

AACo COVID-19 Management Plan for the transport of Livestock



Current protocol effective 18/03/20.

This management plan is designed to ensure we can meet critical isolation, social distancing and hygiene procedures in the movement of cattle, and to reduce any risks that might result in the spread of COVID-19 into the Northern Territory and Queensland rural communities.

We currently use two providers for the transport of stock from North Queensland to the Northern Territory: Road Trains of Australia (RTA) and our own AACo Fleet of trucks.

RTA have strict procedures and Health Declarations for each of their drivers in place. These include limiting the reliance drivers have on roadhouses and maintaining social distancing. We will continue to engage with them to ensure they are aligned with our company protocols.

AACo Driver and load and unload procedures for Livestock are as follows:

1. Loading and unloading of livestock trucks

- No AACo employees will enter the stock crates of any livestock truck that arrives on station and this will be managed with drivers being responsible for the load on their truck.
- Once loading is completed, paperwork will be filled out and appropriately handed to the driver for their destination and trip.
- The driver will manage the unloading of stock from the truck with no AACo staff member allowed to enter the truck.
- Paperwork will be left on the loading ramp to be collected by AACo staff after the trucks vacate the loading area.
- If it appears that safety or animal welfare may be compromised appropriate measures will be taken to assist the driver in the event there is no other drivers are available to assist.

2. Meals and Accommodation

- All trucks are fitted with air conditioned bunks and drivers will sleep in their trucks as per normal operating conditions.
- Drivers will maintain personal hygiene by having showers at roadhouses. They are able to utilise our station or camp facility if there is a shower/bathroom that is isolated from other staff on site.
- In the Northern Territory drivers will not visit station homesteads and community areas. Unloading sites are separate from high traffic areas, allowing them to unload and return to Queensland.
- Meals will be provided by our station kitchens and will be taken to point of load or unload and be accessible to drivers, so their welfare is managed as best possible. They will also have stocked fridges with food and water as needed in their trucks to limit the use of roadhouse venues.

3. Fuel

- Fuel can be collected from AACo sites as long as the truck goes direct to the fuel bowser, fuels up and then leaves the site without contact with any staff members on site.
- They also have fuel cards on board and can purchase fuel from major roadhouses on route if required.

4. Servicing and Maintenance

- Maintenance of trucks can only be performed by people who have experience and qualifications in this field.
- Services will be conducted at both Station sites and in workshops through Mount Isa if required.
- Trucks conducting maintenance on QLD stations will be subject to the same procedures, including an isolated work area to carry out their duties.
- Whilst on site they will use their trucks for accommodation and meals will be provided to them, but not to be eaten in staff kitchen areas.
- They will also not have access to social clubs and any other communal gathering areas.

In addition, the following key measures should be followed at all times, to reduce the likelihood of contracting or spreading COVID-19 to staff or the surrounding communities:

1. Hygiene

- a. Wash your hands regularly, at minimum before eating or touching your face.
- b. Wash your hands after being in public or touching items recently touched by others.
- c. When attending roadhouses please ensure you wash your hands and follow the strict personal hygiene procedures.

2. Cleanliness of Trucks and Facilities

- a. Don't share equipment (cups, cutlery, welding masks etc.) with other drivers.
- b. If people have to change over a vehicle. Thoroughly wipe it down with disinfectant.
- c. Keep inside of cabs in trucks clean thoroughly wipe down.

3. Personal Space

- a. Maintain 1.5m minimum separation distance from anyone else when you approach populations or loading and unloading facilities.
- b. Do not have personal contact (shake hands etc.) with people you come in to contact with.

4. Communication

- a. Be open about how you are feeling. If you feel unwell, or sick, let your supervisor know immediately.
- b. If you start to display symptoms of Coronavirus, then we will arrange for you to seek medical advice.