

Independent Observer summary report on *MV Anna Marra*

Cattle exported to Indonesia in September 2019

Report 186, December 2019

Voyage summary

A consignment of 7,610 head of cattle was loaded onto the *MV Anna Marra* at the Port of Broome between 15 and 16 September 2019. The vessel departed on 16 September 2019. The first discharge was at the Port of Panjang, Indonesia, between 20 and 21 September 2019. The second discharge was at the Port of Pasir Gudang, Malaysia between 24 and 26 September 2019, making this a 12 day voyage.

An Independent Observer (observer) boarded the vessel in Broome and remained on board until completion of discharge.

The mortality rate for the cattle was 0.05% (4 mortalities). This does not exceed the reportable mortality rate. The causes of these mortalities were not considered to be linked to any systemic failure by the exporter.

The following comments represent a summary of key observations and has been approved by the observer who accompanied this voyage.

Independent Observations of the implementation of procedures to ensure health and welfare of livestock

Exporter documentation

Exporter arrangements were available to address procedures relating to livestock management from loading through to discharge and contingencies.

Loading

The observer noted there were no animal welfare issues observed during loading. Cattle were loaded in accordance with the load plan with adjustments made during the voyage to take advantage of extra space.

Personnel

There were three experienced LiveCorp Accredited Stockpersons (stockpersons) on board responsible for implementing the exporters' procedures to ensure the health and welfare of the livestock throughout the voyage.

The crew were observed to maintain feed and water to the cattle. The observer noted they were experienced in animal management and demonstrated appropriate care and handling techniques.

Daily routine

Cattle were fed twice per day with top up feeds made during deck rounds which included attending to water troughs, and general maintenance.

A management meeting was held each day at 10:00am and was attended by the master, Chief Officer (CO), boson, stockpersons and observer. Topics discussed included temperatures, feed and water, treatments, mortalities and any issues that may impact animal health and welfare.

Two crew members worked between 7:00pm and 6:00am. Night watch duties included checking feed and water, inspection of alleyways and reporting of any issues to the bridge.

Feed and water

Pellets and chaff were provided and water was available via water troughs with an automatic water system. The cattle were observed consuming feed and water consistently.

Ventilation

The ventilation system functioned effectively and provided fresh cool air during the voyage and no portable fans were required. Temperatures experienced throughout the voyage averaged around 29°C dry bulb, 27°C wet bulb and around 83% humidity.

Pen conditions

Pad depth increased during the voyage providing cushioning for the cattle. Pen densities were consistent with the load plan and allowed for 50% of cattle to lie down at any one time.

Health and welfare

Cattle that required treatment were moved to hospital pens where sawdust, feed and water were provided and treatments were administered as required.

There were 4 mortalities during the voyage. One mortality was due to misadventure, one animal was humanly euthanised as it did not respond to treatment after sustaining an injury, the cause of the remaining 2 mortalities was undetermined.

Discharge

Cattle were discharged at two ports. Sawdust was applied to ramps during discharge. Access to feed and water was maintained by crew and supervised by the stockpersons on rotating basis.

The observer noted that the stockpersons and crew worked effectively to maintain good animal health and welfare outcomes during discharge at both ports. No animal health or welfare incidents were observed.

Conclusion

The exporter arrangements were observed to be implemented during the voyage and to be compliant with the *Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (Version 2.3) 2011* (ASEL) requirements.

Representative photographs of the voyage

Day 3 Cattle in pen—no issues identified



Day 4 Cattle in pen—no issues identified



Day 5 Cattle in pen—no issues identified



Day 6 Cattle in pen—no issues identified



Day 9 Cattle in pen—no issues identified



Day 10 Cattle in pen—no issues identified

