

■ Transporting calves

On the road

- Calves less than 14 days old must not be
- transported across the Cook Strait
- transported for more than 12 hours

■ Animal welfare matters

Bobby calves are vulnerable animals and need extra care to ensure their welfare. Transport is stressful, so it's important to prepare calves well and make the journey as short and comfortable as possible.

Regulations make it easier for MPI to take action against animal mistreatment. Fines for breaching animal welfare regulations start at \$300 for individuals and go up to \$25,000 for businesses. Some breaches may also result in a criminal conviction.

If an animal's welfare is seriously compromised, higher penalties under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 apply.

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**

■ For more information

Many of the regulations come from the codes of welfare. These set out minimum standards and recommended best practices when caring for animals. Codes that may be relevant to you include:

- dairy cattle
- deer
- dogs
- goats
- horses and donkeys
- llamas and alpacas
- pigs
- sheep and beef cattle
- transport within NZ

You can find the regulations, our guidance on the regulations and the codes of welfare on our website at www.mpi.govt.nz/animalregs

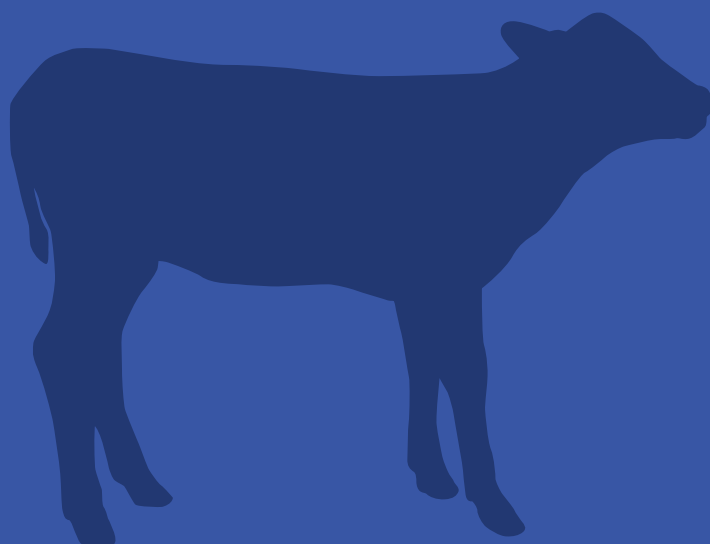
Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



■ May 2022

Animal Welfare Regulations

Bobby Calves



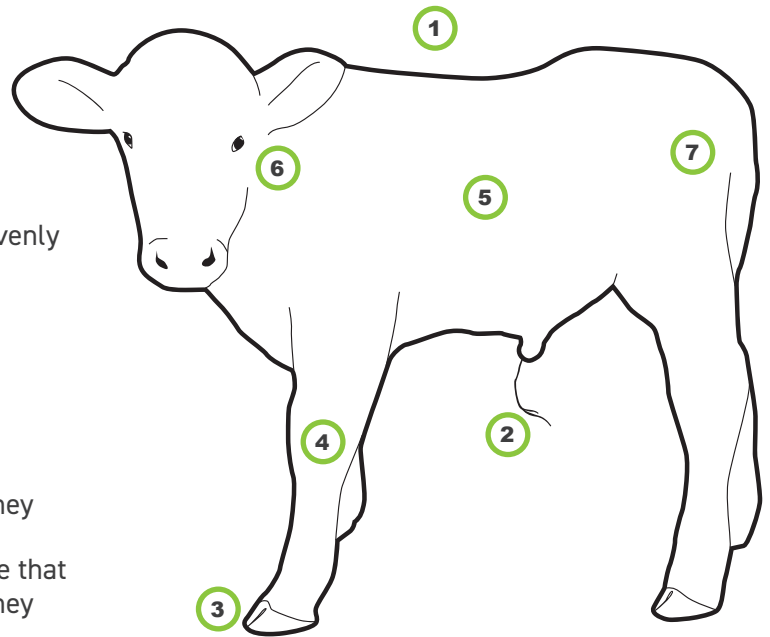
■ Fit for transport

On farm, on road, and on arrival

Calves less than 14 days old, that are leaving the farm for sale or to the meat processor, must be fit for transport and meet these requirements.

Calves must:

- ① be at least 4 full days old (96 hours)
- ② have a dry navel
- ③ have firm, worn hooves
- ④ be able to stand up, walk and bear weight evenly on all four limbs
- ⑤ be able to protect themselves from being trampled or injured by other calves
- ⑥ be free from injury and birth defects (e.g. blindness, contracted tendons) that would mean they cannot withstand the journey
- ⑦ be free from scours or other signs of disease that would mean they cannot withstand the journey



Calves should be well-fed, with bright eyes and ears up.

■ Loading facilities

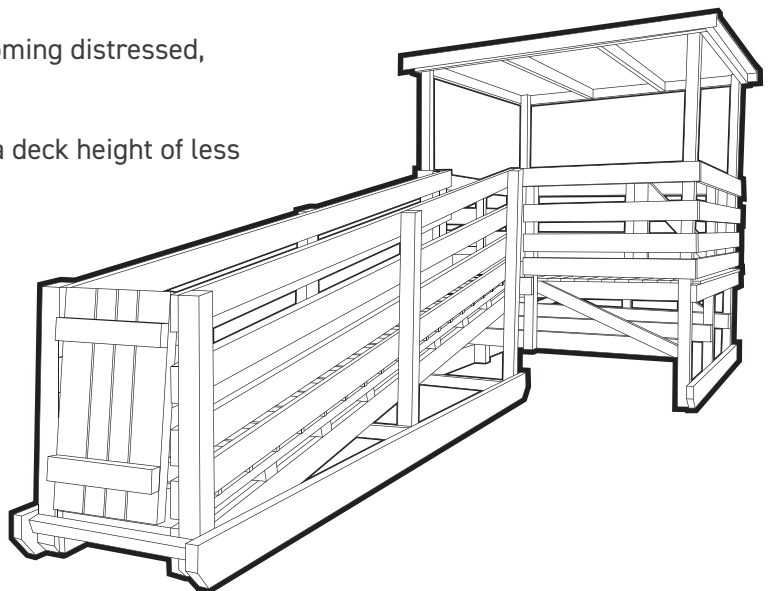
Farmers, sale yards and meat processors must provide appropriate loading and unloading facilities for calves less than 14 days old.

Loading facilities may take any form – a ramp, a raised platform, a tractor tray, something else – provided they meet the criteria in the regulations.

Loading facilities must:

- ✓ allow calves to walk on and off stock transport vehicles
- ✓ minimise the risk of a calf injuring itself, becoming distressed, slipping, or falling off

Calves being transported on trailers and utes with a deck height of less than 900 mm can be carefully lifted on.



■ Shelter

Calves must have suitable shelter at all stages of the journey – before loading, during transport, and at their destination.