



■ Animal Welfare Matters


New Zealand's great animal welfare system enhances our reputation as world leaders – let's keep it that way.

On 1 October 2018 new animal welfare regulations came into effect. If you're already doing it right, you won't see a lot of change. Most of the regulations reflect existing standards, but a few do set new rules and requirements.

Regulations make it easier for MPI and SPCA to take action against animal mistreatment. New penalties such as fines will be issued for certain actions. We will continue to prosecute the worst offenders under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Check!  Are you doing it right? Encourage others to check too at www.mpi.govt.nz/animalregs




Ask!  Email us your questions to animalwelfare@mpi.govt.nz

Tell!  Call us about an animal welfare issue on **0800 00 83 33**




■ Fit for transport

On the farm, on the road, and on arrival


Be aware  deer are not fit for transport if

-  they are lame
-  have injured antlers or pedicles
-  are in late pregnancy

You'll be OK  if your deer are

-  healthy and in good condition
-  free of injury and disease
-  not recently devalved (except yearling deer)

Consult your veterinarian if you are unsure if your deer are fit for transport.

 Download the free Fit for Transport app from the Apple store or Google play store to check your stock on the spot.

Animal Welfare Regulations

Deer

■ From 1st October 2018



■ More information

Many of these regulations have come straight from the codes of welfare. Codes set out minimum standards and recommended best practices when caring for animals. There are also regulations which apply to

- calves
- cattle
- dogs
- goats
- horses and donkeys
- layer hens
- llamas and alpacas
- pigs
- sheep

For more information on regulations and the codes of welfare please visit www.mpi.govt.nz/animalregs

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



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■ Antlers

Selecting deer for transport

! **Be aware** transporting deer with antlers increases the risk of injury and should be avoided where possible.

If you must transport them, communicate with your stock agent and transporter so they can plan the journey appropriately.

\$ **If you select or transport deer with antlers, and it is transported in a manner that causes injury to itself or others, you can be fined \$500**

! **Be aware** injured antlers and pedicles are painful and can worsen during the journey.

✗ Do not transport deer with an injured antler or pedicle.

\$ **If you select deer with injured antlers or pedicles you can be fined \$500**

Young deer (spikers) can be transported to the works within 72 hours of having their first velvet removed, when the rubber rings are still attached.



■ Lameness and late pregnancy

! **Be aware** lameness is painful and can worsen during the journey. Do not select lame deer for transport. Deer are considered lame when

- ✗ they cannot bear weight on one or more limbs when moving or standing still, or
- ✗ have a definite limp

👍 **You'll be OK** if you **manage and treat** lameness on farm and only select livestock that is fit for transport.

\$ **If you transport lame livestock, you can be fined \$500**

! **Be aware** do not transport hinds within 21 days of their estimated fawning/calving date. You need to have a system in place to ensure compliance with this regulation.

\$ **If hinds are transported in late pregnancy and they then give birth on the truck, or within 24 hours of arrival at meat processor or sale yard, you can be fined \$500**

■ Information for transporters

Injuries during transport cause significant pain and distress to deer

! **Be aware**

✗ Do not load, transport, or unload deer in a manner that can cause injury.

\$ **Otherwise you can be fined \$500**

! **Be aware** stags can injure themselves or others during transport.

\$ **If you transport a stag with antlers in a manner that causes injury to itself or others, you can be fined \$500**

! **Be aware** deer with pre-existing conditions such as lameness can only be transported with a veterinary certificate.

👍 **You'll be OK** if you

- ✓ follow **all** of the conditions on a veterinary certificate
- ✓ get spikers to the meat processor no later than 72 hours after having their first velvet removed, with rings still attached

\$ **Otherwise you can be fined \$500**