

Portuguese experience with Livestock vessel transport- Positive examples

WOAH - 3rd meeting of the National Contact Point on long-distance
transportation for Europe



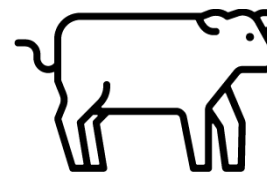
Maria Correia

20 June 2023

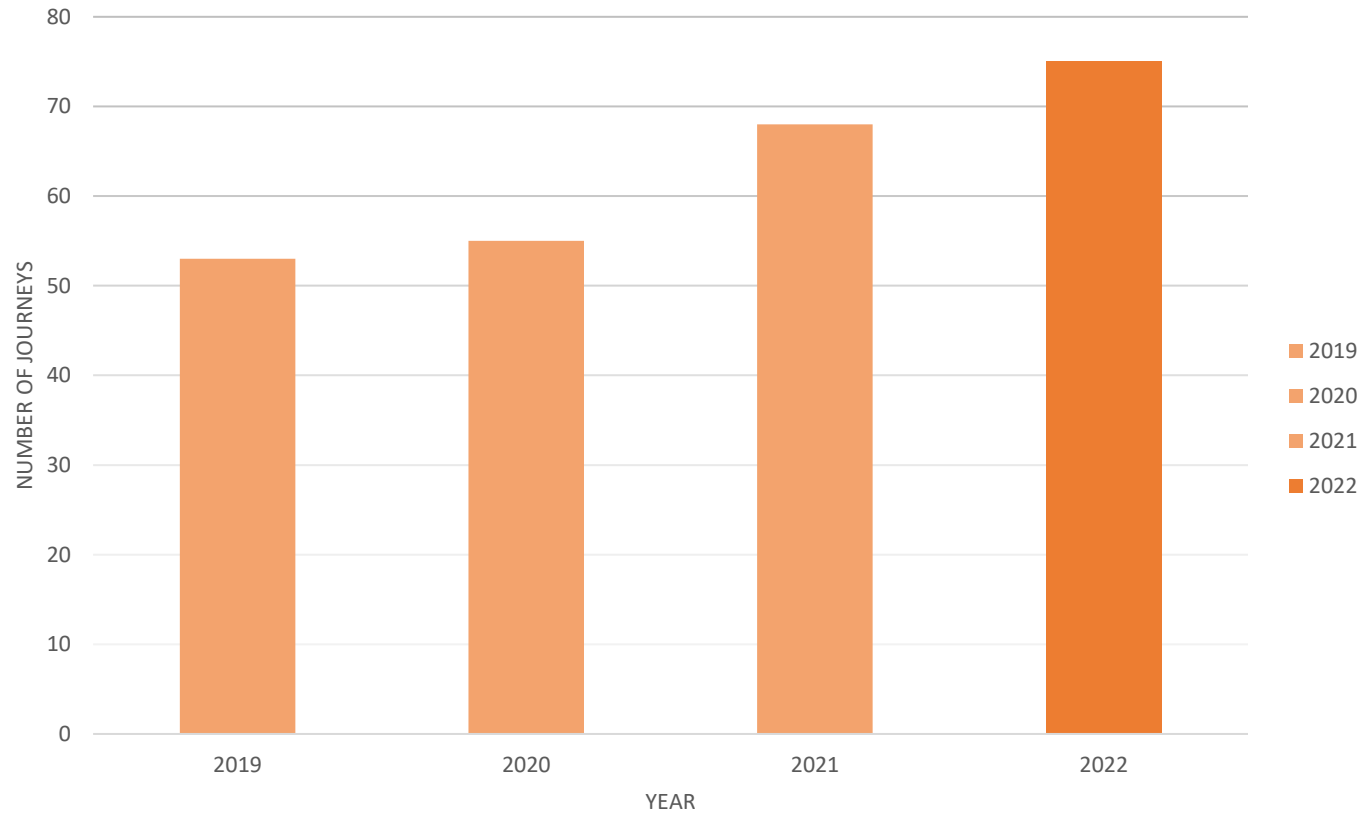




