



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System Regulatory Performance Report

1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023



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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 – control, traceability and animal welfare– whereby the exporter must demonstrate, through a system of reporting and independent auditing of their supply chains:

- 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)
- animal handling and slaughter meets World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) animal welfare standards (animal welfare).

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 four 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 April 2023 to 30 June 2023

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 April 2023 to 30 June 2023).

1.1 Livestock exported

During this period 359,185 livestock were exported under ESCAS arrangements to 11 countries. The number by species exported to each country is presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Summary of livestock exported – 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023

Country	Buffalo	Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Total
Brunei	986	1848	–	–	2834
Indonesia	668	87658	–	–	88326
Israel	–	14204	–	41500	55704
Jordan	–	896	–	42842	43738
Kuwait	–	382	–	80534	80916
Malaysia	–	1960	3643	4449	10052
Oman	–	–	–	25446	25446
Philippines	–	3804	–	–	3804
Singapore	–	–	–	820	820
United Arab Emirates	–	514	–	27000	27514
Vietnam	–	20031	–	–	20031
Total	1654	131297	3643	222591	359185

1.2 Reports received and completed

One third party report and one Independent Observer report of non-compliance with ESCAS requirements were received during this period. A summary of reports and notifications received and completed is presented in Table 2.

Table 2 Summary of reports received and completed – 1 April to 30 June 2023

Report type	Outstanding reports as at 1 April 2023	Reports received in current period	Assessments completed in current period	Assessments remaining in progress as at 30 June 2023 ^a
ESCAS	0	2	0	2
Exporter notifications ^b	1	1	1	1
Total	1	3	1	3

^a A summary of assessments in progress is provided in Section 4 of this report.

^b Exporter notifications are detailed in section 3 of this report.

2 Summary of ESCAS non-compliance assessments

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

3 Exporter notifications: issues identified and addressed by exporters

One exporter provided a report to the department regarding their supply chain in Indonesia. The report complied with the department’s ESCAS self-reporting requirements and was received within the required time frame. Appropriate corrective action was implemented by the exporter and no regulatory action was taken by the department.

Table 3 Exporter notifications: issues identified and addressed by exporters - 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023

#	Market	Species
1	Indonesia	Cattle

4 Summary of assessments in progress as at 30 June 2023

Table 4 and Table 5 provide an overview of all regulatory performance assessments in progress as at 30 June 2023. The status of all reviews can be found at [ESCAS Investigations](#).

Table 4 Summary of ESCAS investigations in progress as at 30 June 2023

#	Date reported	Type	Market	Species	Report
191	May 2023	Third party report	Oman	Sheep	Loss of control and traceability
192	June 2023	Independent Observer report	Jordan	Sheep	Animal welfare concerns

Table 5 Summary of exporter notifications under assessment as at 30 June 2023

Date notified	Market	Species
June 2023	Indonesia	Cattle