

Talk Lead By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Site/Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather Report/Conditions:

\_\_\_\_\_ High: \_\_\_\_\_ °C Wind Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ km/hr  
\_\_\_\_\_ Low: \_\_\_\_\_ °C Wind Gusts: \_\_\_\_\_ km/hr

## Loading and Unloading Livestock

Below are tips that will help ensure livestock loading and unloading goes smoothly, and in turn, safely.

- Ensure that the people who will be involved in loading and unloading the animals are:
  - Trained in the behaviour of the animals they will be working with,
  - Know the farms equipment, procedures, & practices,
  - Are competent to perform the work they are about to do, and
  - Know their role in the task.
- Livestock should be loaded and unloaded calmly and in a way that avoids injury or harm to both the livestock and people.
- Avoid making quick movements or loud noises which will startle the animals.
- Don't turn your back to an animal; even if you have known the animal for a long time, it may have become agitated during handling and animal behaviour can be unpredictable.
- Prior to the loading or unloading process, pre-inspect the holding pens, crowding tubs, chutes, gates, chains, etc. for sharp edges or damage; any hazards or deficiencies that are found will need to be corrected before loading.
- Prior to loading, the trailer/liner should be inspected for hazardous conditions (sharp edges, gates or panels that don't move properly, damaged chains or latches, other safety features, etc.); any hazards or deficiencies that are found should be corrected before loading.
- Snow and ice should be removed from loading and unloading areas prior to loading or unloading; sand or salt may need to be applied.
- Before sorting, designate pens for certain animal weights/sizes, age, health status and species if it will be a mixed load.
- Have a plan in place for how of injured or aggressive animals will be identified and handled prior to unloading; ensure everyone is aware of the plan and knows their role in it.
- Ensure that there are no gaps between the ramp, its sides, and the trailer/liner. Ensure the angle of the ramp is not too steep.
- Use all of the safety features found on the trailer/liner; these may include pin latches and interior/mid gates to prevent animals from turning back.



# Toolbox Talk

**Additional Topics/Discussion:**

*Might include task/job details, hazards and hazard controls, worksite specific emergency response, etc.*

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**Attendance:**

Print Name	Position/Trade/Company	Sign Name
1.		
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