



# Audit Report

## Beef Animal Welfare Transportation Addendum

**Harris Ranch Beef Company**  
16277 South McCall Avenue  
Selma, California 93662

**Audit Date:** September 19, 2023  
**Auditor:** Rudy Hernandez

Audit criteria are based on the January 2021, NAMI Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines - Please refer to Guidelines for further explanation of criteria requirements.

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## Audit Summary

Company Name:	Harris Ranch Beef Company	Company ID:	AUHARRIS
Address:	16277 South McCall Avenue Selma, California 93662		

Contact Name:	Emily Krage
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Audit ID:	AO-007040
Audit Date:	September 19, 2023
Audit Type:	Annual audit
Audit Result:	Passed

Auditor Name:	Rudy Hernandez
Auditor Phone Number:	970-405-0369
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## Beef Animal Welfare Transportation Addendum

Category	# Points Received	# Possible Points	Percentage (%)
Transportation Policy & Preparedness for Receiving Animals (Core Criteria 1)	100	100	100.00
Setup and Loading of Trailer (Core Criteria 2)	100	100	100.00
Timeliness of Arrival & Unloading (Core Criteria 3)	100	100	100.00
Falls at Unloading (Core Criteria 4)	100	100	100.00
Electrical Prod Use at Unloading (Core Criteria 5)	100	100	100.00
Condition of Animals (Core Criteria 6)	100	100	100.00
Willful Acts of Abuse (Core Criteria 7)	100	100	100.00
<b>Overall Score</b>	700	700	100.00

\*\* Denotes a Core Criteria.

Any failure of a Core Criteria or a score below 90% results in an Automatic Audit Failure.



## Findings Summary

**Findings were not identified during this assessment**

# Beef Animal Welfare Transportation Addendum

## Score

Result

### Score Summary

	#Cattle in Question	Total Cattle Observed	Percent Acceptable
Electric Prodding ( prodded) - Unloading	0	145	100
Slips (slipped) - Unloading	0	145	100
Falls (fell) - Unloading	0	145	100

### Comments

The site harvested 145 head per hour across one ten-hour shift, harvesting approximately 1,100 head per day, five to six days per week.

## 1 Transportation Policy & Preparedness for Receiving Animals (Core Criteria 1)

Result

- 1.1** A written animal welfare policy for transporters hauling livestock to the facility must be in place. An in-house policy, a policy referencing the Canadian Livestock Transporter Certification Program, BQAT, or a combination of these may be used. yes

Comment: Transportation humane handling requirements were detailed in the Cattle Transportation Guidelines. Transporters were required to be trained on the site's Animal Welfare Program and take an Animal Handling Verification Quiz. Training and assessments were reviewed and complied with site guidelines. Transporters were required to be TBQA certified.

- 1.2** Must provide extreme temperature management tools for both hot and cold weather. In hot weather air movement or other temperature management tool such as natural ventilation or keeping trucks moving. yes

Comment: The Emergency Livestock Plan outlined requirements for extreme weather conditions, though due to the climate in the region, such measures were not necessary for cold weather. In hot weather, trucks were required to keep moving. Sprinklers were utilized if temperatures required additional cooling in the pens. Pens were covered.

- 1.3** A policy is in place assisting in the arrival management process, minimizing the waiting time at the plant, (plant should have the lairage space and personnel to meet the requirements of the policy). Note any extenuating circumstances if written policy is not met at the time of the audit. yes

Comment: The company Dispatch Supervisor coordinated truck delivery to minimize wait times. Truck delivery times were verified during QA Transportation Audits conducted daily. Pens could hold approximately half of the day's production needs.

- 1.4** A written policy must be in place outlining the company's plan for loaded trailers in transit that cannot be unloaded within 120 minutes of arrival. yes  
 The policy may cover:  
 - Contacting transporters/dispatchers en route to keep their vehicle moving per the establishment's emergency livestock management plan until there is sufficient room at the plant to unload  
 - Requesting that trucks follow the provided emergency plan and provide a comfortable area for animals to await disposition  
 - Requesting that crews postpone loading of animals at the source  
 - Requesting that transporters unload animals at an alternate facility

Comment: The Animal Welfare Program outlined procedures for handling livestock in emergency situations such as truck breakdowns or accidents. Animals could be diverted to alternate locations if the plant could not receive shipments. Drivers were contacted by the Dispatch Supervisor through dispatch to delay loading if possible or to keep trucks moving if not possible.

