

Livestock Global Assurance Program

LGAP

LGAP is a new program which provides an alternative approach to demonstrating compliance with ESCAS

LGAP has been developed with the support of the Australian livestock industry. It provides clear and objective requirements for the management of livestock and helps support the sustainability of the live export trade. LGAP builds on the Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS), providing a pathway to continual improvement. By adopting LGAP, Operators and Facilities will have access to tools and resources to implement a best practice management system to enhance their businesses.

Delivers efficiencies | Encourages best practice | Helps safeguard trade



What benefits does LGAP provide?

- Enables individual Operators and Facilities to be recognised for achieving a standard of excellence
- Delivers consistent high quality audit services
- Eliminates duplication of audits and unnecessary cost
- Facilitates access to Australian livestock
- Access AniMark's IT Conformance System to help manage your audit activity
- Specifies formal pathways for complaints and appeals

LGAP helps achieve **better business practices**

- Individual certification – provides recognition for good practices and enhances supply chain flexibility
- New IT tools enhance management and visibility of audit activity and supply chain performance
- Internal auditing provides a means of self-checking and reporting, enabling continual improvement
- Responsibility for control and traceability is applied equitably through the supply chain, with Facilities responsible for maintaining animal identification and recording livestock movements
- AniMark provides templates and tools to incorporate into your business and assist transitioning from ESCAS to LGAP



Key facts about LGAP

- LGAP applies to Operators (exporters and importers) and Facilities (feedlots, depots, farms and abattoirs)
- LGAP provides certification at an individual Operator or Facility level and is not based on supply chains
- LGAP applies to cattle, sheep, goats and buffalo, from the point of disembarkation to slaughter
- LGAP investigations and public engagement will be led by AniMark

About AniMark

AniMark is an independent Australian public company limited by guarantee, specialising in the development and adoption of international standards certification programs.

AniMark's standards-setting process is based on science, research and international precedents.

AniMark's flagship certification program is the Livestock Global Assurance Program or LGAP, which aims to foster world's best practice in livestock handling and management.

LGAP Certification Roadmap

6 Steps to achieving LGAP Certification



Conforming with **LGAP**



ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT

- Inspect infrastructure and equipment regularly
- Maintain in good repair and working order, to prevent injury and escape; and keep records
- Keep the site secure and livestock safe from poor weather and predation
- Keep pens, ramps and raceway surfaces non-slip and clean
- Have lighting that allows inspection of livestock and safe movement of animals



MONITORING

- Undertake monitoring and measure performance against targets for loading, unloading, restraint, stunning and slaughter
- Take corrective action if targets are not met
- Keep records of monitoring and actions taken



MANAGING TRANSPORT (IF ARRANGING TRANSPORT)

- Keep a list of transport operators, with safe vehicles and skilled personnel
- Keep a documented transport plan
- Ensure all livestock are fit for transport, check identification and keep records of each consignment
- Segregate non-LGAP livestock from LGAP livestock



ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION, HEALTH AND MANAGEMENT

- Ensure all animals are identified and replace identification if missing
- Keep records of all livestock arriving, on-site and leaving the site; and account for discrepancies
- Ensure animals are handled calmly and are not harmed or injured
- Inspect livestock daily, checking health, identification and access to feed and water
- Treat sick or injured livestock and keep treatment records
- Identify and segregate non-LGAP livestock from LGAP livestock





PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

- Ensure personnel have the necessary knowledge and skills
- Provide training where needed and keep records of personnel and training
- Appoint a person or persons to be responsible for monitoring, animal identification, welfare and management, and verifying records



MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

- Develop and document processes, procedures and work instructions for all operations
- Keep records of what happens on site
- Undertake internal audits to review operations
- Manage issues and take corrective action where required



CHAIN OF CUSTODY (FOR OPERATORS)

- Only allow livestock to move between sites certified under LGAP
- Comply with all relevant local laws and regulations
- Keep records to trace animal movements through the supply chain until death
- Plan for contingencies and ensure animals can be redirected to LGAP certified sites if required



SLAUGHTER AND PROCESSING (FOR ABATTOIRS)

- Use approved methods of restraint, stunning (if used) and slaughter
- Ensure stunning (if used) and slaughter occur without delay and are effective
- Keep records of slaughter



Understanding the differences between **ESCAS & LGAP**

ESCAS

- The Australian Government is the regulator for Australian exporters
- ESCAS approvals are based on supply chains

- Exporters are required to ensure certain animal welfare standards are applied to Australian livestock in overseas markets
- Exporters are accountable for any breach of the animal welfare standards within their supply chains

- Exporters are required to maintain control of all supply chain arrangements and be able to trace all livestock through their supply chain
- If Australian animals are alleged to have been found outside an approved supply chain, the Department works with the exporter to review the incident. The exporter is responsible for ensuring animals remain in their supply chain and have a system for verifying the movement of those animals.

