

CFIA Transport of Animals requirements in Part XII of the Health of Animals Regulations

Section 154 Records

Animal Transport Record (ATR) Factsheet
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Why is the Animal Transport Record needed?

- It is a communication tool that documents and protects the welfare of animals in transport.
- It ensures information about the animals' journey is available and can be shared when needed with everyone involved in humane transport (producers, transporters, dispatch, assembly personnel, receivers and buyers).

Who needs to make and keep the ATR?

- If you are a commercial transporter, someone in the business of transporting animals, or if you are transporting animals and a financial transaction is taking place, you need an animal transport record.
- Animal transport records are not needed for routine animal husbandry/management movement if no transfer of stewardship takes place.

What information is needed on an ATR ? 9 pieces of information:

- Name and address of the shipper, consignee, and the driver of the animal transport vehicle.
- Date and time when, and the place where, the animals are loaded.
- The number, description, and weight (actual if available or estimate) of the animals.
- Date, time and place of arrival of the animals at the destination.
- Date and time when the animals were last fed, watered and rested (FWR) prior to loading, and then update this information if animals are FWR during the journey.
- Some truck specific information (that may not change from load to load)
 - identifying number of the vehicle (e.g. license plate, registration number);
 - the floor area available to the animals
 - the date, time and the place where the conveyance or container was last cleaned and disinfected (whenever that was).

Who writes and keeps the ATR?

- The transporter writes this record.
- It moves with the load of animals as they are transported.
- The animal transport record must be kept by the transporter for two years.

Is there a special form to use?

- No, there is no special format. Transporters can write the information in any way that works for them.
- It can be hand written, an email, or recorded electronically as long as it is readable, contains the required information, and is easily found if requested by an inspector.
- A lot of this information overlaps with information already on provincial livestock manifests. There is no need to repeat information that is already available.

How does an ATR protect animal transporters?

- A transporter has a lot of responsibility for the animals on their load, and sometimes they don't have much control over when and how animals are loaded/unloaded.
- If someone asks you to load an animal in a way that you don't agree with, or if there is a delay in unloading, or anything unusual happens, this is a way to record your side of the story.

What do transporters do if they are not given all the information they need for a ATR or if they don't think an animal should be loaded?

- It is a non-compliance for you to transport animals without this information.
- It also your responsibility to assess the animal(s) before transport.
- If your assessment is questioned, or information you need is not provided, document the interaction.
- If you arrive without the required record(s), or with an unfit animal on your load, you could be held responsible.

Is the Animal Transport Record (ATR), the same as the Transfer of care (TOC) ?

- No. These are two different requirements in the amended regulations. Transfer of care is a separate requirement but transporters can, and may want to use the same document for both requirements.
- The ATR does not need to be accepted/acknowledged by receivers.
- For more information on TOC refer to the Transfer of Care (TOC) factsheet.