

ACTUAL SITUATION OF LIVESTOCK TRANSPORTATION IN HUNGARY

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The objective of this article is to demonstrate the situation of livestock transportation in Hungary, especially the transit traffic of this kind.

Hungary has a definitive role in international livestock transit. As the records made by the border guard and the authors of this article show, most of this transit livestock enter from Poland, Belarus, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Lithuania, Romania and Serbia, then leave towards the slaughterhouses of Italy and Greece.

With the European Union the member countries' borders broke up as the opportunity to control livestock traffic as well. Currently two control stations exist, one in Záhony (Ukraine-Hungarian border) and one in Röszke (Serbian-Hungarian border) where the incoming and outgoing transfer can be controlled. The rest of the border is controlled with mobile control stations, operated by the border guard (part of the police from January, 2008) and the national animal welfare authority, and make random supervisions on livestock transfer. As the authorities explain, the efficiency of this work is not satisfactory.

The staging points, where the animals would have to be rested during their transfer (as it is stated in law) have further importance. Hungary has three staging points registered in the EU register, in Rédics near the Hungarian-Slovenian border and in Magyarcsanak and Nagylak near the Hungarian-Romanian border.

It's disturbing that livestock transport through Hungary has increased till the joining into the EU, but the number of properly rested – and thus controllable – transfers decreased.

The authors of this article think that a full record of livestock transport is necessary, which covers the whole country and is controlled by the border cross points, this way giving a clear sight on the livestock transit through Hungary. This record would be the base needed to organise the work of the mobile control stations. The cooperation of the concerned authorities and strict sanctions are needed to deal with the problems.

Kulcsszavak: állatszállítás, állatjólét, állatvédelmi szabályozás, pihentető/ellenőrző állomás, egészségügyi határállomás