

# Should this pig be loaded?



**Load  
Healthy Pigs**

**Do Not  
Load**



## Euthanize

- **Non-Ambulatory (see box below)**
- fractures of limbs or spine
- any case where pigs are unable to eat or drink due to injury or disease
- chronic "poor-doers" or extremely thin pigs
- pigs suffering from severe non-responsive disease
- prolapsed uterus
- arthritis involving multiple joints
- nervous disorders, such as rabies must be reported to CFIA; contact your vet before euthanizing
- hernia that impedes movement, is painful, or touches the ground

## 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.

**Delay Loading**



## Assess/Seek Veterinary Advice

- fever due to disease process
- sows likely to farrow during transport or upon arrival at market or farrowed within 48 hrs
- pigs showing signs of:
  - exhaustion
  - heat stress
  - weakness
  - porcine stress syndrome

**Transport with  
Special Provisions**

**CAUTION**

## Transport Direct to Processor as soon as possible (within 24 - 36 hours)

- abscess and local infections (no fever)
- prolapsed vagina or rectum
- Lameness Classes 1, 2 (see reverse)
- penile or vulva injury
- severe dewclaw injury
- first stage anorexia or weight loss (no fever)
- blind
- frost bite

## Transport Direct to Emergency Processing Facility

- severe, recent injury
- severe tail bite or vulva bite
- severe smoke inhalation

*These pigs must walk on their own and travel in a small compartment, individually or with one quiet pig.*

## Animals may only be shipped to an abattoir if:

1. All medication withdrawals are met.
2. It is fit for human consumption.
3. It can be humanely loaded and transported.

If these conditions are not met, animals must be humanely euthanized on-farm and disposed of in accordance with all regulations. Contact your veterinarian for advice on specific situations.

# Information on Dealing with Compromised Pigs

## Federal Transportation Regulations

### DO

- Segregate boars, animals of, 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 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.

Source: *Transporting Livestock by Truck* (CFIA)

## 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.

#### Class 2

Unable to keep up; some difficulty climbing ramps. *Load in rear compartment.*

### Not Recommended for Transport\*

#### Class 3

Requires assistance to rise, but can walk freely.

### Do Not Load or Transport\*

#### 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 loaded for transport for veterinary treatment under veterinary supervision.**

### Further Information

Health of Animals Regulations  
(Federal) [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca)

CFIA (Transportation Emergencies):  
1-877-814-2342


Ontario SPCA: 1-888-ONT-SPCA  
(668-7722)

Ontario Farm Animal Council  
(Animal Care Helpline)  
(519) 837-1326 [www.ofac.org](http://www.ofac.org)

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