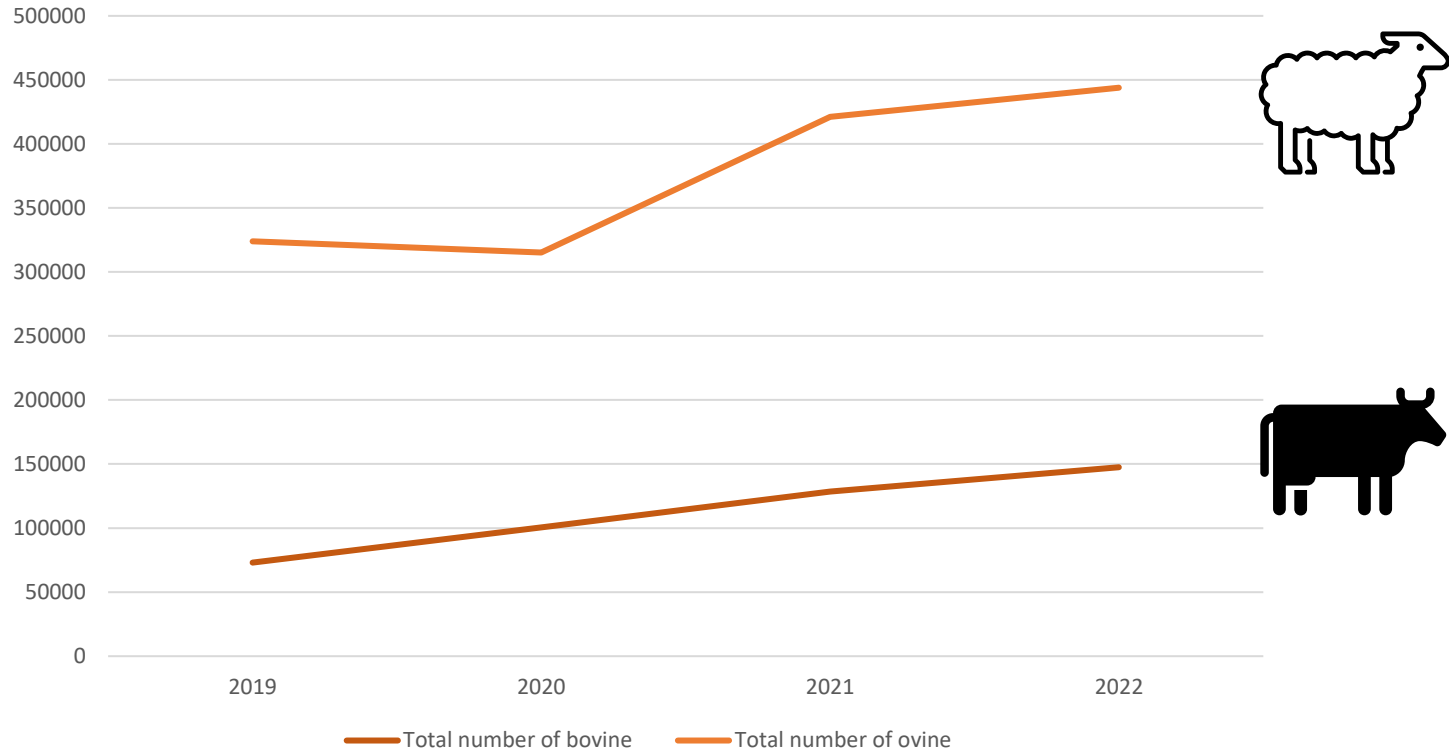
- Animal livestock vessel exports to third countries started in **september 2015**
- Portugal exports animals mainly to **Israel and Palestina**
- Started to export ovine to **Marocco** by sea
- Bovine and ovine animals



