



Nourishing Today
Sustaining Tomorrow

Bison Transportation Audit Form



Official Meat Institute Animal Welfare Audit Forms are included in the following section. These forms are dated. Updates to these forms may be made based upon new information and user feed- back. Any updated forms will be posted on www.meatinstitute.org.

Auditor Name:	Date:
Auditing Company:	Number of Trucks Audited:
Plant Location:	Temperature/Weather Conditions:
Plant Contact:	

Element 1: Commitment to Animal Welfare - Plant Policies and Training	Points Earned	Points Available
1. Plant has an arrival management process that minimizes load waiting time at the plant.		5
2. Plant has documented employee training for animal receiving.		5
<i>Note if plant employee or truck driver:</i>		n/a
3. Plant has an animal welfare protocol that is written for transporters including the use of handling tools.		5
4. Plant has a way to communicate their electric prod use protocol to truck drivers.		5
5. Plant has a protocol that is written or widely understood and tools are available for handling compromised animals.		5
6. Employees responsible for euthanasia have documented training.		5
7. Plant has a method for communicating back to the site of trailer loading.		5
8. Emergency plans are in place for animals in transit.		5
Total for Element 1:		40

Element 2: Facility and Handling Observations	Points Earned	Points Available
1. Employee(s) are available for receiving animals and follow the receiving protocol.		10
2. The employee(s) who receive and unload the trailer follows the company animal welfare program.		10
3. Unloading area is in good repair.		10
4. There is adequate lighting.		10
5. Flooring allows animals to maintain good footing in order to prevent falling.		10
6. Plant provides extreme temperature management tools (Example: water, fans, protection, continuous movement of trailers, etc.).		10
7. Acceptable handling tools are available and utilized as needed.		10
8. Acceptable euthanasia tools are available and stored properly.		10
9. Maintenance records are kept for euthanasia equipment		10
Total for Element 2:		90



Trailer Notes - not scored	Trailer 1	Trailer 2	Trailer 3	Trailer 4	Trailer 5
Trailer type (straight, drop center/pot belly, farm, other)					
Cattle type (fed, cull dairy, cull beef, mature bulls, veal)					
Has the driver completed a transporter certification program?					

Key Welfare Indicator Element 3: Set-up and Loading of Trailer	Trailer 1	Trailer 2	Trailer 3	Trailer 4	Trailer 5	Points Available
1. Compartments are gated.						5
2. Trailer is loaded at the proper density.						5
3. Incompatible animals are segregated when required.						10
4. Trailer is properly aligned with the unloading area to prevent animals from escaping or becoming injured.						10
<i>Individual Trailer Scores:</i>						30
Total for Element 3:						30
<i>(average of trailer scores = sum of individual trailer score/# of trailers sampled)</i>						

Excellent – 30 average points scored

Acceptable –

- » 1 or 2 trailers sampled | 20 or more average points scored
- » 3 or more trailers sampled | 25 or more average points scored

Unacceptable –

- » 1 or 2 trailers sampled | less than 20 average points or more scored
- » 3 or more trailers sampled | less than 25 average points or more scored

Key Welfare Indicator Element 4: Wait Time to Unload	Trailer 1	Trailer 2	Trailer 3	Trailer 4	Trailer 5	Points Available
Time truck arrives at the plant						
Time first animal unloads						
Total time to begin unloading <i>(in minutes, i.e., for 1 hour and 12 minutes, enter 72)</i>						
Reason <i>(if applicable for unloading times ≥ 120 min)</i>						
<i>Optional note: Total unload time (not scored)</i>						
Individual Trailer Scores: <i>Within 60 = 40 points 61 to 90 min = 30 points 91 to 120 min = 20 points ≥ 120 min with reason = 10 points ≥ 120 min without reason = 0 points</i>						40
Total for Element 4:						40
<i>(average of trailer scores = sum of individual trailer score ÷ # of trailers sampled)</i>						

Excellent – 40 average points scored

Acceptable –

- » 1 or 2 trailers sampled | 30 or more average points scored
- » 3 or more trailers sampled | 35 or more average points scored

