

Media Release



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SUBJECT: DOG REGISTRATION A MUST FOR MIDLAND

From 11 March, all dogs at the Midland Saleyard must be registered, muzzled, supervised & secured when not working.

These are part of the changes at Midland in preparation for the move to Muchea.

Mr Dave Saunders, Project and Operations Manager with the Western Australian Meat Industry Authority (WAMIA) said, "The control of working dogs within a saleyard environment is required under the Code of Practice for Animals at Saleyards in Western Australia, the Code of Practice for Transport of Sheep in Western Australia and the draft Animal Welfare Standards for Western Australian Saleyards".

"The requirements will apply to transporters, contractors and visitors, so effectively will impact upon all dogs that are on site at Midland from 11 March", Mr Saunders said.

The requirements are:-

- Dogs must be kept effectively muzzled at all times while working
- The controller of the dog must keep the dog under effective control at all times.
- Dogs must not be allowed to roam at large or enter buildings.
- All dogs (excluding transporters dogs) to be registered with WAMIA.
- Non-working dogs are prohibited in the saleyards.
- Bitches on heat or dogs of a diseased or vicious nature are prohibited in the saleyards.
- When not in use, dogs must either be restrained in nominated areas or left on the transport vehicle.
- Dogs may only be used to work sheep.
- Only stock handlers competent in the use of dogs should use them.
- Dogs should not be used on very young or weak or injured stock.
- The direction of WAMIA staff or their contractors in respect to the use of dogs will be followed at all times.

All contractors' dogs will be registered with WAMIA with contractors required to sign a letter agreeing to the specific conditions. Should the contractor be found to be in breach of the protocol, a written warning and registration withdrawal process will be initiated. Following this, the contractors dog/s will be expelled from the yards.

"Effective dog control is essential for responsible animal welfare in the Saleyards". Mr Saunders said.

For further information, contact:- Renata Paliskis-Bessell at the Western Australian Meat Industry Authority on 92747533