- 1.5** A written policy for immobile and fatigued animals must be in place. The facility must also have the tools available for handling immobile and/or fatigued animals on trailers and in unloading area; unless the animal is euthanized prior to movement. yes  
 Canadian plants are not allowed to move non-ambulatory animals that arrive at the plant or become non-ambulatory during unloading. The animal must be euthanized where it is found.

Comment: The Non-Ambulatory Disabled Cattle SOP outlined handling of immobile and fatigued animals. Trained employees used a Jarvis hand-held stunner for the euthanasia of animals on trailers and in unloading areas.

- 1.6** Acceptable handling tools are available for use and are used as needed for both plant personnel at point of unloading as well as available for transporters at unloading. Electrical prods should only be used as a last resort. Examples of proper tools include rattle paddles, flags and like items. Handling tools should never be used in a manner other than the normal intended use of the tool. yes

Comment: Rattle paddles were used in a non-contact manner during unloading. The use of electric prods was prohibited during unloading.

- 1.7** The plant must have acceptable euthanasia tools available for use in barn/ yard and on trailer. Acceptable tools include captive bolt guns and firearms. yes

Comment: Trained employees used Jarvis hand-held stunner to euthanize animals on trailers, yards, and unloading areas. Devices were easily accessible.

- 1.8** Documented records are available for the maintenance and cleaning of euthanasia tools. Preventative maintenance must be performed in accordance with manufacturer recommendations and documented. yes  
 Equipment and ammunition must be stored in a dry place when not in use.  
 Training for personnel performing euthanasia must be documented. Record type of equipment used.

Comment: Jarvis pneumatic captive bolt stunners were used for primary stunning and security knocking. Hand-held Jarvis stunners were available for backup stunning and euthanasia in the barns and on trailers. Employees were trained at hire and annually after that for euthanasia. Training records for YTD 2023 were reviewed. Ammunition was stored in a sealed plastic bag. Stunning equipment was cleaned, inspected, and test-fired each day of use. Inspections were recorded on the maintenance forms.

<b>1.9</b>	Gates in unloading area must swing freely, latch securely, and have no sharp protrusions that could injure animals. Gates should never be slammed shut on an animal passing through the gate. Gates should be constructed such that it will not allow for an animal's head or limb(s) to become wedged under or stuck through a gap or opening (hole).	yes
Comment: Unloading gates swung freely, latched, had no sharp protrusions, and were secured. Gates were not slammed on animals and were constructed so that animals' heads or limbs could become wedged or stuck.		
<b>1.10</b>	Unloading areas should have non-slip flooring. Examples include rubber mats, textured concrete, grooved concrete, steel bars, wood shavings, sand, salt, etc.	yes
Comment: Floors at the point of unloading were grooved concrete covered with weaved rubber matting.		
<b>1.11</b>	Unloading area must be properly maintained. There should be no evidence of broken cleats, holes, or gaps where livestock can get stuck or become directly injured. Significant manure buildup should be minimal to reduce the risk of slips and falls. In winter weather the area must be free of ice such that it does not cause slips or falls.	yes
Comment: The unload area was maintained, and there was no evidence of broken cleats, holes, gaps, or other conditions that could contribute to entrapment or injury. Manure build-up was not identified, and the area was covered.		
<b>1.12</b>	Lighting in the unloading area must facilitate the movement of animals. Note of inadequate or excessive lighting was present that affected livestock movement.	yes
Comment: Lighting was adequate to facilitate animal movement and was available for night time unloading.		
<b>1.13</b>	Plant personnel should be available to receive animals during receiving hours. If transporters are scheduled to arrive during off-hours a plant employee should be available by phone to assist if necessary. After hours contact number should be available to transporters.	yes
Comment: The receiving area was staffed for animal receiving during regular business hours. An emergency contact list was posted for drivers' use in case of unloading needs during off hours.		
<b>1.14</b>	Plant personnel working in the unloading area must be trained on proper unloading practices.	yes
Comment: Staff was trained on animal welfare and handling procedures at hire and refreshed annually.		
<b>1.15</b>	Scoring: Excellent: 14 criteria above compliant = 100 pts Acceptable: 12 or 13 of criteria compliant = 90 pts Not acceptable: 11 or less compliant = 0 pts.	100
Comment: 14/14 = 100%		

