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26 September 2024

BKB Livestock Auction House

Cooper N2

Cooper

Email: hennie.senekal@bkb.co.za; jan.erasmus@bkb.co.za; elouise.hattingh@bkb.co.za;

Phone: 082 924 6096/0825735104

Dear Mr. H Senekal,

**WARNING 5169 IN TERMS OF THE ANIMALS PROTECTION ACT NO. 71 OF 1962
Regarding Inspection on 18 September 2024**

You are hereby warned of the following concerns observed during the inspection:

1. Inadequate Shelter:

There is insufficient shelter for both sheep and calves. At the time of inspection, it was evident that the shelter for small stock and calves does not meet the required standards. This is a contravention of Section 2 (1) (b) of the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 and must be rectified before the next auction date.

2. Loading Concerns:

Significant gaps were observed between the ramp and trucks during loading, posing a risk to the animals. All loading ramps must be in good repair, ensuring no gaps exist to prevent animals from falling and sustaining injuries. A designated stockman or supervisor must be present to guide drivers in reversing vehicles and trailers to eliminate significant gaps during the loading process.

3. Off-Loading Provisions:

No provisions were made for the safe off-loading of sheep or goats from trailers or bakkies. In accordance with SANS 1469:2014, animals should not be allowed to jump off vehicles, as this can result in injuries. Suitable ramps must be provided for all animals being loaded and offloaded by the next auction date.

4. Animal Handling:

There are serious concerns regarding how animals are being handled. Prior to the auction, a request for training for the BKB staff was made, which I suggest could be organized through the NSPCA.

5. Improper Treatment:

During the inspection, I observed staff pulling on the horns and legs of the animals. I intervened and instructed them to cease this behavior immediately.

6. Use of Prohibited Items:

Cattle were loaded using what appeared to be a black irrigation pipe to strike them. Despite my attempts to stop this practice, my request was ignored. This occurred with the last four cattle being loaded, prompting this warning.



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Points 4, 5, and 6 pertain to the handling of animals. Unacceptable handling was observed, and while items such as plastic pipes may be used to guide animals, they must not be used to strike or beat them. In accordance with SANS 1469:2014, no animals are to be pulled by their legs, horns, fleece, or any part of their bodies. Handlers must receive proper training, and proof of this training must be submitted to the Garden Route SPCA Mossel Bay. Arrangements for training can be made by contacting the NSPCA Farm Unit in Alberton. Proof of training must be provided before the next auction date in November.

7. Loading Procedures:

BKB must ensure that horned animals are loaded separately from polled animals. As per SANS 1469:2014, horned and polled animals must be separated during lairaging and transport to prevent injuries. Going forward, Cooper BKB supervisors must monitor the placement of animals into lairages, ensuring that horned animals are penned together and polled animals separately.

Additionally, please note that a Notice to Comply was issued in November 2023, and Warning 1060 was issued in June 2022.

We trust that the above requirements in terms of the Animals Protection Act No. 71 of 1962 and SANS 1469:2014 will be addressed to ensure the welfare of animals at your auction. Failure to comply with this warning may result in prosecution under the Animals Protection Act No. 71 of 1962 and/or the Performing Animals Protection Act No. 24 of 1935.

Sincerely,

Inspector Mariaan Wentzel and Trainee Inspector Elize Goosen