Unacceptable –

- » 1 or 2 trailers sampled | less than 30 average points or more scored
- » 3 or more trailers sampled | less than 35 average points or more scored



Key Welfare Indicator Element 5: Falls	Result
Number of animals that fell	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of falls	
Total for Element 5:	

Points Available			
40	30	20	0
0 animals	1-2 animals	3 animals	≥ 4 animals
Excellent	Acceptable	Unsatisfactory	Unacceptable

Critical Welfare Indicator Element 6: Electric Prod Use	Result
Number of animals electric prod used on	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of animals electric prodded	
Total for Element 6:	

Points Available		
50	40	0
0.0%	0.1 – 10.0%	> 10.0%
Excellent	Acceptable	Unacceptable

Key Welfare Indicator Element 7.1: Condition of Animal	Result
Non-ambulatory	
Severely Injured	
Severely Lame	
Delivered/delivering	
Other (<i>Fatigue, Heat Stress, & Frostbite</i>)	
Total Number of Compromised Animals	
Number of Animals Audited	
Percentage of Compromised animals	
Total for Element 7.1:	

Points Available		
20	15	0
0 animals	1-2 animals	≥ 3 animals
Excellent	Acceptable	Unacceptable

Key Welfare Indicator Element 7.2: Condition of Animal	Result
Severely Poor Body Condition	
Total Number of Animals with Poor Udder Condition or Severely Poor Body Condition	
Number of Animals Audited	
Percentage of Animals with Poor Udder Condition or Severely Poor Body Condition	
Total for Element 7.2:	

Points Available		
20	15	0
< 2 animals	2 – 3 animals	≥ 4 animals
Excellent	Acceptable	Unacceptable



Critical Welfare Indicator Element 8: Euthanasia	Points Earned
Were animals observed during the audit that required euthanasia promptly euthanized according to plant policy?	
<i>Note: if euthanasia is not observed, adjust the total number of points available for the audit accordingly.</i>	

Points Available		
50	0	Euthanasia Not Observed
Yes	No	Remove 50 points from the total points possible for the audit.
Excellent	Unacceptable	

Critical Welfare Indicator Element 9: Willful Acts of Abuse/Egregious Acts	Yes / No (Pass / Fail)
Were any willful acts of abuse or egregious acts observed?	

FINAL SCORING	Points Earned	Points Available	Pass or Fail
Element 1		40	
Element 2		90	
Element 3 – KWI		30	
Element 4 – KWI		40	
Element 5 – KWI		40	
Element 6 – CWI		50	
Element 7.1 – KWI		20	
Element 7.2 – KWI		20	
Element 8 – CWI		50 or (-50)	
Element 9 – CWI		○ Pass ○ Fail	
Total:		380 or 330	n/a

Audit Percentage:	
Audit Result: (Pass/Fail)	
Audit Passing Score = 88%	

Note:

1. Fail any of the critical welfare indicators (CWIs)
OR
2. Have a total score less than the established passing percentage specific to each audit

Notes

Auditor Signature:
Date:



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Bison Slaughter Audit Form



Auditor Name:	Date:
Auditing Company:	Stunning Method Audited:
Plant Location:	Slaughter Rate (head/hour):
Plant Contact:	Weather Conditions:

Element 1: Commitment to Animal Welfare - Plant Policies and Training	Points Earned	<i>Points Available</i>
1. Plant has a documented training program or uses an outside training program for its employees on the principles of good animal handling.		5
2. Plant has a protocol that is written or widely understood for handling compromised animals.		5
3. Employees are trained in handling compromised animals.		5
4. Plant performs internal audits at least weekly and implements corrective actions as needed.		5
5. An emergency management protocol for animals is in place.		5
6. The emergency management protocol includes instructions on when/how water will be provided to animals in drive alleys/unloading docks and how feed will be provided if animals are held longer than 24 hours.		5
7. Employees inspect the facility weekly and document for repair any damage or sharp protrusions that may injure animals.		5
8. Plant has a protocol for stunning equipment maintenance.		5
9. Special training is provided to stunner operators to ensure proper equipment use and stunning efficacy.		5
10. A written protocol on how to handle a sensible animal on the bleed rail is in place and employees are trained on the procedure.		5
Total for Element 1:		50

