



# Audit Report

## Beef Animal Welfare

**Missouri Prime Beef Packers**  
5305 Highway H  
Pleasant Hope, Missouri 65725

**Audit Date:** April 07, 2021  
**Auditor:** Lori Ernst

Audit criteria are based on the September 2019, Rev. 2, NAMI Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines - Please refer to Guidelines for further explanation of criteria requirements



## Audit Summary

Company Name:	Missouri Prime Beef Packers	Company ID:	AUMISPRI
Address:	5305 Highway H Pleasant Hope, Missouri 65725		

Contact Name:	Frank McLaughlin
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Audit ID:	AO-001431
Audit Date:	April 07, 2021
Audit Type:	Annual audit
Audit Result:	Passed

Auditor Name:	Lori Ernst
Auditor Phone Number:	210-355-6937
Auditor Email Address:	lori.ernst@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
<b>Overall Score</b>	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	15	100
Vocalization (vocalized)	0	15	100
Slips (slipped) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	15	100
Falls (fell) - Unloading	0	28	100
Falls (fell) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	15	100
Stunning Accuracy (double stun)	0	15	100
Insensibility (sensible)	0	15	100

### Audit Outcome

Pass

### Comments

The facility was designed to harvest 500 head daily of cull cows and fat cattle on a single shift. At the time of this assessment, harvest was approximately 40 heads per day.

## 1 Livestock Receiving

Result

<b>1.1</b>	Must have written expectations & humane guidelines for transporters.	25
Comment:	The company Animal Welfare Manual included a section specific to Transporter Expectations that required drivers to follow company policies for animal handling while delivering or moving animals.	
<b>1.2</b>	Animals must be loaded at the proper industry recommended level.	25
Comment:	Load density was referenced under NIAA guidelines in the Handling Manual. The one truck observed held 28 head and was compliant with recommendations.	
<b>1.3</b>	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:	By policy, trailers were cleaned weekly to prevent accumulation of heavy manure. Floors were slip resistant and potential injury points were not identified.	

**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: One load observed was a single deck trailer that was backed into a ramp with  $< 20$  degree upward slope for unloading. Animals stepped off trailer and proceeded up a slight incline. Potential injury points were not observed.

**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:  $< \text{or} = 1\%$  falls = 90 pts  
 Unacceptable:  $> 1\%$  falls = 0 pts

Comment: Slips or falls were not observed on the 28 animals assessed at unloading.

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

Comment: Electric prods were not permitted during the unloading process unless all other methods had been tried. Employees used rattle paddles and during unloading.

## 2 Non-Ambulatory

**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. Result 25

Comment: The Animal Welfare Manual specified that animals that could not rise on their own power were euthanized in place without moving the animal or attempting to drive it. This included animals down in the pens, drive alleys, chutes, or on trucks at delivery.

**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: Dead animals were staged adjacent to the pens in an area that was outside of public view. DOAs and animals that were euthanized or died on site were tracked on a Dead Stock Log that was presented as verification.

## 3 Holding and Handling

Result

**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. 25  
 Long term disruptions may include extended plant downtime, snow storm, motor vehicle accident, natural disaster, building damage, fire, tornado, etc. Procedures should include:  
 - 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

Comment: The site Animal Welfare Manual contained an Emergency Plans for Animals section that defined procedures taken in response to hot weather, cold weather, diversion of cattle in transit, evacuation of cattle onsite that could not be slaughtered, emergency overnight plans for animals that could not be removed in a timely manner, and handling of animals loaded on inoperable trucks.

**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. 25

Comment: Conditions at the time of the audit were 55F cloudy with light wind. Pens were covered and had curtains that were raised or lowered depending upon temperature. Wall fans were also in use. Misters were installed above pens for use if temperatures required additional animal cooling. The Handling Policy included provisions for segregation of stressed or overheated animals to allow the potential for recovery by separation and observation.

**3.3** Pens, drive alley, circle pens, and other areas where animals walk must have slip resistant floors to minimize the risk of falls. 25  
 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.)

Comment: Pens were cross hatched concrete that was bedded with corn husks. Pens were cleaned daily with a loader and re-bedded as needed. Pen condition was acceptable without excess manure, and standing water was not present at the time of the assessment. Potential injury points were not identified in pens or alleys, and distractions such as shadows or noises were not noted.

**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: Falls or slips were not observed on the 15 head assessed at lead up to the restrainer.

**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: Driving tools included plastic bags on sticks, and rattle paddles. Tools were used in an appropriate manner.

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

Comment: Excessive mounting behaviors were not observed but policy called for these animals to be segregated.

**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: Holding pens were not overcrowded and animals had access to water. Animals were not pushed with gates and the crowd pen was under 3/4 full.

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

Comment: Animals were observed with unrestricted access to water in holding pens. Troughs were cleaned weekly and were heated to prevent freezing in winter. If held in the drive alley more than 30 minutes, animals were provided water through hose filled troughs. Feed was provided if animals were held over 24 hours.

## 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: Floors were equipped with grooved concrete cross hatched with rebar, and were cleaned daily. Manure accumulation, injury points, and standing water was not observed. Rearing and struggling was minimal.

**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. 50  
 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.

Comment: Hand Knocking Gun Preventive Maintenance was conducted daily by dedicated personnel on the three guns in use and was documented by gun number. Maintenance was performed daily on pneumatic stunners with a two gun rotation to insure one gun was in use, and one was a backup. A complete teardown and parts replacement was scheduled for performance every four to six weeks. Daily Records were viewed from March 2021 which included the testing, oiling, breakdown, cleaning and inspections. Jarvis hand held Captive Bolt stunners were used as the backup stunning method. Jarvis Pneumatic Stunners were used as the primary stunning method. Air injected stunning was not permitted. Ammunition was stored in the manager's office and was issued daily. Shells were discarded at end of day with the exception of the test stunner ammunition which was stored in a waterproof container. The site used a side dump restrainer with head restraint for securing cattle during the stunning process.

<b>4.3</b>	Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 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:	100
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Comment: A total of 15 animals were evaluated during one hour of production. Electrical prods were not used.  
0/15 = 0% prodded

<b>4.4</b>	Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 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	100
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Comment: A total of 15 animals were evaluated during one hour of production. Vocalization was not noted on the 15 head observed.  
0/12 = 0%



**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 planned to be double knocked, 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: A total of 15 animals were evaluated during one hour of production. Animals were rendered insensible with the initial shot.

0/15 = 0%

**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.  
 Excellent 100% insensible 100 pts  
 Unacceptable < 100% insensible 0 pts

Comment: A total of 15 animals were evaluated during one hour of production. Animals were insensible on the rail.

0/15 = 0%

## 5 Management Commitment

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

Comment: The company animal welfare mission statement was posted in multiple plant locations and was verified.

		Result
<b>5.2</b>	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 individual components of animal handling from receiving through insensibility was monitored daily at multiple points by QA Personnel, and Management Employees. Handling verification monitoring records from the current week were presented as verification.

## 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 training manuals separated training procedures into each component of animal handling from receiving, through movement, assessment of condition, holding, moving, lead up, stunning, and insensibility. A hand stunner was available to the employee bleeding animals, and employees in that area were trained to identify a sensible animal and promptly stun it. Training was performed at employment and retraining was conducted annually. Records were presented and were current.

## 7 Acts of Abuse

**7.1** A willful act of abuse is automatic grounds for an audit failure. Result  
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. No

Comment: A willful act of abuse was not observed.

## 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, Lori Ernst, declare that I do not have a conflict of interest with this auditee and the audit was carried out independently and impartially.