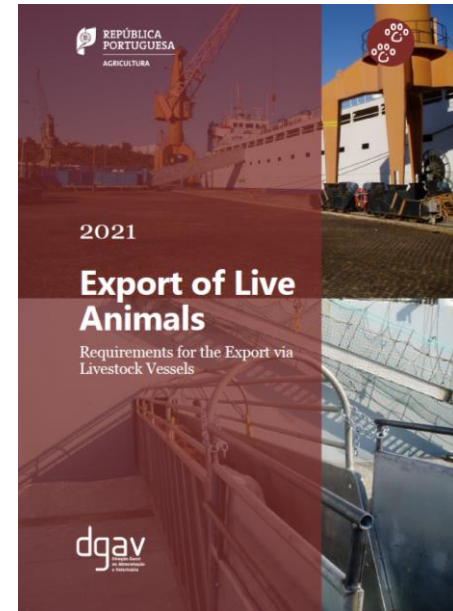
TOTAL NUMBER OF JOURNEYS



Number of animals exported to Israel



- 8 vessels working today in PT- most of them authorised by the Portuguese CA
- Export of live animals procedures
- 6 organisers- **Key person**- responsible for organising the journey (Documentation, planning and contingency, food and bedding material, drugs, etc); Contact with the CA on departure and during the journey:
- Must have a contingency plan for the loading Operations
- Guarantee the welfare during the journey



| | TIME PERIOD BEFORE THE EXPORT DATE | | | | | TIME PERIOD AFTER THE EXPORT DATE | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| | 35 days | 5 working days | 4 working days | 3 working days | 2 working days - deadline for submission of changes to documents | Day of departure /shipment | 2 working days after the end of the loading operation | 5 working days after the end of the trip/journey |
| Export and quarantine application | | | | | | | | |
| List of animals entering quarantine and location plan | | | | | | | | |
| Approval certificate of the vessel (vessel already certified - 1st time in Portugal) or if the vessel is not certified, delivery of the certification request - 10 working days before the scheduled date for the certification survey. Known vessel - 5 working days | | | | | | | | |
| Live Animals Import License | | | | | | | | |
| Documentation for animal transporters | | | | | | | | |
| Journey planning documentation | | | | | | | | |
| Application for loading and transport of animals | | | | | | | | |



The State of Israel
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Veterinary Services and Animal Health

License to import cattle
No. 1008/ 2023

Pursuant to the regulations for livestock disease (importing of livestock), 5734 – 1974, I hereby permit

To

To import from: Portugal 1100 calves

The goods will be shipped to: quarantine TIRA on the date of the 22/06/2023

Fee for the sum of
Receipt No.
From the date

| Livestock | The Quantity |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Male Fattening cattle | 750 |
| Female Fattening cattle | 350 |

e
Under the below terms:

- This license is for a one time import.
- The animals must be accompanied by an original veterinary certificate, in English and authorized by a government veterinary doctor in the country of origin, an attached sample and which constitutes an integral part of this license.
- Each calf will be marked in the country of origin on both of its ears with large labels, each label will carry two code letters for the country of origin as well as a livestock identification number.
- When importing female cattle the age of the calf may not exceed 15 months.
- Depending on changes in the epidemiological situation in the foreign country of the Veterinary Services Directorate change, suspend or revoke this permit.
- The importer is required to send the destination port a copy of the veterinary that accompanies the permit along with a list detailing the ear label numbers dates of birth of the calves at least 24 hours prior to their being loaded on the vessel (airplane / ship). No permit to load will be granted in the event that the is imported to Israel by way of an interim country that is not permitted by the destination veterinary service administration.
- One should notify the office of the veterinary services in the destination port the date of the arrival of the shipment, at least 48 hours prior to the arrival at importing port.
- Imports will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Veterinary regarding the welfare of cattle and sheep by sea and air transport, published on the website of the Veterinary Services and the Health of the Breeder at: http://www.moag.gov.il/vet/yechidot/inport%2Dexport/knisa_yetsia_hayot_mah