## 2 Setup and Loading of Trailer (Core Criteria 2)

		Result
<b>2.1</b>	Assess up to five trailers. Determine if each trailer was loaded at proper density. Signs of overcrowding include vocalization, animals not settled, or animals standing on each other.	5

Comment: Five commercial pot belly trailers were evaluated during unloading, each containing 29 head. Signs of overcrowding were not observed.

<b>2.2</b>	Incompatible animals have been segregated. Examples of non-compatible animals may include aggressive animals, large vs. small animals.	5
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Comment: Incompatible animals were not observed on trailers evaluated.

<b>2.3</b>	Trailer must be properly aligned with unloading area. No gaps between unloading dock/ramp and bottom of the trailer exit where livestock can get stuck or become injured. Gaps between the back end of the trailer and the side walls of the unloading area must not be of a size that allows animals to become stuck.	5
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Comment: Trailers were properly aligned and did not present with gaps or other potential injury points.

<b>2.4</b>	Each trailer is scored with one point for proper loading density, one point for proper segregation (if applicable), and one point for trailer alignment. If five trailers are assessed there is a possibility for 15 points. Scoring: Excellent: 100% = 100 points Acceptable: 90% - 99.9% = 90 points Not Acceptable: <90% = 0	100
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Comment: 15/15 = 100%

### 3 Secondary Criteria: Setup and Loading of Trailer (Core Criteria 2)

		Result
<b>3.1</b>	Trailer flooring must be non-slip. These may include rubber mats, stamped tread, sand, shavings, steel reinforcement rods. Holes must not be present that can cause the animal to trip. Record type of flooring present on observed trailers.	Comment Only
Comment: Trailer flooring on the five trailers assessed was comprised of stamped metal tread without accumulated manure or injury points.		
<b>3.2</b>	Gates and doors open freely and can be secured shut. Gates and roller doors on trailer should open and close freely. Closed doors must be safely secured and not have gaps or spaces where livestock can get their heads or legs stuck.	Remark
Comment: Trailer gates and doors functioned properly and shut securely. Gaps or spaces were not observed.		
<b>3.3</b>	Internal ramps function properly and extend all the way to the floor. Ramps must set level with floor unless aligning with an adjustable chute. Ramps must have non-slip flooring or steps. No holes or gaps are present where animals can get stuck or injured.	Comment Only
Comment: Internal ramps functioned properly and extended from deck to floor. Ramps sat level with the floor and were slip-resistant. Gaps and holes were not observed.		
<b>3.4</b>	Trailers must have sufficient height between decks to allow animals to stand in their natural position without their head or back coming in contact with the roof.	Comment Only
Comment: Trailers were observed with adequate height between decks. Animals were able to stand naturally without contacting the ceiling.		
<b>3.5</b>	No sharp or protruding objects are present on the trailer that may injure the livestock.	Comment Only
Comment: Sharp or protruding objects were not observed.		



**3.6** Trucks follow plant policy or industry best practices for bedding. If bedding is not used it should be noted in the plant policy. Comment Only

Comment: Animal Welfare Manual stated that due to the climate in the region, bedding was not required.

**3.7** Side slats or plugs are used at recommended levels during cold weather. Cold weather protection requirements during transport should be included in the facility's animal welfare transportation policy. Comment Only

Comment: Animal Welfare Manual stated that due to the climate in the region, slats and plugs were not required.

