



Drafting and Livestock Handling Policy

Policy No. SALPOL 01

Version No:	1.0
Responsible Officer/s	Business Manager, Saleyards
Issued:	04 August 14
Next Review:	May 2023

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that livestock at the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards are handled and drafted in a responsible manner which minimises potential stress and injury.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all livestock presented for sale at a Mount Gambier and District Saleyards sale/auction.

3. Definitions

Bobby Calf – a calf not accompanied by its mother, less than 30 days old, weighing less than 80kg live weight and usually a dairy breed or dairy cross.

Bull – a male bovine with sexual organise intact and that is capable of reproduction.

Cattle – includes cows, heifers, liveweight calves, vealers, weaners, steers and bulls.

Electric Prodders – means implements which impose an electrical shock on an animal to encourage it to move in a certain direction.

Lambs – male and female lambs with no permanent teeth.

Livestock – may refer to Cattle, Bobby Calf, Cows, Bulls, Sheep, Lambs, and Horses.

Liveweight Calf – a bovine that is more than 30 days and less than three months old.

Mount Gambier & District Saleyards – means the Saleyards facility owned and operated by the District Council of Grant.

Muzzled – restraining device for animal: a device that is strapped over the nose and jaws of an animal to prevent it from opening its mouth, e.g. to bite, bark

NSQA – means National Saleyards Quality Assurance.

Sale – means the processing, for money, of the livestock presented for sale at the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards.

Sheep – a mature ovine that includes ewes, wethers, rams and hoggets.

Vealer – female or castrated male bovine with no evidence of eruption of permanent incisor teeth. Not weaned for more than seven days.

Weaner – a young bovine that has been weaned from its mother’s milk to live completely on pasture.

4. Policy

Livestock at the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards are to be handled/drafted in a manner which minimises potential stress and injury.

Electric prodders are banned for use on sheep and lambs in NSQA saleyards which includes the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards. Electric prodders, however, are allowable for use with cattle but restricted to the absolute minimum necessary to complete loading. They must not be used on any species other than cattle (but not bobby calves) and must not be applied to the face or genitals of any animal.



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Wherever possible, hand held livestock guiding implements shall not be used to hit animals. Prodding of animals which have little or no room to move ahead is not permitted.

The excessive use of livestock canes, whips, or lengths of plastic piping is not permitted as methods of encouraging livestock to move. Lengths of metal piping and heavy leather belts must not be used.

All dogs must remain muzzled at all times at the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards.

5. Responsibilities

The Business Manager, Saleyards is responsible for compliance with this policy.

6. References:

Federal Legislation

National Standard for the Operation of Australian Saleyards

Other

Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Agents Licence Agreement

7. Review

This Policy shall be reviewed by the District Council of Grant at minimum every four (4) years, within 12 months of a general election of Council (or on significant change to legislation or other matters which could affect this policy).

Action	Date	Minute Reference
Adopted by Council	04 August 2014	14092
Amended	05 September 2016	16115.3
Reviewed	24 June 2019	19078.5