

# Audit Report

Beef Animal Welfare

**CS Beef Packers, LLC**  
17365 South Cole Road  
Kuna, Idaho 83634

**Audit Date:** July 16, 2024  
**Auditor:** Rudy Hernandez

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Audit criteria are based on the January 2021, NAMI Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines - Please refer to Guidelines for further explanation of criteria requirements



## Audit Summary

Company Name:	CS Beef Packers, LLC	Company ID:	AUCAVKUN
Address:	17365 South Cole Road Kuna, Idaho 83634		

Contact Name:	Brandy Whitehead
Contact Phone Number:	208-810-7905
Contact Email Address:	brandy.whitehead@csbeef.com

Audit ID:	AO-008705
Audit Date:	July 16, 2024
Audit Type:	Unannounced
Audit Result:	Passed

Auditor Name:	Rudy Hernandez
Auditor Phone Number:	970-405-0369
Auditor Email Address:	rudy.hernandez@fsns.com



## Beef Animal Welfare

Category	# Points Received	# Possible Points	Percentage (%)
Livestock Receiving	225	225	100.00
Non-Ambulatory	50	50	100.00
Holding and Handling	350	350	100.00
Lead-up and Stunning Area	475	475	100.00
Management Commitment	50	50	100.00
Employee Training	75	75	100.00
<b>Overall Score</b>	1,225	1,225	100.00

\*\* Denotes a Core Criteria.

A failure of a Core Criteria or a cumulative score below 90% results in an Automatic Audit Failure.

An Audit Failure requires a re-audit in 60 days.

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## Score Summary

	# Cattle in Question	Total Cattle Observed	Percent Acceptable
Electric Prodding (prodded) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	100	100
Vocalization (vocalized)	0	100	100
Slips (slipped) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	100	100
Falls (fell) - Unloading	0	167	100
Falls (fell) - crowd pen to restrainer	0	100	100
Stunning Accuracy (double stun)	0	100	100
Insensibility (sensible)	0	100	100

## Audit Outcome

Pass

## Comments

The site harvested 185 head per hour across one ten-hour shift, harvesting approximately 1,450 head daily, five days per week.

## 1 Livestock Receiving

<b>1</b>	Livestock Receiving	
<b>1.1</b>	Must have written expectations & humane guidelines for transporters.	25
Comment:	The Master Cattle Transporter Guide Acknowledgement detailed humane transportation guidelines. Transporters were required to adhere to site policies and be BQA certified. Signed Master Cattle Transporter Guide Acknowledgement documents were reviewed.	
<b>1.2</b>	Animals must be loaded at the proper industry recommended level.	25
Comment:	One gooseneck and four commercial pot belly trailers were observed, with 38, 44, 41, 9, and 35 head of cattle. No signs of overcrowding were observed.	
<b>1.3</b>	Trailers must be cleaned at least once each week to prevent heavy accumulation of feces. Trailers must have slip resistant floors, and no potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, etc.).	25

Comment: Trailers were required to be cleaned between loads as needed. They were constructed with slip-resistant floors, and injury points were not observed.

**1.4** Ramps, unloading area, and scales should be slip resistant,  $\leq 20^\circ$  slope, with no significant accumulated manure. Record all potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, etc.) in unloading area. 25

Comment: The unloading area had grooved concrete floors for traction and were free of significant accumulated manure or potential injury points. Ramps or slopes were not present.

**1.5** Determine number of falls for all animals on trailers observed at unloading. Evaluate at the most probable area and observe multiple unloading chutes if possible. Fall is determined if brisket, belly, rump or other part of torso touches floor. Note number of slips, limb other than hoof touches floor, but do not score. 100  
 Excellent: No falls = 100 pts  
 Acceptable:  $< \text{ or } = 1\%$  falls = 90 pts  
 Unacceptable:  $> 1\%$  falls = 0 pts

Comment: Falls and slips were not identified on the 167 head observed during unloading.