#### 4 Timeliness of Arrival & Unloading (Core Criteria 3)

Result

**4.1** Scoring the same number of trailers as in previous section. Time begins when trailer arrives at the plant premises. Time stops when the first animal steps off the trailer. Trailers should be unloaded within 60 minutes of arrival at the plant. Record time trailer arrived and unloading was started. Also record duration of unloading (time first animal steps off trailer until last animal). Trailers should not be warehoused at off-site locations not intended to hold livestock to prevent backup. 100

List secondary criteria - unloading time for each trailer.  
 Use the following point matrix to determine final score:  
 Plant begins unloading within: (per trailer)  
 60 minutes of arrival = 4 of 4 points  
 61-90 minutes = 3 of 4 points  
 91-120 minutes = 2 of 4 points  
 > 120 minutes with reason = 1 of 4 points  
 > 120 without reason = 0 of 4 points

Scoring:  
 Excellent: 95% - 100% properly unloaded = 100  
 Acceptable: 85%-94.9% properly unloaded = 90  
 Unacceptable: < 84.9% properly unloaded = 0 pts.

Comment: A total of five pot belly commercial trailers were observed.

##### Trailer Unload Times

Arrival Time	Start Unload Time	Minutes Arrival to Start Unload	End Unload Time (Secondary Criteria)	Minutes to Unload Trailer (Secondary criteria)
08:05	08:11	6	08:14	3
08:11	08:20	9	08:24	4
08:21	08:28	7	08:32	4
08:37	08:42	5	08:47	5
08:55	09:17	22	09:20	3

#### 5 Falls at Unloading (Core Criteria 4)



		Result
<b>5.1</b>	<p>Falls are scored in unloading area only after all four of the animal's limbs are on the unloading ramp or dock. Score all animals leaving trailers observed. In small plants two vehicles should be scored. Falls are determined when part of the body other than a limb touched the ground after the animal suddenly loses an upright position, (belly, brisket, rump etc.)</p> <p>Scoring:            Excellent: No falls = 100 pts            Acceptable: &lt; or =1% falls = 90 pts            Unacceptable: &gt;1% falls = 0 pts</p>	100

Comment: Falls were not observed out of the 145 head evaluated during unloading.  
 0/145=100%

**6 Secondary Criteria: Falls at Unloading (Core Criteria 4)**

		Result
<b>6.1</b>	<p>Temperament of livestock should be noted. Note whether animals were moving normally or difficult to move.            If there is a high incidence of slips or falls and the animals are noted as excitable, then a temperament problem is the likely reason for the slips and falls, If there is a high incidence of slips and falls and the animals are noted as being docile, it is probable there is a footing problem.</p>	Comment Only
<p>Comment: Animals walked off trailers normally in a calm manner.</p>		
<b>6.2</b>	<p>Personnel performing unloading acted in a quiet and calm manner. Personnel should not excessively yell, scream, bang on trailer or demonstrate undue impatience during handling.</p>	Comment Only
<p>Comment: The unloading personnel were quiet and calm.</p>		
<b>6.2</b>	<p>Note the number of slips observed and potential source. Slips are determined when part of a limb, other than the foot touches the ground.</p>	Comment Only
<p>Comment: Slips were not identified from the 145 animals observed.            0/145=100%</p>		

**7 Electrical Prod Use at Unloading (Core Criteria 5)**

		Result
<b>7.1</b>	<p>Electrical prod use is scored in unloading area only after all four of the animal's limbs are on the unloading ramp or dock.</p> <p>Scoring:            Excellent: &lt; or = 5% electrical prod usage = 100 pts            Acceptable: &lt; or = 10% electrical prod usage = 90 pts            Unacceptable: &gt; 10% electrical prod usage = 0 pts</p>	100

Comment: Electrical prods were not permitted or observed at unloading.



