

Animal Welfare for Farmed Animals

Main elements of the “acquis”

Denis SIMONIN - Unit E2 Animal Health and Welfare

Directorate General Health and Consumer Protection -
European Commission

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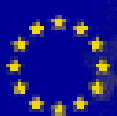
Introduction

- Enshrined in the Treaty
 - Animals are “sentient beings”
- Growing public concern
- Scientifically based
- International development



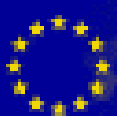
Main elements of the EU legislation

- Wild and experimental animals: *DG Environment*
- Farmed animals: *DG Health and Consumer Protection*
 - Keeping of animals on farm
 - Transport
 - Slaughter and Killing



Keeping of Animals on Farm

- Minimum standards (vs. Full harmonisation)
- Umbrella Directive 98/58/EC
- 3 Specific Directives
 - Protection of calves (Directive 91/629/EC)
 - Protection of laying hens (Directive 1999/74/EEC)
 - Protection of pigs (Directive 91/630/EEC)



On Farm: Directive 98/58/EC

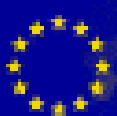
- Based on the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes
- Five Freedoms
 - from hunger and thirst
 - from discomfort
 - from pain, injury and disease
 - to express normal behaviour
 - from fear and distress



On Farm: Calves (Dir. 91/629)

→ Housing:

- No individual pen for calves > 8 weeks of age
- Perforated walls for individual pens and minimum size
- Minimum space allowances for group housing



On Farm: Calves (Dir. 91/629)

→ Management:

- Not permanently in darkness
- No to be tethered (with very limited exceptions) or muzzled
- Sufficient iron in the diet (Hb 4.5 mmol/l)
- Sufficient fibrous food for calves > 2 weeks of age



On Farm: Laying hens (Dir. 99/74) Egg labelling Reg. 2002/4)



→ Unenriched cages

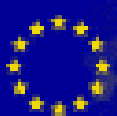
→ 550 cm²/hen but banned from 2003 to 2012

→ Enriched cages

→ 750 cm²/hen + nest + perch + litter + etc.

→ Alternative systems (barn / free range)

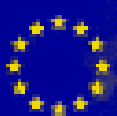
→ 9 hens/m² + many other technical specifications



On Farm: Pigs (Dir. 91/630)

→ Housing:

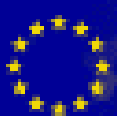
- Minimum space allowances for all pig categories
- Standards for concrete slatted floors
- No tethering for sows and gilts (from 2006)
- Ban of individual stalls for dry sows (from 2003 to 2013)



On Farm: Pigs (Dir. 91/630)

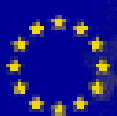
→ Management:

- Compulsory training for the farmer
- Manipulable materials for all pigs (straw or alike)
- No routine mutilation (tail docking or teeth clipping)
- Castration > 7 days of age by vet only
- Minimum weaning age of 28 days of age



Transport (Reg. 1/2005)

- Directly applicable from January 2007
- The overall chain of transport
 - farmers, assembly centres, transporters and slaughterhouses
- Detailed provisions for the main livestock species
- Focus on long journeys i.e. > 8 hours



Transport (Reg. 1/2005)

→ Administrative provisions

- Transporters: authorisation + Electronic database
- Drivers: Certificate of competence
- Road vehicles (long journeys only) and livestock vessels: Certificate of approval + Electronic database
- Cross-borders long journeys: journey log



Transport (Reg. 1/2005)

→ Basic technical rules

- Fitness for transport (young and fragile animals)
- Means of transport
- Loading/unloading/handling: facilities and practices
- Space allowances (equidae, domestic ruminants, pigs)



Transport (Reg. 1/2005)

→ Additional rules for long journeys

→ Road vehicles

→ Mechanical ventilation + drinking equipment

→ Monitoring/recording/warning system for temperatures

→ Navigation system from 2007 to 2009

→ Livestock vessels



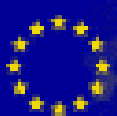
Transport (Reg. 1/2005)

- Journeys times and resting periods (if > 8 hours)
 - Domestic ruminants, equidae and pigs
 - Maximum travelling times for road journeys
 - Minimum resting time 24 hours in a staging point
 - Specific provisions for ferries



Slaughter & Killing (Dir. 93/119)

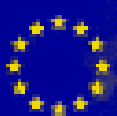
- Any killing of productive animals
 - Slaughter for human consumption
 - Killing for disease control and other reasons
- Excluded
 - experimental purposes, sporting events or legal hunting



Slaughter & Killing (Dir. 93/119)

→ Slaughterhouses

- Lairage facilities and handling of animals
- Restraining/stunning/bleeding
- Ritual slaughter
- Design and maintenance of equipments
- Staff competence



Slaughter & Killing (Dir. 93/119)

→ At lairage

→ Proper design to avoid injury

→ Sorting and separate animals at arrival

→ Proper handling

→ Feed if > 12 hours



Slaughter & Killing (Dir. 93/119)

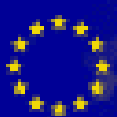
- Restraining system
- Positive list of authorised methods (need to be updated)
- Bleeding (only one carotid)



Slaughter & Killing (Dir. 93/119)

→ Outside slaughterhouses

- Possible derogation for personal consumption but stunning compulsory for small ruminants and pigs
- General provisions for disease control
- Fur animals (positive list)
- Surplus chicks in hatchery



Conclusion

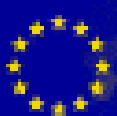
- Farmed animals: housing conditions prevail but evolution towards better management (indicators based)
- Transport: New legislation introducing new technology (better training / better enforcement)
- Slaughter and killing: facing new challenges and public concerns (disease control)



Conclusion (2)

→ Community Action Plan on the Protection and Welfare of Animals

- Upgrading existing standards
- Introducing animal welfare indicators
- Promoting animal protection and welfare
- Further international initiatives



Thank you for your attention

- For more details consult our website:
- http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/welfare/index_en.htm
- Ongoing initiatives and legislative references
- Links to EFSA and OIE websites