

Considerations for culling & transporting dairy animals to market



Did you know that tall dairy cull cows should only be transported within certain compartments in a cattle liner?

There are typically five compartments to most cattle liners: nose, deck (or top deck), dog-house, belly and back (see sketch below). The height of each compartment varies a lot which restricts where taller animals can stand during transportation and creates tight spaces on loading ramps.



- The dog-house and, in older liners, the back offer the least amount of height.
- This means tall dairy cows are likely to injure their backs if they are transported in the dog-house or the back.
- Tall dairy cows should be allowed to load at a slower pace to not injure their backs moving through the trailer under the dog-house to their traveling compartment and from the back to the belly.

What should you do?

Know the height of your cattle trailer and know the height of the trailer or liner of anyone hauling for you. Identify tall dairy cull cows for the hauler to ensure they are loaded in the appropriate compartment.

Considerations for Transport

CFIA considers anyone who causes an animal to be loaded as part of those that made transport decisions:

- ✓ Ensure the height of your trailer is adequate for the animals you will be hauling
- ✓ Ensure your transporter is aware of taller animals before they start loading so they plan their load accordingly

