Animal Care & Handling
Livestock Auction Markets
a National Perspective

Kristen Parman
Vice President Membership Services
Livestock Marketing Association
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Where are our 820+ members located?
LMA’s Livestock Handling & Employee Education Program

2008 – Guide to Animal Handling & Employee Training for Livestock Marketing Businesses

2009 – LMA staff began voluntary On-Site Assessments of member auctions

2010 – Launched online training and certification modules with Beef Cattle Institute

2012 – Membership voted to make LMA livestock handling program a requirement for all members with expulsion provision in bylaws.

2014 – Entered into an agreement with Validus to provide third party assessment of market handling practices.
LMA’s Livestock Handling & Employee Education Program

2014 – Published an update to the Guide to Animal Handling – focusing on improved information for Euthanasia practices and movement of non-ambulatory animals.

2017 – We are beginning a new edit period for our guidelines.

2017 – LMA Board approved creation of an Animal Care Advisory Group made up of industry experts to review, edit and advise on changes to the LMA guidelines.
The Assessment Process

- These are not surprise assessments for facility managers, employees may not be informed in advance.

  Why? _We want buy in from the management to use the assessment as an opportunity to improve their auctions._

- Last year LMA’s REO’s conducted 77 assessments (1st round and follow-up)

- Conducted training with at least 924 employees.

LMA Assessment Form
Working to improve safety conditions for livestock and employees

- Recommend a trained market employee be present for loading & unloading.

- All livestock should be assessed by a trained employee.

- The footing at the loading and unloading area needs to be maintained to limit slips or falls.

- The loading and unloading area should be in good repair.

- Gates should be kept properly secured at all times during loading and unloading to keep animals from escaping the facility.
What role do producers have in animal handling at the auctions?

- Proper handling starts on the farm
- “Don’t bring problems to town”
- Respect restricted area signs and stay clear of working areas in the auctions.
Questions?

Kristen Parman
Vice President Membership Services
Livestock Marketing Association
10510 N Ambassador Dr.
Kansas City, MO 64153

(816) 645-5916 Cell / (816) 891-0502 Office
Kparman@LMAweb.com
www.LMAWeb.com