ESCAS principles

Regulatory Framework

Animal Welfare

Control & Traceability

LGAP

- The Australian Government remains the regulator for Australian exporters
- LGAP certification is achieved at an individual Operator or Facility level
- Exporters can use LGAP certification to help fulfill their ESCAS compliance obligations

- Certification is awarded to Operators and Facilities who are responsible for applying appropriate livestock management practices for animals under their control
- Operators and Facilities are accountable for their own adherence to the livestock management requirements
- LGAP obligations align with ESCAS requirements

- Facilities have direct responsibility for ensuring animals remain identified and movements of livestock are recorded
- Operators can only send animals to LGAP certified Facilities (in markets where LGAP is implemented)
- Operators are required to maintain a traceability system, comply with legal requirements and have contingency plans in place
- If Australian animals are alleged to have been outside a non-LGAP certified Facility, AniMark will investigate directly with the relevant party(s)

ESCAS

ESCAS principles

- Feedlots and abattoirs are required to have routine external audits conducted while exporters are subject to Departmental audits. Importers are not audited
- Facilities (or importers/exporters on their behalf) arrange their own external audits
- Exporters provide their Facilities' audit reports to the Department

- The Department holds the exporter accountable for compliance with ESCAS, including applying penalties where applicable

- Breaches
- ESCAS approval
- Compliance
- Supply chain

Audit

Approach

Key Terms/Elements

LGAP

- Operators and Facilities must have regular internal and external audits conducted
- External auditing is managed by AniMark – providing greater impartiality in the audit process
- External audits are conducted by auditors approved by AniMark
- External auditors operate under the control of Approved Certification Bodies appointed by AniMark
- Certification is granted by the Approved Certification Body to the Operator or Facility

- The auditor may identify areas that do not fulfil the LGAP Standards and Rules – these are called nonconformities
- It is normal for nonconformities to occur – the focus is on the corrective action taken to move back into conformity
- AniMark leads investigations and public engagement where required
- AniMark has the ability to suspend or withdraw the certification of individual Operators or Facilities
- Operators and Facilities have the ability to appeal certification decisions

- Nonconformity
- LGAP certification
- Continual improvement
- Corrective action
- Facilities/Operators

High performing Operators and Facilities will have existing systems and business processes that should help them transition seamlessly from ESCAS to LGAP

LGAP Resources

Resources to support your pathway to certification



LGAP Standards

- Specifies requirements for Operators and Facilities for livestock management.
- Developed in line with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Code, as well as other international codes, standards and guides.
- Approved by AniMark's independent, internationally formed Standards Committee



LGAP Certification Rules

- Sets the rules and operational requirements of LGAP, including specifying responsibilities and the audit and certification processes
- Details the process and timelines for addressing nonconformities
- Outlines procedures for complaints and appeals, reflecting principles of procedural fairness



AniMark IT Conformance System

- Enter internal audit data directly
- Real time and secure access to audit results, nonconformities and risk ratings
- Download reports and certificates
- "Supply Chain View" for exporters and importers



LGAP Templates & Guidance Materials

- Comprehensive tools and resources developed to enhance your business processes and procedures
- Guidance manual on how to conform with the LGAP certification requirements
- Essential templates and forms which you can adopt in your business



Training Materials and Online Resources

- Face to face, virtual or online "on demand" training for your staff
- Modules to suit all levels of responsibility
- Online training and quick reference guides for the AniMark IT Conformance System
- Access to the online application and self-assessment tool



AniMark & LEP Support

- Livestock Export Program (LEP) staff and consultants available to provide on-the-ground support, coaching and training
- Support to review your existing processes and systems to prepare for transitioning to LGAP
- AniMark virtual and telephone support for any aspect of the program, the AniMark IT Conformance System, complaints or investigations

Images courtesy of the Livestock Collective.

AniMark has been established to implement the Livestock Global Assurance Program, with the support of the Australian Government.

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