



Audit Report

Beef Animal Welfare

CS Beef Packers, LLC
17365 South Cole Road
Kuna, Idaho 83634

Audit Date: August 08, 2023
Auditor: Dennis Willson

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



Audit Summary

Company Name:	CS Beef Packers, LLC	Company ID:	AUCAVKUN
Address:	17365 South Cole Road Kuna, Idaho 83634		

Contact Name:	Brandy Whitehead
Contact Phone Number:	208-810-7510, x 7533
Contact Email Address:	brandy.whitehead@csbeef.com

Audit ID:	AO-006718
Audit Date:	August 08, 2023
Audit Type:	Unannounced
Audit Result:	Passed

Auditor Name:	Dennis Willson
Auditor Phone Number:	
Auditor Email Address:	Dennis.Willson@fsns.com



Beef Animal Welfare

Category	# Points Received	# Possible Points	Percentage (%)
Livestock Receiving	225	225	100.00
Non-Ambulatory	50	50	100.00
Holding and Handling	350	350	100.00
Lead-up and Stunning Area	475	475	100.00
Management Commitment	50	50	100.00
Employee Training	75	75	100.00
Overall Score	1,225	1,225	100.00

** Denotes a Core Criteria.

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

An Audit Failure requires a re-audit in 60 days.

Beef Animal Welfare

Score Summary

Result

Score Summary

	# Cattle in Question	Total Cattle Observed	Percent Acceptable
Electric Prodding (prodded) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	100	100%
Vocalization (vocalized)	0	100	100%
Slips (slipped) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	100	100%
Falls (fell) - Unloading	0	115	100%
Falls (fell) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	100	100%
Stunning Accuracy (double stun)	0	100	100%
Insensibility (sensible)	0	100	100%

Audit Outcome

Pass

Comments

The slaughter plant harvested cull beef, dairy animals, and fed beef. The target harvest number was 1,500 cattle per day on one shift five days per week. The line speed during observations was approximately 195 cattle per hour.

1 Livestock Receiving

Result

1.1 Must have written expectations & humane guidelines for transporters. 25

Comment: The written Master Cattle Transporter Guide Acknowledgement CS Beef Packers Est #630 document was available and signed by the Owner of each trucking company used. The document explained the plant required that the principles set forth in BQA's Master Cattle Transporter Guide were adhered to for cattle delivered to the facility. The document was sent to truck Owners with a letter that listed animal handling guidelines, including only facility personnel unloaded cattle, electric prods or sorting poles were not allowed during unloading, non-ambulatory animals were humanely euthanized by facility personnel and properly removed, and only facility personnel could handle animals that were dead upon arrival.

1.2 Animals must be loaded at the proper industry recommended level. 25

Comment: Three commercial potbelly trailers with 35, 37 and 35 cattle and one gooseneck trailer with eight cattle were assessed. The trailers were loaded at BQA-recommended levels.



1.3 Trailers must be cleaned at least once each week to prevent heavy accumulation of feces. Trailers must have slip resistant floors, and no potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, etc.). 25

Comment: The trailers had stamped metal tread floors and were free of excessive manure or potential injury points.

1.4 Ramps, unloading area, and scales should be slip resistant, $\leq 20^\circ$ slope, with no significant accumulated manure. Record all potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, etc.) in unloading area. 25

Comment: The unloading area had grooved concrete floors for traction and were free of significant accumulated manure or potential injury points. Ramps or slopes were not present.

1.5 Determine number of falls for all animals on trailers observed at unloading. Evaluate at the most probable area and observe multiple unloading chutes if possible. Fall is determined if brisket, belly, rump or other part of torso touches floor. Note number of slips, limb other than hoof touches floor, but do not score. 100
 Excellent: No falls = 100 pts
 Acceptable: < or = 1% falls = 90 pts
 Unacceptable: > 1% falls = 0 pts

Comment: Slips or falls were not identified.
 0/115 = 0% (100 points)

1.6 Use of electric prods at unloading should be discouraged by plant. < or = 5% of animals should be electrically prodded. Record what other handling tools are in use. 25

Comment: Written unloading procedures specified electric prods or sorting poles were not allowed during unloading. Rattle paddles were available and were used properly when needed to encourage cattle to move forward. An electric prod was not used during observations and an electric prod was not identified in the unloading area.