0/167 = 0%

**1.6** Use of electric prods at unloading should be discouraged by plant.  $< \text{ or } = 5\%$  of animals should be electrically prodded. Record what other handling tools are in use. 25

Comment: Electric prods were not permitted during unloading; signs were posted prohibiting electric prod usage at unloading docks. Raddle paddles were observed to be used non-contact to encourage cattle movement.

## 2 Non-Ambulatory

**2** Non-Ambulatory

**2.1** A written policy for immobile and fatigued animals must be in place. The facility must also have the tools available for handling immobile and/or fatigued animals on trailers and in unloading area; unless the animal is euthanized prior to movement. Canadian plants are not allowed to move non-ambulatory animals that arrive at the plant or become non-ambulatory during unloading. The animal must be euthanized where it is found. 25

Comment: The Non-Ambulatory and Ante-Mortem Condemned Cattle SOP outlined handling of immobile and fatigued animals. Trained employees used Jarvis PAS .25s hand-held stunner for euthanasia of animals on trailers and in unloading areas.

**2.2** Staging of dead carcasses should be out of public view. DOAs, animals euthanized in pens, and animals that died after arrival must be tracked. 25

Comment: Carcasses were staged in a designated area of the yards that was out of public view. DOAs, animals euthanized in pens, and animals that died after arrival were tracked on a written Condemned Log. Records from YTD 2024 were available and evidenced compliance with dead tracking requirements.

## 3 Holding and Handling

**3** Holding and Handling

- 3.1** An emergency livestock management plan must be in place for short term and long term breakdowns. Short term disruptions may include minor plant breakdowns, minor weather events, or scheduling errors. 25
- Long term disruptions may include extended plant downtime, snow storm, motor vehicle accident, natural disaster, building damage, fire, tornado, etc. Procedures should include:
- How feed and water will be provided during long term shutdowns
  - How electricity can be provided through back up generators in the event power is lost
  - How housing will be provided to animals should housing become uninhabitable due to fire or weather conditions such as snow or flood
  - How animals will be evacuated in an emergency such as fire or flood
  - For animals that cannot be returned to the farm of origin, there should be a designated place where animals can be unloaded and provided adequate facilities

Comment: The Inclement Weather and Emergency SOP was in place for long-term and short-term breakdowns, including weather events, scheduling errors, plant breakdowns, accidents, and natural disasters. The plan identified how feed and water were provided, the use of backup generators, housing in the event of uninhabitable situations, animal evacuations, and alternative offsite unloading locations.

- 3.2** Note air temperature, and heat stress index or wind chill index. Observe animals for comfort. Temperature mitigation strategies at the plant should be established when needed for hot and cold conditions. 25

Comment: During observations, the weather was 73F, sunny, and dry. Cattle waiting in pens were observed resting comfortably and drinking water. Pen misters were available to cool cattle in hot weather. In winter months, heaters were used in the handling facility.

- 3.3** Pens, drive alley, circle pens, and other areas where animals walk must have slip resistant floors to minimize the risk of falls. 25
- Record potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, broken concrete, etc.) and potential animal distractions in alleys and pens (poor design, poor lighting / shadows, out of place objects, noises, debris, etc.)

Comment: Pens and drive alleys were comprised of pipe fencing and grooved concrete flooring in good condition; pens were cleaned between groups of cattle. Manure buildup, standing water, injury points, or distractions were not observed.

- 3.4** Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100  
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals  
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production  
 Evaluate at the most probable area.  
 Fall is determined if brisket, belly, rump or other part of torso touches floor.  
 Note number of slips, limb other than hoof touches floor, but do not score.  
 Excellent: No falls = 100 pts  
 Acceptable: < or = 1% falls = 90 pts  
 Unacceptable: >1% falls = 0 pts

Comment: The 100 head observed moving from the crowd pen to the restrainer did not slip or fall.