ynet_inlines/pages/default.aspx

- The animals will be placed in the quarantine for a period of 8 days or as will be decided by the manager. The importer undertakes to immediately notify the government veterinary doctor responsible for the quarantine station regarding any illness in the shortest date and to coordinate a new date for the receipt and quarantine of the animals at the site. No permit to load the animals will be granted.
- Throughout the period of the stay of the livestock in quarantine the importer is responsible for their feed, watering and medical care of them in the manner and conditions determined by the government veterinary doctor as well as the cost of their maintenance and upkeep. In the event of a death he must transfer the carcasses to a Governmental laboratory for examination.
- At the end of the quarantine period the importer must clean the pens in which the livestock were held, including the watering and feed systems, and to return them to the state in which they were received.
- All animals will leave the station / quarantine location when authorized for the time of the shipment with a transfer permit, in which all of the requisite details are entered in their entries. A copy of the certificate will be sent by the owners of the cattle when seeking to move the original registration certificate, in the relevant veterinary office, when being sold or used as slaughter.
- The imported cattle will be transferred only to a destination farm that was specifically authorized for this purpose by the veterinary office, and will be held apart from all other animals. All imported animals will be slaughtered prior to their achieving the age of 12 months in a certified slaughter house and will not be sold to another without authorization of the veterinary services.
- The imported animals will be executed under the supervision of a Israeli Government Veterinarian whose expense will be covered by the importer.
- The signed importer declarations constitute an integral part of this license and failure to fulfill them, in whole or in part, will cause the cancellation of this permit.
- This permit does not remove the need for monitoring of respective farmers pursuant to all laws.

06/06/2023

This permit is valid until: 06/12/2023

Copies:
Import - Export file, here

- The amount of animals- in compliance with the organiser export request and the export certificate
- The type of animals- females/males; fattening/slaughter
- Import and quarantine conditions
- Date of entry in quarantine- the duration previewed to the journey must be in accordance with the date of entrance in quarantine

Pré-loading livestock vessels controls- Main points

Documentation-
procedures/records/crew
traing and competence

Space allowance

Feed, water, bedding
material

Pen structure and
maintenance, pavement,
ramps and passeeways

Ventilation

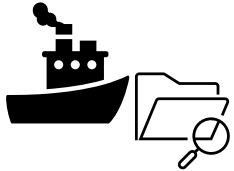
Lighting

Drainage system

Power supply

Alarms

Fire fighting



Animal treatment-drugs

Emergency killing of the
animals

Cleaning and disinfection

Animal conditions- road transport

Fitness for transport

Handling and loading of the animals

Proper facilities



Other positive experiences...

- Transporters procedures and records- **Daily** records of the vessel-report back to the CA of departure
- Specialized stockman on board and crew with specific training
- Transporter contingency plan- report the CA of departure and destination whenever there are problems

Instructions

An accredited stock person must provide daily reports on the health and welfare of the livestock to the relevant Australian Agency and Parties concerned, commencing on day (1) of the voyage. The report must include the following information.