2 Non-Ambulatory

		Result
2.1	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. 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.	25

Comment: The written Non-Ambulatory and Ante-Mortem Condemned Cattle AW SOP 3 revised 1.03.23 was available and explained cattle that became non-ambulatory on trailers in transit or on the premises were euthanized then removed from the trailer and staged out of public view, denatured, documented on the Condemned Log and removed from the premises daily for rendering. If an animal went down or showed signs of illness after receiving and passing ante mortem inspection before slaughter, the USDA FSIS Veterinarian was notified on a case-by-case basis for determination of the animal's condition or the animal was humanely euthanized. Dead cattle on trucks were removed from the trailer, denatured, documented on the Condemned Log and sent for rendering. Fatigued animals were segregated, provided water, allowed to rest and presented to USDA FSIS for disposition.

2.2	Staging of dead carcasses should be out of public view. DOAs, animals euthanized in pens, and animals that died after arrival must be tracked.	25
------------	--	----

Comment: Carcasses were staged in a designated area of the yards that was out of public view. DOAs, animals euthanized in pens and animals that died after arrival were tracked on a written Condemned Log. Records dated 2023 were available and evidenced compliance with dead tracking requirements.

3 Holding and Handling

	Result
<p>3.1 An emergency livestock management plan must be in place for short term and long term breakdowns. Short term disruptions may include minor plant breakdowns, minor weather events, or scheduling errors. Long term disruptions may include extended plant downtime, snow storm, motor vehicle accident, natural disaster, building damage, fire, tornado, etc. Procedures should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How feed and water will be provided during long term shutdowns - How electricity can be provided through back up generators in the event power is lost - How housing will be provided to animals should housing become uninhabitable due to fire or weather conditions such as snow or flood - How animals will be evacuated in an emergency such as fire or flood - For animals that cannot be returned to the farm of origin, there should be a designated place where animals can be unloaded and provided adequate facilities <p>Comment: The written Inclement Weather and Emergency AW SOP 4 revised 4.18.23 was available. The stated purpose of the document was to describe cattle handling during inclement weather and emergencies. During hot weather, drivers were instructed to avoid any unnecessary stops and to keep trucks moving. Trucks were promptly unloaded and water was provided in pens. If for any unforeseen reason cattle could not be unloaded promptly, the cattle were taken to offsite pens for unloading. During cold weather, animals could be moved to a shelter. The policy explained it was proven that livestock tolerate cold weather if fed properly for it, thus increasing the animal's energy intake as energy requirements increase with cold weather. If electric power was lost, the water supply for cattle came from an onsite well with a backup generator to run the pumps. Hay was fed to cattle if the plant could not operate due to electrical power loss. In case of fire in the packing house, cattle were loaded and taken to offsite pens. The packing house and livestock pens were located on an elevated area of the site such that flooding in livestock pens was unlikely. Additionally there was a low historical occurrence of flooding in the area. In case of escaped animal, the animal was penned in a corner and knocked immediately and pulled into the long horn chute to be railed in.</p>	25
<p>3.2 Note air temperature, and heat stress index or wind chill index. Observe animals for comfort. Temperature mitigation strategies at the plant should be established when needed for hot and cold conditions.</p> <p>Comment: The weather was 73F, sunny and dry during observations. Cattle waiting in pens were observed resting comfortably and drinking water. Pen misters were available to cool cattle in hot weather. In winter months, heaters were used in the handling facility.</p>	25
<p>3.3 Pens, drive alley, circle pens, and other areas where animals walk must have slip resistant floors to minimize the risk of falls. Record potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, broken concrete, etc.) and potential animal distractions in alleys and pens (poor design, poor lighting / shadows, out of place objects, noises, debris, etc.)</p> <p>Comment: The handling facility had grooved concrete floors in good repair. Potential injury points, excessive manure or potential animal distractions were not identified.</p>	25

3.4 Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production
 Evaluate at the most probable area.
 Fall is determined if brisket, belly, rump or other part of torso touches floor.
 Note number of slips, limb other than hoof touches floor, but do not score.
 Excellent: No falls = 100 pts
 Acceptable: < or = 1% falls = 90 pts
 Unacceptable: >1% falls = 0 pts

Comment: Slips or falls were not identified.
 0/100 = 0% (100 points)

3.5 Driving tools used to move animals must be used in a manner that allows sound or visual cues for movement. Tools should not be used to strike or jab an animal. 25
 Vibrating prods, if used, must have the pointed end worn down and smoothed prior to use on animals. Vibrating prods should be used on the back, rump, or shoulders of the animal and should not be applied to sensitive parts of the animal or used to jab the animal.

