Farmers Guide to the Knacker's Yard Service

States
of Jersey

Contents

Introduction

This document provides information to users of the States of Jersey knacker's yard and animal by-products (the knacker's yard) service which is run by Transport and Technical Services (TTS), correct at the time of writing. It is intended as a guide, essentially for farmers.

TTS does <u>not</u> provide an emergency slaughter service, and is not responsible for relieving welfare problems[1]. The welfare of your livestock is down to you; this includes seeking veterinary assistance when required.

Whilst every effort has been made to cover the main aspects of the service, please let us know if you feel that something has been missed out, which would be of benefit to all.

For the purposes of this document, the term 'farmer' includes stockmen or others employed by the keeper of the animal.

This guide supersedes any previously issued guidance.

Contact information

Abattoir and Animal by-Products
Operational Services
Department for Infrastructure
Beresford House, Bellozanne Road
St Helier
JE4 8UY

Knacker's Yard and Calf Collection Bookings   Telephone: 441643 (answerphone)

Note: <u>We do not provide an emergency slaughter service and are closed on Sunday</u>

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[1] DoE Knacker's Yard Service Update – Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004. Available at:
https:www.gov.jeknackersyardserviceupdate

The Knacker's Yard

1.1 Species accepted at the knacker's yard

- Cattle
- Pigs
- Sheep and goats
- Hens
- Horses (including ponies and donkeys)

However, the service also disposes of large exotic species from the zoo, and those washed up on our shores, e.g. dolphins, whales and porpoises and seals etc.

1.2 Notifying the knacker's yard

Call and leave a voice message, giving your name, and details of the animal, i.e. species, number (if applicable), location and any special requirements. If necessary, a member of the team will contact you to make further arrangements.

Tel: (01534) 441643

1.3 Animal collection

1.3.1 Calves (Dead or alive)

The service is provided Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday morning. Collection times are not specific and will be organised by area depending on demand.

1.3.2 Cattle, sheep, goats or pigs (ALIVE)

These animals will be slaughtered and collected at the earliest opportunity by the department.

1.3.3 Horses and donkeys (ALIVE)

These animals are euthanised by vets and not slaughtered by the department, however veterinary clinics liaise closely with the staff, and they work together to minimise the impact on owners caused by the loss of these large animals.

1.3.4 Cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, horses and donkeys (DEAD)

These carcases will be collected as soon as possible by the department. However, this does not guarantee same day collection. So, in all cases, carcases must be covered with a material (i.e. tarpaulin) that conceals it from the public and prevents attack from wildlife, vermin or predators, e.g. dogs.

1.3.5 Cow placentae (Afterbirth)

These should be placed in a clear bag then chilled or frozen as soon as possible, to reduce decomposition and to prevent access to vermin, wildlife or predators. It is suggested that a number of placentae are stored if the knacker's yard service is used infrequently, in order to reduce costs to you. Any fridge or freezer should be easily accessible to staff.

1.4 Disposal of Fallen Stock: Reducing Disease Risk[2]

The following advice was issued to livestock keepers, by the Department of Planning and Environment (DoE) in 2008 and remains relevant:

To minimise the risk of disease introduction to your premises, you are recommended to take the actions detailed below, when you have dead stock for uplift by the knacker's yard.

Disease may not be obvious and taking these precautions will help to reduce spread.

If you suspect a notifiable disease, you must report your suspicion to the States Veterinary Officer and the carcase must not be moved. In all other situations the following actions should be taken:

- Move fallen stock to prevent access by other livestock as quickly as possible
- To avoid the collection vehicle driving through livestock areas of the premises e.g. fields and sheds, transfer fallen stock to a readily accessible area where carcases can be temporarily stored without access by dogs, wildlife and vermin e.g. in a building, storage bin or covered by a tarpaulin
- The storage area should be on hard standing or hard ground which can be readily cleaned and disinfected, away from livestock and water courses and readily accessible to the collection vehicle. Also consider proximity to footpaths, public roads and dwellings when choosing the storage area
- Ensure the collector knows where your collection point is located to avoid unnecessary entry to livestock areas
- Use only DEFRA Approved disinfectants, at the correct dilution under General Orders[3]

The collection service operator, Transport and Technical Services has been advised to ensure the vehicle and any associated equipment, arrives and leaves your premises visibly clean and with no discharges from any part of the vehicle. Collection staff are advised to wear protective clothing and footwear which can be readily cleaned and disinfected between premises.

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[2] Department of Environment advice issued to livestock keepers, May 2008
[3] DEFRA Approved Disinfectants, Available online at: http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk

1.5 Requirements for animal collection

1.5.1 Calves
Please ensure that your designated collection pen is compliant with the Welfare Code for Cattle[4] and indicated by using a calf collection pen sign[5]. Pens must also be designed to minimise risk of injury to knacker's yard staff, this includes safe access and egress.

1.5.2 Cattle, horses and donkeys, pigs, sheep and goats
Ideally, animals should be kept away from, at the very least shielded from, public view in an area that is accessible to knacker's yard vehicles and staff.

It is the farmer's responsibility to make arrangements for knacker's yard staff to be able to uplift dead stock, and they should expect to be called upon to move or help move stock that has fallen in areas that are not easily accessible.

Thought should also be given to where a euthanised animal may fall; out in the open is preferable to the back of a stable.

Costs will be incurred by farmers if additional equipment has to be brought in, e.g. a tractor, if no suitable vehicles are available to move an awkwardly placed animal.

1.6 Requirements for paperwork

1.6.1 Cattle under 48 month of age
Passports must be returned to the Jersey Cattle Movement Service (JCMS) by the keeper.

1.6.2 Cattle over 48 months of age
A passport must be provided with all cattle over 48 months old. These animals will have samples extracted and sent for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) testing.

1.7 Payment method
The keeper of the animal will receive an invoice from the States treasury.

1.8 Charges
Charges are reviewed annually, and available via the link below[6], or go to www.gov.je .

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[4] Welfare Code for Cattle. Available online at:
http://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Environment%20and%20greener%20living/ID%20WelfareOfCattle%2020070524%20DM.pdf
[5] Calf Collection Pen Sign. Available online at: http://www.gov.je/Calf Collection Pen Sign
[6] Abattoir Charges. Available at: http://www.gov.je/Industry/FarmingFishing/FarmingLivestock/Abattoir/Pages/AbattoirForms.aspx