



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry

# Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System Regulatory Performance Report

1 January to 31 March 2021



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### **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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# Overview

The Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) requires exporters to have arrangements with supply chain partners (i.e. importers, feedlots, abattoirs) in importing countries to provide humane treatment and handling of feeder and slaughter livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, deer, buffalo and camelids) from arrival through to point of slaughter. As ESCAS only applies to feeder and slaughter livestock, the statistics in the report refer only to feeder and slaughter exports. ESCAS does not apply to the export of breeder livestock. ESCAS is underpinned by the following key principles – animal welfare, control and traceability – whereby the exporter must demonstrate, through a system of reporting and independent auditing of their supply chains:

- animal handling and slaughter meets World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) animal welfare standards (animal welfare)
- the exporter has control of all supply chain arrangements (including having agreements in place with supply chain partners) for the transport, management and slaughter of livestock, and that all livestock remain in the supply chain (control)
- the exporter can account for all livestock through the supply chain (traceability).

If issues arise, ESCAS requires exporters to address any non-compliance matters within their supply chains. This may be managed by undertaking additional steps or corrective actions at facilities (for example delivering training or upgrading infrastructure), removing non-compliant facilities from a supply chain, or not exporting any further livestock to a supply chain.

Additionally, the ESCAS regulatory framework enables the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to assess information about reported non-compliances with ESCAS requirements and take regulatory action where appropriate. Reports are generally received through one of 4 pathways: self-reported by exporters, reported by third parties (for example animal welfare organisations or private citizens in an importing country), reported by industry, or identified by the department itself. Reports are assessed by the department using the [guideline for the management of non-compliance](#).

In response to ESCAS non-compliance, the department may apply regulatory actions to an ESCAS, or in more serious instances to an exporter or an entire market. This may include revoking an ESCAS, varying an ESCAS to remove facilities or apply additional conditions, or suspending or cancelling an exporter's licence. Regulatory action is applied based on the nature of the non-compliance, and any corrective actions implemented by the exporter is taken into consideration.

# 1 Period summary: 1 January to 31 March 2021

Below is a summary of the number of feeder and/or slaughter livestock exported, number of reports received, and number of assessments completed during this period (1 January to 31 March 2021).

## 1.1 Livestock exported

During this period 360,173 livestock were exported under ESCAS arrangements. The livestock were imported to 11 countries. The number by species exported to each country is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1 Summary of livestock exported – 1 January to 31 March 2021**

Country	Buffalo	Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Total
Brunei Darussalam	–	1466	–	3847	7129
China	–	1976	–	–	1976
Indonesia	1312	98677	–	–	99989
Israel	–	11909	–	28600	40509
Japan	–	2370	–	–	2370
Jordan	–	55	–	30555	30610
Kuwait	–	777	–	90315	91092
Malaysia	512	4144	2340	6208	13204
Oman	–	–	–	14000	14000
United Arab Emirates	–	219	–	18421	18640
Vietnam	–	40654	–	–	40654
<b>Total</b>	1824	164063	2340	191946	360173

## 1.2 Reports received and completed

During this period, the department received one report of non-compliance with ESCAS requirements. This report involved a supply chain in Vietnam. A summary of reports received and completed is presented in (Table 2).

**Table 2 Summary of reports received and completed – 1 January to 31 March 2021**

Report type	Outstanding reports as at 31 December 2020	Reports received in current period	Assessments completed in current period	Assessments remaining in progress as at 31 March 2021 <sup>a</sup>
ESCAS	4	1	0	5
Self-reports	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	4	1	0	5

<sup>a</sup> A summary of assessments in progress is provided in Section 4 of this report.

## 2 Summary of ESCAS non-compliance assessments

No ESCAS non-compliance assessments were completed in this period.

### 3 ESCAS issues identified and addressed by exporters

No assessments of ESCAS issues identified and addressed by exporters were completed in this period.

## 4 Summary of assessments in progress as at 31 March 2021

Table 3 provides an overview of all regulatory performance assessments in progress as at 31 March 2022. The status of all reviews can be found at [ESCAS investigations](#).

**Table 3 Summary of ESCAS investigations in progress as at 31 March 2021**

#	Date reported	Type	Market	Species	Report
180	Aug 2020	Third party report	Indonesia	Cattle	Animal welfare concerns
182	Aug 2020	Third party report	Vietnam	Cattle	Loss of control, traceability, and animal welfare concerns
183	Sep 2020	Self report	Vietnam	Cattle	Animal welfare concerns
184	Dec 2020	Self report	Vietnam	Cattle	Loss of control and traceability
185	Jan 2021	Self report	Vietnam	Cattle	Loss of control with no animal welfare concerns, cattle remained in ESCAS approved facilities