Comment: Rattle paddles were used properly when needed to facilitate cattle movement. Vibrating prods with smoothed tips were located at the restrainer entrance and were used properly.

3.6 If mounting behaviors are observed the animals that chronically mount are removed from the pen. 25

Comment: Yard personnel were trained to segregate aggressive animals. Chronic mounting behaviors were not identified.

3.7 Holding pens should not appear overcrowded. 25
 Crowd pen should be under ¾ full and crowd gate should not be used to forcibly push animals.

Comment: Small groups of approximately 12 cattle were moved through the crowd pen. The crowd pen was maintained under 75% capacity. The crowd gate was not used to forcibly push cattle.

3.8 Animals must have unrestricted access to potable water in pens. Water cannot be frozen. 100
 Establishments should include provisions for providing water to animals waiting in drive alleys in their emergency management plan.
 Animals must have access to feed if held over 24 hours.

Comment: Cattle had ad libitum access to potable water in water troughs that filled automatically. The water troughs were equipped with heaters to prevent freezing. During extended downtime, animals were calmly backed out of the handling facility and back to the pens for water access. Portable water troughs were available as needed. Animals held over twenty four hours were provided feed.

4 Lead-up and Stunning Area

Result

4.1 Floors must be slip resistant and cleaned to minimize the risk of falls. Manure should not be excessive. Record potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, etc.) and potential animal distractions (poor design, poor lighting / shadows, out of place objects, noises, debris, etc.) in crowd pen, chute, restrainer, knock box area. Rearing or struggling should be minimal. 25

Comment: The single file had grooved concrete floors. The entrance to the restrainer had metal cleats for traction. Excessive manure, potential injury points or potential animal distractions were not identified.

4.2 Documented records are available for the maintenance and cleaning of euthanasia tools. Captive bolt guns must be cleaned each day of use and documented. Cleaning and preventative maintenance must be performed in accordance with manufacturer recommendations and documented. Equipment and ammunition must be stored in a dry place when not in use. Plant must have a back-up stunner. Record type and brand of stunner and type of restrainer or knock box. Air injected stunners are prohibited. 50

Comment: Jarvis pneumatic and handheld captive bolt guns were cleaned, inspected, tested and repaired as needed daily. Preventive maintenance activities were documented on written logs. Records dated 5.01.23 to 8.08.23 were presented and evidenced compliance with the preventive maintenance program. Guns were stored in a dry location in the facility and ammunition was stored sealed containers. Air injected stunning was not practiced. A center track restrainer was used.

4.3 Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production Record percentage of animals electrically prodded. Electric prods should only be used when necessary and not on the facial, anal, or genital regions. Other primary handling tools should be in use.
 Excellent = ≤ 5% prodded 100 pts
 Acceptable = ≤ 25% prodded 90 pts
 Not acceptable = > 25% prodded 0 pts
 Knock box with head restrainer:

Comment: Electric prod use was not identified.
 0/100 = 0% (100 points)

4.4 Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production

 Record percentage of animals that vocalized from the crowd pen to and including the restrainer
 Excellent ≤ 1% vocalize 100 pts
 Acceptable ≤ 3% vocalize 90 pts
 Unacceptable > 3% vocalize 0 pts

 Knock boxes with head restraint:
 Excellent < or = 1% vocalize 100 pts
 Head Restrainer < or = 5% vocalize 90 pts
 Unacceptable > 5% vocalize 0 pts

Comment: A vocalization was not detected.
 0/100 = 0% (100 points)

4.5 Chain speed > or =100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production

Record percentage of animals that were stunned more than once to render the animal insensible.
 If animals are to have a planned security knock, auditor must assess sensibility prior to the second knock.
 Excellent ≤ 1% double stunned 100 pts
 Acceptable ≤ 4% double stunned 90 pts
 Unacceptable > 4% double stunned 0 pts

Comment: The animals were rendered insensible with a single knock.
 0/100 = 0% (100 points)