| 1. Vessel Name: MV GANADO EXPRESS | | Voyage Number: 22004 | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|---------|
| 2. Total cargo Loaded : | | DECK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | TOTAL | |
| | | No. Head | 330 | 242 | 0 | 0 | 4591 | 5163 | |
| | | HEAD | Deck 1 & Portion of Deck 2 are Cattle | | | | | | |
| | | Deck 5 are Lambs | | | | | | | |
| 3. Date & Day Number | | 07 Mar, 2022 | | | | | DAY NO : | 4 | |
| 4. Vessel's Position (noon) | | Latitude : | 36° 39.6'N | | Longitude: | 013° 32.7'E | | Average Speed: | |
| ETA Next Port | | Ashdod, Israel 10 Mar 2022 / 1200H LT. | | | | | | | |
| Weather Obs. | | Wind | N | Direction | 3 | Sea State | Slight | Swell State | Short |
| 5. Mortality | | SPECIES | | DAILY TOTAL | CUMULATIVE TOTAL | | Euthanasia | Natural Causes | |
| | | Lamb | 1 | 3 | HD | 0.065 | % | Found deceased | Unknown |
| | | | | | HD | 0 | % | | |
| | | * Comments: Found deceased lamb at deck 5 pen 23. Cause of death unknown. | | | | | | | |
| 6. Health issues | | DECK NO.1 | DECK NO.2 | DECK NO.3 | DECK NO.4 | DECK NO.5 | | | |
| RESPIRATORY RATE | | Average rate for each deck with specific report of concerns | | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal | Normal | |
| RESPIRATORY CHARACTER | | Coughing, Sneezing, Snorting | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| FAECES - Average for each deck | | Colour, Consistency, Frequency, Odour, Mucous | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| SICK PEN REPORT | | Report to include medications and treatments | | | | | | | |
| | | TOTAL: | | | | | | | |
| 7. Feed consumption. (Pellets) | | DECK NO.1 | DECK NO.2 | DECK NO.3 | DECK NO.4 | DECK NO.5 | FEEDING SCHEDULE | | |
| | | 6.2 kg/hd | 6.2 kg/hd | | | 1.1 kg/hd | AM | | |
| Feed consumption. (Straw) | | 1.6 kg/hd | 1.6 kg/hd | | | 0.8 kg/hd | PM | | |
| Total Feed consumption. (Straw & Pellets) | | 7.8 kg/hd | 7.8 kg/hd | | | 1.8 kg/hd | | | |
| Ave. Cons. Pellets & Straw | | 7.8 kgz/hd Cattle | | 1.8 kgz/hd Lamb | | | | | |
| Total feed Pellets: | | 3.6 MT Cattle | | 4.9 MT Lamb | | | | | |
| Total feed Straw: | | 0.9 MT Cattle | | 3.6 MT Lamb | | | | | |
| 8. Water consumption | | 38.5 Ltrs/hd Cattle | | 3.9 Ltrs/hd Lamb | | | | | |
| 9. Temperatures | | DECK NO.1 | DECK NO.2 | DECK NO.3 | DECK NO.4 | DECK NO.5 | AMBIENT TEMPS. | | |
| * Dry | | 17.0°C | 18.0°C | | | 17.0°C | 15.0°C | | |
| * Wet | | 13.5°C | 14.5°C | | | 13.5°C | 11.5°C | | |
| Humidity | | 66% | 66% | | | 66% | 66% | | |
| 10. Type of Cattle | | * No. of Cattle, Sex, Age, Breed, Pregnancy Status, etc. | | | | | | | |
| Degree of Heat Stress | | Colour, Condition, Dehydration, Respiration Status | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 11. Ventilation * Performance | | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | | | |
| 12. General Comments | | RECORD DAILY TREATMENTS &/OR MORTALITIES IN DETAIL ON STOCKMAN RECORD OF TREATMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | * NIS Tag numbers of deceased cattle: Lamb: Tag No. DGAV FT 3 27 75 8788. Deck 5 Hold 1 Pen 23. | | | | | | | |
| | | * Livestock Health and Welfare: Monitor all livestock's for any health issues or weak condition of the livestock. | | | | | | | |
| | | * Deck Conditions: Deck 5 HULLS WET - NEED CLEANING | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| | | * Stocking Density: Density of the livestock's inside the pens are good. | | | | | | | |
| | | * Issues from Daily Meeting: Feeding and watering. Continue refilling of water and clean the troughs. Constant monitoring on the welfare of the livestock. Cattle start settling down. Ingestate into pieces the straws for feeding this afternoon as it will not fit on our lay-hatch. | | | | | | | |
| Stockman's Name: | | Nil | | | | | Vet's Name: Nil | | |

DAY NO. : DAY 7

| | DECK A | DECK B | DECK C | DECK D | DECK E | DECK F | Outside |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Temp 'C' | 26° / 23° | 25° / 23° | 25° / 23° | 25° / 22° | 25° / 22° | 25° / 23° | 22° / 19° |
| Humidity | 78% | 85% | 85% | 77% | 77% | 85% | 76% |
| Ventilation | GOOD | GOOD | GOOD | GOOD | GOOD | GOOD | GOOD |
| No. Head | 1897 | | | | | | 1897 LAMBS |
| | 25 | 648 | 506 | 371 | 340 | 286 | 2176 CATTLE |

