

MEAT STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Amendment Advice 2/2026 – September 2026

TO: All registered Meat Standards Australia (MSA) Producers

ATTENTION: Authorised person in charge of MSA Standards

Meat Standards Australia (MSA) registered Producers are required to adhere to the relevant sections of the current MSA Standards Manual for the processing of beef and/or sheepmeat that follow MSA pathways.

MSA advises an amendment relevant to your business has been made to the MSA Standards,

- **MSA Standards, Section 5 – Livestock Supply.**

SUMMARY OF MAJOR AMENDMENTS

Section	Amendment
Section 5.1.1.2 Direct consignment (beef)	Inclusion of new section for boat transport and long duration land transport including truck and rail. Long duration land transport including truck and rail. Long duration land transport is defined as a road and/or rail journey longer than 48 hours from original property of dispatch to slaughter. This pathway needs to comply with Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines. Requirements: 1. Slaughter is to occur within 120 hours from the cattle leaving the property of dispatch and the following requirements are to be met: a. The total truck/rail journey from the property of dispatch to the abattoir does not exceed 84 hours. b. Lairage does not exceed 48 hours prior to slaughter, and it is recommended that it be at least 6 hours. 2. Cattle are to have access to good quality hay or dry feed and water at all rest points longer than 2 hours where cattle are not on the truck or train. 3. The number of total load/unload events cannot exceed 3 events in total. A loading event includes cross-loading of trailers. Recommendations: 1. Time where cattle are held on a stationary truck after loading is to be kept to a minimum e.g. standard/routine stock check time. <i>Note: These Standards and recommendations are based on research involving Bos indicus influenced cattle from Northern Australian production systems. These</i>



	<i>Standards apply to cattle that need to be moved long distances due to a lack of proximity to abattoir facilities.</i> Boat Transport 1. Cattle are to be slaughtered within 48 hours from property of dispatch.
Section 5.1.1.4 - Led Steer Pathway	Update to include additional wording. In addition to the above on farm responsibilities, with the exception of Requirements point C & E.

MSA producers will have immediate access to the revised documents via the [Meat Standards Australia website](#), and within [myMSA](#).

MSA producers should note the changes to relevant sections of this publication and update any electronic or printed copies maintained on file. The revised Standards will be effective immediately. If you have any queries on the amendment information contained in this advice or wish to update your contact details, please contact Meat Standards Australia on 1800 111 672 or email msaenquiries@mla.com.au.

Kind regards,



David Packer
Program Manager – Carcase Value
Meat & Livestock Australia

