

VALE COMMENT on IO 161: Ganado Express, Townsville to Vietnam July 2019

IO SUMMARY: The voyage duration was unexpectedly extended by a mechanical problem with the vessel's main engine, and the vessel encountering severe weather during the voyage.

Loading

IO SUMMARY: The load plan was largely compliant with the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock 2011 (version 2.3) (ASEL) requirements, although the observer noted a number of long pens were created and some pens were stocked at densities higher than the ASEL requirements.

VALE COMMENT: this is NOT ASEL compliant no issue of compliance was noted in the conclusion.

Feed and water

IO SUMMARY: Feed consumption dropped on day 10 due to typhoon weather. Feed was reduced to 40–50% of normal quantity for the final two days of the voyage because the expected duration of the voyage had increased. This increase in voyage duration was attributed to vessel stoppage for part of day 6 for repairs to the main engine, and reduction in vessel speed from day 10 due to the typhoon weather.

VALE COMMENT: another voyage that had insufficient food

Ventilation

IO SUMMARY: The maximum dry bulb temperature range was 25–31 °C, and relative humidity was 79–93% across all decks.

VALE COMMENT: WBT not provided.

Pen conditions

IO SUMMARY: The majority of cattle were penned in accordance with the load plan and ASEL requirements although the observer noted there were several pens loaded in excess of requirements. A number of bulls were penned with other bulls that were more than 50 kg lighter. Two horned steers were penned with horned bulls.

VALE COMMENT: photographs suggest bulls loaded with weights in excess of ASEL but again no non-compliance raised.

Health and welfare

IO SUMMARY: There were eight mortalities on the voyage. Six were found dead in their pens with two autopsies attributing the cause to lung disease.

VALE COMMENT: 6/8 with no cause found as per usual when no vet onboard.

Conclusion

IO SUMMARY: The exporter arrangements were observed to be implemented during the voyage, and to be compliant with the ASEL requirements.

VALE COMMENT: actually the IO noted a number of issues that were not ASEL compliant.

Representative photographs of the voyage

Day 4 Cattle penned in excess of ASEL weight variation limits