



PRESS RELEASE

Amsterdam, 5 April 2013

NVWA opens doors for Eyes on Animals

Closed livestock-trucks to become animal-friendlier

Access doors have to be added to closed livestock trucks. Not only Eyes on Animals, but also the NVWA (Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority) says it's important that drivers have access to the animals during their transportation and with new produced models this is not always possible. Both organizations are joining hands to make sure chauffeurs and vets can access animals when necessary.

Meeting

The situation of the livestock trucks without side doors was discussed at a meeting on the 4th of April. Representatives of the Ministry of Economics and chauffeur Herman Klompjan were also present here.

Regulations

According to the law animals must be accessible during transport for feeding, watering and attending to sick or injured animals. Livestock truck builders can guarantee this by placing side doors. From now on, regulations will be described in more detail and upheld.

'Sturdy chauffeur'

Eyes on Animals suggests measurements of at least 60 to 80 centimetres for the side doors. "Even a sturdy chauffeur or veterinarian needs to be able to go through it", Eyes on Animals inspector Margreet Steendijk laughs. The organization is already talking to builders of livestock trucks.

Improvement

Eyes on Animals acknowledges that in some cases a closed truck can have advantages. This is the case with the transport of young pigs, which behave more quietly in a closed-off truck and benefit from a more constant temperature. However, it is only an advantage under the absolute condition that there are side doors that allow access to the pigs.

About Eyes on Animals:

Eyes on Animals is an independent inspection-based organization. Our inspectors conduct visits to livestock markets, farms and slaughterhouses and inspect and trail international livestock trucks. Eyes on Animals improves animal welfare in collaboration with the industry. Providing information and giving trainings to the police and transporters is also part of Eyes on Animals' work.

Note for the editors:

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