0/100=0%

**3.5** Driving tools used to move animals must be used in a manner that allows sound or visual cues for movement. Tools should not be used to strike or jab an animal. 25  
Vibrating prods, if used, must have the pointed end worn down and smoothed prior to use on animals. Vibrating prods should be used on the back, rump, or shoulders of the animal and should not be applied to sensitive parts of the animal or used to jab the animal.

Comment: Raddle Paddles were used to move cattle in a non-contact manner. Vibrating prods were observed, with the end worn down and smooth. Vibrating prods were observed in use appropriately.

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**3.6** If mounting behaviors are observed the animals that chronically mount are removed from the pen. 25

Comment: Mounting behavior was not observed, but policy referenced the removal of chronic mounters from pens for isolation.

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**3.7** Holding pens should not appear overcrowded. 25  
Crowd pen should be under ¾ full and crowd gate should not be used to forcibly push animals.

Comment: Holding pens were not overcrowded, and the crowd pen was under 3/4 full when observed. Gates were not used to push animals.

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**3.8** Animals must have unrestricted access to potable water in pens. Water cannot be frozen. 100  
Establishments should include provisions for providing water to animals waiting in drive alleys in their emergency management plan.  
Animals must have access to feed if held over 24 hours.

Comment: Water was available and accessible in each pen and was supplied within 30 minutes of receiving. By policy, animals were fed if held for over 24 hours. Cattle held in areas without water were timed and removed before being held in these areas for 30 minutes.

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## 4 Lead-up and Stunning Area

**4** Lead-up and Stunning Area

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**4.1** Floors must be slip resistant and cleaned to minimize the risk of falls. Manure should not be excessive. Record potential injury points (broken gates, sharp metal edges, etc.) and potential animal distractions (poor design, poor lighting / shadows, out of place objects, noises, debris, etc.) in crowd pen, chute, restrainer, knock box area. Rearing or struggling should be minimal. 25

Comment: Grooved concrete and stepped flooring leading up to the restrainer were in good condition and were free of manure buildup, injury points, standing water, or distractions. Rearing or struggling were not observed.

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**4.2** Documented records are available for the maintenance and cleaning of euthanasia tools. 50  
 Captive bolt guns must be cleaned each day of use and documented.  
 Cleaning and preventative maintenance must be performed in accordance with manufacturer recommendations and documented.  
 Equipment and ammunition must be stored in a dry place when not in use. Plant must have a back-up stunner. Record type and brand of stunner and type of restrainer or knock box. Air injected stunners are prohibited.

Comment: Jarvis pneumatic captive bolt stunners were used for primary stunning. Hand-held Jarvis PAS .25s hand-held stunners were available for backup stunning and euthanasia in the barns and on trailers. Ammunition was stored in a sealed plastic bag. Stunning equipment was cleaned, inspected, and test-fired each day of use. Inspections were recorded on the Daily Hand Stunner Cleaning/Maintenance, Nightly Knocking Gun Check, and Stunner WO Orders. The site used a center track restrainer. Air-injected stunning was not utilized.

**4.3** Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100  
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals  
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production Record percentage of animals electrically prodded. Electric prods should only be used when necessary and not on the facial, anal, or genital regions. Other primary handling tools should be in use.  
 Excellent = ≤ 5% prodded 100 pts  
 Acceptable = ≤ 25% prodded 90 pts  
 Not acceptable = > 25% prodded 0 pts  
 Knock box with head restrainer:

Comment: Electric prod use was not observed.

0/100 = 0%

**4.4** Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100  
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals  
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production  
 Record percentage of animals that vocalized from the crowd pen to and including the restrainer  
 Excellent ≤ 1% vocalize 100 pts  
 Acceptable ≤ 3% vocalize 90 pts  
 Unacceptable > 3% vocalize 0 pts  
 Knock boxes with head restraint:  
 Excellent < or = 1% vocalize 100 pts  
 Head Restrainer < or = 5% vocalize 90 pts  
 Unacceptable > 5% vocalize 0 pts

Comment: The 100 head of cattle observed from the crowd pen to the restrainer did not vocalize.

