Introductory Course for Commercial Dog Breeders

Topic 10: Transportation and Minimum Age Requirements







Learning Objectives

- 1. Explain minimum age requirements for transporting puppies.
- 2. Describe general requirements for transporting dogs.
- 3. Explain health certificate requirements for transporting dogs.

Definitions

Definitions

Carrier: Operator of an airline, railroad, motor carrier, shipping line, engaged in transporting animals for hire

Intermediate Handler: Person, business or other organization that receives animals in connection with transporting them in commerce

Definitions

Commerce:

- Transporting a dog between a place in a State to any place outside the State, including a foreign country, OR
- Between points within the same State, but passing through any place outside the State, OR
- Within any territory, possession or the District of Columbia, which affects commerce described in the AWA.

Minimum Age Requirements

Minimum Age

Puppies: At least 8 weeks old and weaned

Weaned: Accustomed to eating solid food and doing so for at least 5 days



General Transportation Requirements

Primary Enclosure

- Compartment, transportation cage, carton or crate used to transport dogs
- Dogs must be in a primary enclosure when being transported



General Construction

- Securely, comfortably contains dogs
 - Sturdy enough for transportation
 - Easily sanitizable or disposable
- Interior free of sharp points, edges or protrusion that might injure dogs
- Large enough for dog to have space to:
 - Turn around normally while standing
 - Stand normally
 - Stand and sit in a fully upright position
 - Lie in a natural position

General Construction

- Securely contain dog so no part of its body is outside of the enclosure
- Open easily and quickly in emergencies
- Have exterior handles, handholds or other devices to easily lift enclosure
- Clearly marked "Live Animals" and indicate upright position



General Construction

- Free of toxic or harmful materials, treatments, paint or preservatives
- Properly ventilated
- Solid, leak-proof bottom or removable tray under slatted or mesh floor
 - Ensure dog's legs and feet cannot fall in between slates or holes in mesh
 - Use new safe, nontoxic litter

Cleaning

- Clean and sanitize before reuse
- Follow requirements Section 3.11(b)
- If in transit more than 24 hours:
 - Clean enclosure and replace litter
 - Or move to another enclosure
- Keep dog safe from injury or escape if moving from enclosure to clean

Ventilation of Primary Enclosures

Basic Ventilation Requirements

- Ventilated surface area:
 - 14% of total combined surface area
 - At least ¼ of the total ventilation area located on the upper ½ of the enclosure
- Projection rims:
 - Prevent obstruction of openings
 - Provide 0.75" air circulation space





Ventilation

Number of Ventilated Walls	Position of Walls	Required Ventilation Area
2	Opposing Walls	16% of each wall
3	2 opposing walls Third wall	8% of total surface area of opposing walls 50% of third wall
4	4 opposing walls	8% of each wall

The total combined surface area of the ventilation openings must be at least 14% of the surface area of all the walls of the primary enclosure

Number of Animals Per Primary Enclosure

Dogs Transported by Air

Age of Dog	Maximum Number of Dogs/ Primary Enclosure
6 months or older	One
8 wks – 6 mo. Over 20 lbs	One
8 wks – 6 mo. 20 lbs or less, comparable size	Two
Less than 8 wks, comparable size, weaned, shipped to research facility	Unlimited
Less than 8 wks, unweaned, littermates, with dam, ship to research facility	Dam + litter

Transport by Surface Vehicle, Private Aircraft

Age of Dog	Maximum Number of Dogs per Primary Enclosure
8 wks or older, comparable size, meets other requirements of Section 3.14(g)	Four
Less than 8 wks., comparable size, weaned, shipped to research facility, meets other requirements of Section 3.14(g)	Unlimited
Less than 8 wks old, unweaned, littermates, with dam, shipped to research facility, meets requirements of Section 3.13(g)	Dam + litter

Compatibility

Compatibility

- Dogs enclosed together:
 - Same species and size, non-aggressive
 - Private pets: comparable size, compatible
 - Puppies 4 mo. or younger: may transport as a litter or with dam
 - Females in heat: not with males
- Dogs enclosed separately:
 - Overly aggressive, or vicious disposition

Documents and Records

Shipping Documents

- In general, include:
 - Carrier waybill
 - Food and water instructions
 - Acclimation certificate
 - Additional information: medication instructions, special care, etc.