Total Feed Consumption for day (all decks)

| FEED / T. HDS | TIME | KGS/HD | STRAW/MT | COMMENTS | TIME | KGS/HD | PELLETS/MT |
|---------------|-------|--------|----------|-----------|-------|--------|------------|
| A 1897 | 0800H | 0.00 | 0.00 | lambs | 1530H | 1.30 | 2.466 |
| A 25 | 0800H | 1.00 | 0.03 | fattening | 1530H | 5.80 | 0.145 |
| B 648 | 0800H | 1.00 | 0.65 | fattening | 1530H | 5.80 | 3.758 |
| C 506 | 0800H | 1.00 | 0.51 | fattening | 1530H | 5.80 | 2.935 |
| D 371 | 0800H | 1.00 | 0.37 | fattening | 1530H | 5.80 | 2.152 |
| E 340 | 0800H | 1.00 | 0.34 | fattening | 1530H | 5.80 | 1.972 |
| F 286 | 0800H | 1.00 | 0.29 | fattening | 1530H | 5.80 | 1.659 |

| WATER- Total Consumption per All Decks | | TIME | NO. TONNE | LITERS / HD | ROB Fodder |
|--|--------|------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 24 hrs | CATTLE | | 75.5 | 34.70 | Fodder for cattle: 37.72 mt |
| | LAMB | | 7.5 | 3.95 | Pellets in Bags/ Lambs : 5.22 mt |
| Comments: | | | | | Straw: 12.98 mt |

* Spread fresh beddings (sawdust) B-Deck to F-Deck for cattle.

* Cleaned alleways from B-Deck to D-Deck

AMMONIA LEVEL RECORD

| DATE : | | 22.04.2021 | 23.04.2021 | |
|---------|-----|------------|------------|-----------|
| TIME : | | | 18 00 HRS | 08 00 HRS |
| DECKS : | | | | |
| 1 | FWD | | 4 | 13 |
| | AFT | | 4 | 14 |
| 2 | FWD | | 3 | 16 |
| | AFT | | 8 | 16 |
| 3 | FWD | | 10 | 13 |
| | AFT | | 11 | 14 |
| 4 | FWD | | 14 | 15 |
| | AFT | | 13 | 14 |
| 5 | FWD | | 11 | 12 |
| | AFT | | 13 | 12 |
| 6 | FWD | | 12 | 13 |
| | AFT | | 13 | 14 |



Very important!!

- Transporters send reports and photos...but it is not enough...
- Animal indicators and resource indicators-. Animal cleanliness; bed conditions; temp/HR/amonia; ventilation; water and feed available; signs of thirsty and hungry; etc..
- Take measures in case of problems are found:
- Notification; suspension; withdraw of the authorisation/certification; don't allow to load; report to the CA that issued the transporter authorisation/vessel certificate of approval
- Report to all the contact points for transport- In EU Thetis system- information regarding the results of the vessel inspections

A practical case....

Gulf Livestock 2:

1st Israel CA Report

- High ammonia values
- Lack of bedding material and consequently dirty animals.



Notification to the transporter to correct the non compliances- action plan

Reply to the Israel CA

Follow the vessel- notification to the CA on destination

2nd Israel CA Report

- **Very dirty** animals
- **Filthy** and **slippery floor**
- **Without bedding material** (absorbent)
- **Very high ammonia** levels.

Gulf Livestock 2

Portugal CA decision

- **Immediate suspension:**
 - Livestock vessel certificate
 - Transporter authorization.
- **Communication** – MS and Israel CA
- Implementation of a plan with corrective actions

Corrective measures implemented

Crew related:

- Certified training for all crew members (Reg.(EC) N.1/2005)
- Experienced stockman certified under ASEL (Australian Standards for the Exports of Livestock)



Corrective measures implemented

Equipment related:

- Revision of the ventilation and new study (certified company)
- The ventilation was modified and now has a bigger capacity to extract air from the animal decks.
- The ventilation study validated new additional settings that allows to remove «used» air faster, when it is necessary.