0/100 = 0%





**4.5** Chain speed > or =100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100  
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals  
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production

Record percentage of animals that were stunned more than once to render the animal insensible.  
 If animals are to have a planned security knock, auditor must assess sensibility prior to the second knock.  
 Excellent ≤ 1% double stunned 100 pts  
 Acceptable ≤ 4% double stunned 90 pts  
 Unacceptable > 4% double stunned 0 pts

Comment: The 100 head of cattle observed were rendered insensible on the first stunning attempt.  
 0/100=0%

**4.6** Chain speed >100/hr., evaluate 100 animals 100  
 Chain speed >50-99/hr., evaluate 50 animals  
 Chain speed < 50/hr., evaluate one hour of production

An animal exhibiting characteristics of sensibility on the rail (i.e., immediately after shackling or hanging) will be an automatic audit failure if observed during any part of the audit. Insensibility is characterized by floppy head, straight tongue hanging out, no righting reflex, eyes in blank stare (no eye tracking), no natural blinks. If an auditor sees an animal that has returned to full consciousness on the bleed rail or table at any time during the audit, it should be noted and the audit failed, even if the animal observed was not part of the 100 animals scored when auditing bleed rail insensibility.  
 Excellent 100% insensible 100 pts  
 Unacceptable < 100% insensible 0 pts

Comment: The 100 head of cattle observed were properly rendered insensible prior to hanging on the bleed rail.  
 0/100=0%

## 5 Management Commitment

**5** Management Commitment

**5.1** An animal welfare mission statement is in place and posted or circulated within the facility. 25

Comment: The Animal Welfare Mission Statement was communicated through postings in the barn and explained the requirements for humane handling of cattle throughout the entire process.

**5.2** A program of ongoing monitoring and measurement of animal handling, stunning practices, and outcomes is in place. Each of the seven core criteria should be included. Animal handling and stunning must be audited a (minimum weekly). 25



Comment: The Humane Animal Handling AW SOP outlined the monitoring and measurement of animal handling, stunning practices, and outcomes. Each of the seven core criteria was monitored including effective stunning, bleed rail insensibility, slipping and falling, vocalization, electric prod use, willful acts of abuse, and access to water. Animal handling and stunning audits were completed daily. Completed documents from YTD 2024 were reviewed and evidenced compliance.

## 6 Employee Training

<b>6</b>	Employee Training	
<b>6.1</b>	The company's training program must reflect company procedures and policies for livestock receiving, condition of livestock, holding and handling, lead-up and stunning area. Training for personnel performing euthanasia must be documented. A written procedure for handling a sensible animal on the bleed rail and is included in training provided. Retraining should be at least annual.	75
<p>Comment: Training included a combination of training videos and plant policy training. Training topics included but were not limited to cattle handling, stunning, and euthanasia, including handling a sensible animal on the bleed rail, water requirements, cattle held over 24 hours, and non-ambulatory and fatigued cattle handling. The training was conducted during new hire orientation and annual refresher training; records from YTD 2024 evidenced program compliance.</p>		

## 7 Acts of Abuse

<b>7</b>	Acts of Abuse	
<b>7.1</b>	A willful act of abuse is automatic grounds for an audit failure. These offenses include, but are not limited to, dragging a conscious, non-ambulatory animal, intentionally applying prods to sensitive parts of the animal like the eyes, ears, nose, mouth, rectum, vulva, testicles, or belly; deliberate slamming of gates on livestock; intentionally driving livestock on top of one another or hitting or beating an animal, purposefully driving livestock off high ledges, platforms or off a truck without a ramp, or animals frozen to the floor or sides of trailer.	No
<p>Comment: Willful acts of abuse were not identified.</p>		

## 8 Conflict of Interest Declaration

<b>8</b>	Conflict of Interest Declaration	
	The below named auditor declares he/she does not have a conflict of interest with the client.	Yes
<p>Comment: I, Rudy Hernandez, do not have a conflict of interest with this auditee.</p>		