

### Six Reasons Why Live Animal Transport Makes a Mockery of the Community Animal Health Strategy

*"It is generally recognised that live animal transport is a significant factor in increasing the risk of disease spread and minimisation of such movements... are key steps in reducing such risks".*

(Evaluation of the Community Animal Health Policy. Food Chain Evaluation Consortium. 2006)



According to the European Commission\*, there are six ways transport increases these risks:

- **Lowered Resistance to Disease**

The various different kinds of stress associated with transport can be expected to make animals more susceptible to infection.

- **Increased Infectiousness**

Epidemiologists express concern that the stresses of transport can make those animals with a silent infection excrete more organisms and do so for a longer period of time.

- **Activation of Disease**

Infections which do not cause disease when animal are kept in good condition can be activated by the stresses of transport.

- **Ease of Infection**

Transport increases the intensity and frequency of contacts between animals, increasing in turn the chance of infection between them.

- **Mixing**

Transported animals run the risk of being infected by other animals with which they are mixed or infected from their environment, when that has been contaminated by other animals.

- **Spreading Disease**

When animals with infectious diseases are transported there is a major risk of spreading disease. Such diseases include Foot and Mouth, African Swine Fever, Swine Vesicular Disease, Bovine Rhinotracheitis, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease.

\*The Welfare of Animals During Transport. Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 2002)