Corrective measures implemented

Procedure related:

- Additional procedures (cleaning and bedding)
- Improvement of the contingency plan for delays at berth
- Additional amount of bedding material/sqm
- Use of wood shavings as bedding (more absorbent material)
- Replacement of heavy hay bales by smaller ones (25Kg).



Gulf Livestock 2 – Lessons learnt

- ✓ Good maintenance of the bedding is essential to ensure safety environment.
- ✓ Good quality absorbent materials for bedding, enables good results at the end of the journeys, regarding the cleanliness of the pens and of the animals.

Gulf Livestock 2 – Lessons learnt

- ✓ The minimum air exchange values per hour may not be sufficient to ensure adequate air quality for all the animals on board.
 - ✓ Ventilation should be checked more often and should have settings for different scenarios (supported by ventilation studies).
- ✓ Adequate and systematic training is essential for better performance of the crew (husbandry and animal welfare).
- ✓ Better working conditions for the crew can improve the implementation of good animal handling practices.

Gulf Livestock 2 – Lessons learnt

- ✓ The **outcomes of the destination CA inspection** are essential to get to know the vessel/crew performance. Without it, we can not act to improve the animal welfare during transport to other countries.
- ✓ CA **Administrative actions** (notification and suspension) can make a difference in the improvement of animal welfare during transport.

Gulf Livestock 2 – Conclusion

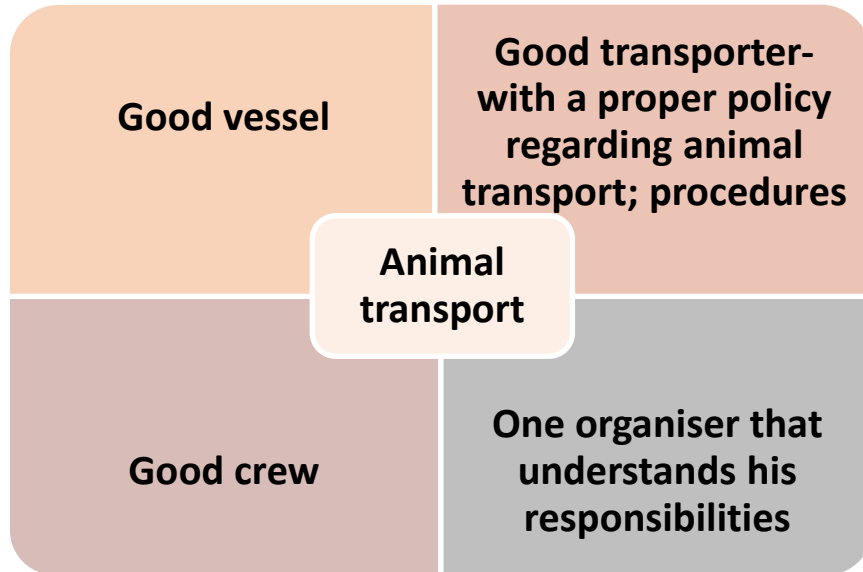
- After the implementation of the corrective plan, the Portuguese CA has not received infringements reports and the remarks from the destination CA are positive.
- Therefore, it is possible to make a not so good ship become a livestock vessel with **good animal practices**.



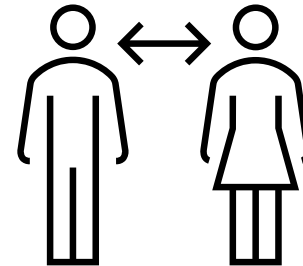
Communication with the CA on destination...

- To be sure that the vessel can be loaded- import permits
- To follow a specific vessel- the first time he operates in Portugal
- Whenever we consider that it is a risky vessel- adoption of correction actions after report of non compliances
- In case of contingency- exemple- delays to the bad sea conditions
- Exchange of views regarding specific issues- exemples limits of ammonium levels.

Sucess of a good Livestock vessel transport !!



**Comunication
and
collaboration
between CA**



Thank you

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