Element 2: Facility and Handling Observations	Points Earned	<i>Points Available</i>
1. Plant has flooring that allows animals to maintain good footing in order to prevent falls.		10
2. Animals flow through the crowd pen or bud box with stress and discomfort minimized.		10
3. Non-electric devices are the primary tool(s) used to move animals.		10
4. Holding pens are not overcrowded.		10
Total for Element 2:		40



Critical Welfare Indicator Element 3: Access to Water	Points Earned	Points Available
Animals in all holding pens have access to clean drinking water.		50

Key Welfare Indicator Element 4: Falls	Result
Number of animals that fell	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of falls	
Total for Element 4:	

Points Available			
40	30	20	0
0 animals	1-2 animals	3 animals	≥ 4 animals
Excellent	Acceptable	Unsatisfactory	Unacceptable

Critical Welfare Indicator Element 5: Electric Prod Use	Result
Number of animals electric prod used on	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of animals electric prodded	
Total for Element 5:	

Points Available			
50	45	40	0
≤ 5.0%	5.1 – 15.0%	15.1 – 25.0%	> 25.0%
Excellent	Acceptable	Unsatisfactory	Unacceptable

Key Welfare Indicator Element 6: Vocalization	Result
Is this a religious operation or is a head holder being used?	
Number of animals that vocalized	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of animals that vocalized	
Total for Element 6:	

*Religious Slaughter/
Head Holder:*

Points Available			
40	30	20	0
0 animals	1-2 animal	3-5 animals	≥ 6 animals
Excellent	Acceptable	Unsatisfactory	Unacceptable
Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Unacceptable

Critical Welfare Indicator Element 7: Effective Stunning	Result
Number of animals effectively stunned	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of animals effectively stunned with one stun	
Total for Element 7:	

Small Plant Adjustment:

Points Available		
50	40	0
100%	99.9 – 96.0%	< 96.0%
0 animals ineffectively stunned	1 animal ineffectively stunned if second stun applied correctly	> 1 animal ineffectively stunned
Excellent	Acceptable	Unacceptable

Note: Effective stunning is not audited in religious slaughter operations that do not use a stunning method prior to slaughter. Adjust the total number of points available for the audit accordingly.

Critical Welfare Indicator Element 8: Bleed Rail Insensibility	Result
Number of insensible animals	
Number of animals audited	
Percentage of insensible animals on the bleed rail	
Total for Element 8:	

Points Available	
50	0
100%	< 100%
Excellent	Unacceptable



Critical Welfare Indicator Element 9: Euthanasia	Result
Were animals observed during the audit that required euthanasia promptly euthanized according to plant policy?	
<i>Note: if euthanasia is not observed, adjust the total number of points available for the audit accordingly.</i>	

Points Available		
50	0	Euthanasia not Observed
Yes	No	Remove 50 points from the total points possible for the audit.
Excellent	Unacceptable	

Critical Welfare Indicator Element 10: Willful Acts of Abuse/Egregious Acts	Yes / No (Pass / Fail)
Were any willful acts of abuse or egregious acts observed?	

FINAL SCORING	Points Earned	Points Available	Pass or Fail
Element 1		50	
Element 2		40	
Element 3 - CWI		50	
Element 4 - KWI		40	
Element 5 - CWI		50	
Element 6 - KWI		40	
Element 7 - CWI		50 or (-50)	
Element 8 - CWI		50	
Element 9 - CWI		50 or (-50)	
Element 10 - CWI		<input type="radio"/> Pass <input type="radio"/> Fail	
Total:		420 or 370	n/a

Audit Percentage:	
Audit Result: (pass/fail)	
Audit Passing Score = 81%	
Religious Audit Passing Score = 78%	

Note:

1. Fail any of the critical welfare indicators (CWIs)
OR
2. Have a total score less than the established passing percentage specific to each audit

Notes

Auditor Signature:
Date: