

Analysis of major deficiencies detected during the non-discriminatory inspections and action plan to address them as provided for in Article 27(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005

Member State Czech Republic
Year 2017

1. ANALYSIS OF THE MAJOR DEFICIENCIES DETECTED DURING THE NON-DISCRIMINATORY INSPECTIONS

For the purpose of this annual report, the following have been considered to be major deficiencies:

In 2017, a total of 120 inspections on welfare of farm animals being transported within the territory of the Czech Republic were performed. Attention was focused again on the fitness of animals for transport, equipment and maintenance of vehicles, professional competence of persons and the length of the journey. In 9 inspections, non-compliances were found. In 4 cases penalties were imposed, in 2 cases suggestions for the administrative proceedings were submitted by regional veterinary administrations (RVA). Non-compliances concerned transport of poultry and bovines. In 6 cases, the RVA inspectors participated in the investigation of an accident involving a road vehicle transporting bovines and poultry. Among the most common deficiencies found at slaughterhouses were: fitness of animals (including injuries and deaths) mainly in bovines and pigs and shortcomings in the accompanying documents. Most of the shortcomings found at slaughterhouses were solved on the spot in connection to the batch in question and also notified to the place of origin of the animals for examination in the holdings. For the year 2017 acc. to the methodology these measures were classified as category "B" of actions taken.

The international transport of farm animals was checked in a similar manner. A total of 228 inspections were carried out. Inspections were focused on fitness of animals and equipment of transport vehicles as well as administrative duties (planning of journeys and the journey logs; ensuring proficiency of personnel, carrying out transport by authorized transporter listed in veterinary certificate, contingency planning etc.). In 1 case the RVA inspectors participated in the investigation of an accident of road vehicles transporting calves within intra-community trade.

The most common reason for unplanned inspections were reports sent by competent authorities of other Member States - national contact points, concerning Czech transporters or transport in the Czech Republic handled by foreign transporter (which is the case in exports of bovines to Turkey). In these cases several non-compliances were addressed such as insufficient bedding, discrepancies in journey log, inadequate feeding and watering. In several cases the reports were sent to relevant competent authorities of the foreign transporters (case of bovine transit through CR, case of transport of dogs etc.). Non-compliances found and sent regularly by NGOs (mainly in case of export to the third countries). These reports were investigated case by case.

At the same time 34 inspections have been conducted at the farm animal transporters headquarters. They were focused on planning of journeys and compliance with journey times (evaluation of records in journey logs and information from navigation systems). In 54 cases approvals for vehicle for farm animals were issued or prolonged. In case of other animals there were 25 inspections at transporters headquarters and 51 approvals for vehicles were issued or prolonged.

A total of 126 inspections were carried out concerning road animal transport of companion animals, mainly animals intended for further breeding or sale (dogs, cats, ornamental fish, terrarium animals) and transport of zoo animals. The inspections were focused on the conditions of animals, equipment of vehicles and competence of personnel. In 3 cases non-compliances were found.

2. ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE DEFICIENCIES DESCRIBED UNDER POINT 1.

State Veterinary Administration (SVA) have analysed and evaluated the results of previous inspections. Taking into account local, national and international specifics and availability of staff, the inspection programme have been modified for the year 2017.

SVA provides training for the RVA inspectors at regular meetings as regards better enforcement of the rules regarding transport of animals. SVA promotes participation of the RVA inspectors in the BTSF training programme and disseminate information from the meetings of the national contact points held in Grange, Ireland. In 2017 there was one special meeting organised in May that was focused on welfare of animals during transport especially as regards exports of live animals to the third countries.

SVA puts efforts to increase the mutual communication with national contact points and promotes RVA inspectors to communicate the cases of non-compliances found in the territory of the Czech Republic.

The on the spot checks have been focused on international transport, especially transport of animals to third countries (Turkey). Also conditions of transported animals in the place of destination were controlled.

Communication with transporters and organisers was supported by SVA with an emphasis on prevention. The journey logs were checked after the journeys especially as regards exports to Turkey.

More detailed information as regards inspection programme can be found in the Multiannual Control Plans Report for the year 2017 and bulletin Animal Welfare Programme for the year 2017.