4.6 Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production

An animal exhibiting characteristics of sensibility on the rail (i.e., immediately after shackling or hanging) will be an automatic audit failure if observed during any part of the audit. Insensibility is characterized by floppy head, straight tongue hanging out, no righting reflex, eyes in blank stare (no eye tracking), no natural blinks. If an auditor sees an animal that has returned to full consciousness on the bleed rail or table at any time during the audit, it should be noted and the audit failed, even if the animal observed was not part of the 100 animals scored when auditing bleed rail insensibility.
 Excellent 100% insensible 100 pts
 Unacceptable < 100% insensible 0 pts

Comment: The animals were insensible.
 100/100 = 100% (100 points)

5 Management Commitment

		Result
5.1	An animal welfare mission statement is in place and posted or circulated within the facility.	25

Comment: The written Humane Handling Mission Statement dated 1.04 22 was developed and posted in live animal and employee common areas. The Animal Welfare Mission Statement explained the company took great pride in being stewards of live cattle and strived to competently and consistently produce quality beef products that were derived from humanely handled livestock.

5.2	A program of ongoing monitoring and measurement of animal handling, stunning practices, and outcomes is in place. Each of the seven core criteria should be included. Animal handling and stunning must be audited a (minimum weekly).	25
------------	--	----



Comment: The written Humane Animal Handling AW SOP 1 revised 1.03.23 was available and outlined procedures for internal monitoring of stunning, prodding, slips and falls, vocalizations and insensibility and slips and falls. The Monitoring section explained a Quality Assurance or designated employee was responsible for monitoring to ensure cattle were handled in a humane manner. The Corrective Actions section explained correlations and retraining were done with responsible employees to ensure that all of the procedures were followed. Daily, written audit records for the period from 7.03.23 to 8.04.23 were presented for review. The audits assessed willful acts of abuse, access to water, and a 20-cattle sample for effective stunning, bleed rail insensibility, falls at receiving, falls in alleyways, vocalizations and electric prod use. The Transportation Audit was completed weekly and assessed four trailers for the North American Meat Institute seven core criteria and secondary criteria for transportation. Records for the period from 7.07.23 to 7.28.23 were reviewed. The audit records evidenced compliance with the internal monitoring program.

6 Employee Training

Result

- 6.1** The company's training program must reflect company procedures and policies for livestock receiving, condition of livestock, holding and handling, lead-up and stunning area. Training for personnel performing euthanasia must be documented. A written procedure for handling a sensible animal on the bleed rail and is included in training provided. Retraining should be at least annual.

75

Comment: The written Systematic Approach to Humane Handling and Slaughter issued 4.18.23 was available and discussed the Animal Welfare Team and Steering Committee comprised of the Plant Manager, FSQA Manager, Yard Manager and/or designee and the Regulatory Superintendent. The team met regularly to address opportunities and any new guidelines/directives pertaining to Animal Welfare. The plan addressed movement of livestock with a minimum of excitement and discomfort, using electric prods and other handling tools as little as possible, access to water for animals, sufficient room in holding pens for animals held overnight, training for personnel in the appropriate use of restraints and prods, monitoring for stunning effectiveness, facility design and maintenance to minimize excitement, discomfort and accidental injury to livestock, monitoring for proper handling practices, routine checks for facility condition, employees, proper stunning and insensibility on the bleed rail, audit procedures and a training program based on American Meat Institute guidelines. The written Bleed Rail Insensibility policy specified animals showing signs of return to sensibility were re-stunned immediately. Personnel responsible for euthanasia were trained prior to being assigned the task and annually thereafter. Employees working with live animals were trained on the written program at hire prior to working with animals and annually thereafter. Training records dated 2023 were available and evidenced training was current as of August 2023.

7 Acts of Abuse

Result



7.1 A willful act of abuse is automatic grounds for an audit failure. No
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, mouth, rectum, vulva, testicles, or belly; deliberate slamming of gates on livestock; intentionally driving livestock on top of one another or hitting or beating an animal, purposefully driving livestock off high ledges, platforms or off a truck without a ramp, or animals frozen to the floor or sides of trailer.

Comment: A willful act of abuse was not identified.

8 Conflict of Interest Declaration

The below named auditor declares he/she does not have a conflict of interest with the client. Result
Yes

Comment: I, Dennis Willson, do not have a conflict of interest with this auditee.