Surface Transportation Documents

Documents must be:

- Held by operator of primary conveyance
 OR
- Securely attached to outside of primary enclosure
 - Easily detached for examination
 - Easily and securely reattached
- Contained in plastic pocket or sleeve

Certification Statement

- States that the dog was offered food and water within 4 hours of delivery
- Securely attached to transport enclosure
 - Instructions for in-transit food and water requirements for a 24 hour period

Certification Statement Requirements

- Consignor's name and address
- Dog's tag number, tattoo, or microchip number
- Time and date that food and water were last offered
 - Instructions for next 24 hour period
- Consignor's signature, date and time of signature



Cargo Space Requirements: Primary Conveyances

Animal Cargo Space: General Requirements

- Protect dog's health and well-being:
 - Protect from exhaust fumes
 - Provide sufficient air in cargo space
 - Position primary enclosures to ensure
 - Sufficient air
 - Quick removal
 - Clean interior

Harmful Materials

- Protect dogs during transport from:
 - Cleaning solutions
 - Fertilizers
 - Propane tanks
 - Dry ice
 - Human remains

Air Transportation

Cargo area requirements:

- Heated and cooled to maintain proper temperature and humidity
- Pressurized when flying over 8,000 feet
- Provide adequate air for breathing at all times



Surface Transportation

- Additional requirements:
 - Ambient temperature must not exceed 85°
 F for more than 4 hours
 - Fans, blowers, air conditioning if needed
 - Ambient temperature must not fall below
 45° F for more than 4 hours

Care of Dogs in Transit

Food and Water

- Offer food and water within 4 hours of being transported
- During transit minimum requirements:
 - 16 weeks or older: offer food at least once every 24 hours
 - Less than16 weeks: offer food at least once every 12 hours
 - Water every 12 hours



In-Transit Instructions

- Must provide food and water instructions
- Securely attached to primary enclosure
- Easy to notice and read
- Covers 24 hour period
 - "No food or water" is not acceptable unless directed by attending veterinarian
- Include with shipping documents

Certification Statement

Dealer bringing dog to carrier or intermediate handler must certify:

- Dog offered food and water within 4 hours of delivery
- Date and time food and water were offered

Statement is securely attached to enclosure

Location of Food and Water Receptacles

- Attach to inside of enclosure
- Fill from outside enclosure
- Secure to prevent dog from leaving enclosure through receptacle openings

Care in Transit

- III, injured, or physically distressed dogs only transported to receive veterinary care
- Dogs in obvious distress must receive care at closest available veterinary facility



Removal from Cage

- Cleaning of enclosure
- Veterinary care
- Emergency situations
- Transfer to another enclosure or facility

Surface Transportation: Observation

- Observe every 4 hours:
 - Sufficient air supply
 - Ambient temperature within limits
 - No obvious signs of physical distress, such as
 - Labored breathing
 - Excessive salivation
 - Vomiting/diarrhea
 - Frantic scratching, chewing, or biting on enclosure

Air Transportation: Observation

- Observe every 4 hours:
 - Sufficient air supply
 - Heating and cooling requirements of 3.15(d)
- Do not remove dog while in transit
 - Except during cleaning
- Carrier determines whether dog is in obvious physical distress and needs veterinary care

Health Certificates

Health Certificates Contents: AWA

- Licensed veterinarian inspected the dog, not more than 10 days before delivery for transportation
- Dog was free of infectious disease or physical abnormality that would endanger animals or public health
- NOTE: States and other countries may have additional requirements

Health Certificates: Interstate and International

- Each State has requirements for animals entering
 - Check with your veterinarian or state veterinarian in destination state.
 - Information from APHIS State reqs:
 http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import export/animals/animal import/animal imports states.shtml
- Each country has requirements:
 - Check with your veterinarian
 - Information from APHIS international reqs:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/

Conclusion

You should now be able to:

- 1. Explain minimum age requirements for transporting puppies.
- 2. Describe general requirements for transporting dogs.
- 3. Explain health certificate requirements for transporting dogs.

Questions?

Acknowledgments

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