## 8 Secondary Criteria: Electrical Prod Use at Unloading (Core Criteria 5)

		Result
<b>8.1</b>	Note if plant has a 'No Electric Prod Use' policy posted in unloading area.	Comment Only
Comment: No Electric Prod Use Policy was posted in the unloading area in English and Spanish.		
<b>8.2</b>	Note whether plant personnel have electrical prods in their hands at time of unloading. Clearly describe what animal handling personnel were doing.	Comment Only
Comment: Plant personnel were observed with rattle paddles bags/flags on a stick and did not have prods. Plant personnel were observing driver actions and assisted if needed.		
<b>8.3</b>	Note whether the driver has electrical prod in their hand at time of unloading. Clearly describe what driver was doing.	Comment Only
Comment: Electric prods were not used or carried during unloading. Drivers opened gates and stood back to allow animals to exit		
<b>8.4</b>	Document type of animal handling tools used at unloading and if they were being used correctly. Rattle paddles, flags, streamers, etc.	Comment Only
Comment: Rattle paddles and flags/bags on a stick were non-contact manner to unload animals.		

## 9 Condition of Animals (Core Criteria 6)

		Result
<b>9.1</b>	<p>Observe animals at the time of unloading for fitness. Animals must be fit enough to endure the normal stress of transport.</p> <p>Non-ambulatory: an animal that cannot / will not rise or is unable to walk.</p> <p>Severely injured: broken legs, bleeding gashes or deep, visible cuts, prolapses, or severe eye cancer. All animals not able to walk are scored as non-ambulatory.</p> <p>Severely Lame: Injured, crippled, or physically disabled animals that appear to have significant pain, especially hoof or leg, forcing the animal to limp or walk with extreme difficulty.</p> <p>Heat Stress: may exhibit open mouth panting and may be reluctant to move.</p> <p>Calving: animals in process of delivering on trailer or have delivered on trailer.</p> <p>Scoring:            Excellent: &lt; or =1% compromised = 100 pts            Acceptable: &gt;1% to &lt;2% compromised = 90 pts            Unacceptable: &gt; 2% compromised = 0 pts</p>	100
Comment: Animals in the 145-head sample were fit for transport. Non-ambulatory, injured, lame, heat-stressed, or calving animals were not observed.		

## 10 Condition of Animals (Core Criteria 6)

		Result
<b>10.1</b>	Note number of DOAs on trailer. (This number is not scored and does not include those animals euthanized after arrival at plant.) Euthanized animals on trailer are classified as compromised animals.	Comment Only
Comment: DOAs were not observed.		



<b>10.2</b>	List how issues noted with regard to transport are communicated back to point of loading. i.e. DOAs, improper loading, other issues.	Comment Only
Comment: Issues occurring during unload were communicated to company procurement personnel and reported to the supplier.		
<b>10.3</b>	Severely injured/severely lame animals are promptly euthanized so they do not enter the slaughter system.	Comment Only
Comment: Severely injured or lame animals were not observed from the 145 animal sample.		
<b>10.4</b>	Note if animals unloaded were excessively emaciated or in poor body condition, (cull operations only - dairy or beef). Emaciated animals will be extremely thin with ribs and backbones easily seen. (It is common to see breeding livestock's hip bones and rib bones but the overall body condition of the animal is good or acceptable. Note only extreme instances) Refer to AMI Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines, 2019 for further definition.	Not Applicable
Comment: Animals received were fed cattle. Poor body condition was not observed.		
<b>10.5</b>	Note any cows with poor udder conditions, (cull operations only). Udders that are severely engorged, that cause difficulty in walking, and highly descended udders which cause obvious pain/ distress.	Comment Only
Comment: Animals received were fed cattle. Cull and dairy animals were not observed.		

## 11 Willful Acts of Abuse (Core Criteria 7)

		Result
<b>11.1</b>	Any willful act of abuse is automatic grounds for an audit failure. These offenses include, but are not limited to, dragging a conscious, non-ambulatory animal, intentionally applying prods to sensitive parts of the animal like the eyes, ears, nose or rectum; deliberate slamming of gates on livestock; purposefully driving animals off high ledges, platforms or off a truck without a ramp, intentionally driving livestock on top of one another or hitting or beating an animal, animals frozen to the floor of sides of the trailer.	100
Comment: Willful acts of abuse were not observed.		

## 12 Conflict of Interest Declaration

		Result
	The Auditor declares that he/ she does not have a conflict of interest with this auditee and the audit has been carried out independently and impartially.	yes
Comment: I, Rudy Hernandez, do not have a conflict of interest with this auditee.		