -
General
Mr. B. Van Goethem
1049 Brussel

SUBJECT Protection of animals during transport - report for 2012

Dear Director-General,

Please find enclosed the annual report on the protection of animals during transport (regulation 1/2005) for the year 2012.

Inspections during transport by road: 90 vehicles have been inspected during missions of the FASFC (Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain) in cooperation with the police. 1 of these vehicles was found to be in non-compliance. The number of animals present in the vehicles is not noted during these missions.

Inspections at the place of destination: All these inspections have been carried out at the slaughterhouses. Transport checks at slaughterhouses are executed by private veterinarians that have a contract with the FASFC. At least 5 % of all incoming trucks (with a minimum of 1 truck a day) are inspected. Because of the large amount of checklists these are not put in the electronic system individually, but each fortnight the veterinarians send a summary to the FASFC which is put in instead. The inspectors of the FASFC also visit the slaughterhouses regularly to supervise the work of the private veterinarians, during which time they also carry out inspections on transport vehicles.

Inspections at markets: There are no markets for pigs, domestic birds or rabbits that take place in Belgium.

Markets employ a veterinarian who is tasked with verifying that the legislation is complied with. These veterinarians also report to the FASFC. The inspectors of the FASFC visit the markets regularly and carry out inspections. The infringements that are reported are those that were noted by the market veterinarians and the ones that were observed by the inspectors of the FASFC. They concern notably animals that were not fit for transport.

Inspections at the place of departure: All animals destined for export for which a certificate is mandatory, are inspected at their place of departure by a private veterinarian that has a contract with the FASFC. If any infringements are detected the animals are not allowed to leave. There is no record keeping of the cases for which a certificate was refused.

Inspections at staging points: There were no inspections in 2012.

Inspections at transfer points: There are no transfer points in Belgium.



At the moment, the summary of the checklists that are completed by the private veterinarians at the slaughterhouses doesn't allow to record the category of the observed infringements. This summary is in the process of being adapted, so this will be possible in the future.

Below are the results of the inspections by the official inspectors of the FASFC. These results are also taken into account in the table in annex.

Total number of vehicles inspected: 112

	Bovine	Porcine	Small ruminants	Equidae	Poultry and rabbits
Number of vehicles inspected	38	39	11	1	22

Total number of vehicles with infringements: 26

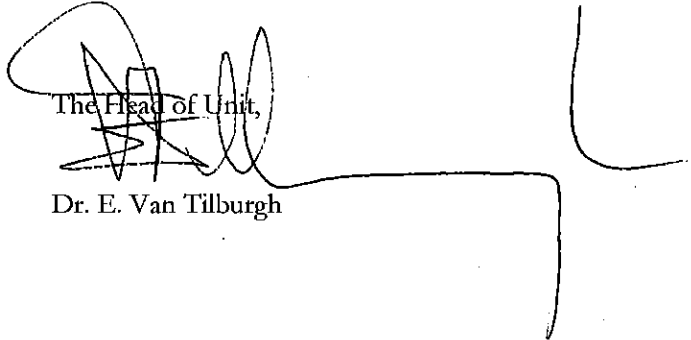
	Bovine	Porcine	Small ruminants	Equidae	Poultry and rabbits
Number of infringements concerning fitness of animals	2	2	0	0	0
Number of infringements concerning transport practices	2	5	0	1	2
Number of infringements concerning watering and feeding, journey times and resting	0	0	0	0	0
Number of infringements concerning documentation	10	9	4	1	1



Actions for the future:

- Last year a training on the welfare of animals during transport was organized for the inspectors of the FASFC. This training included the following subjects: general concepts of animal welfare during transport, requirements of the vehicle, fitness for transport, driving and resting times and the use of the satellite navigation system. In a follow-up to this training this year a written guidance will be issued on the satellite navigation system and ventilation in the vehicle.
- The procedures and checklists will be adapted in 2013 in order to be able to complete the new annual reporting form, according to Commission Implementing Decision 2013/188/EU.

Yours sincerely,



The Head of Unit,
Dr. E. Van Tilburgh