



# primefacts

FOR PROFITABLE, ADAPTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

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PRIMEFACT 952

## Moving pets, native and non-indigenous animals into and within NSW

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There are no general restrictions on the movement of:

- dogs
- cats
- guinea pigs, pet rats, hamsters, pet mice
- pet rabbits
- ferrets
- caged domestic birds

into or within NSW.

For pet livestock, e.g. alpacas, cattle, goats, pigs, poultry or sheep, please refer to the specific Primefact on moving that species into and within NSW.

For donkeys, asses and mules, please refer to the Primefact on moving horses into and within NSW.

### Native animals

Native animals are also called indigenous species. They are species such as koalas, kangaroos, echidnas and many other types of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians that existed in Australia before European settlement.

Check with National Parks and Wildlife Service on 1300 361 967 before bringing any native animals into NSW.

### Non-indigenous animals

Non-indigenous animals are animals that are not native to Australia. They are also sometimes referred to as exotic or introduced species.

Non-indigenous animals are classified under legislation according to what level of risk they might

present, e.g. to humans, other animals or the environment. Examples of non-indigenous animals include bison, buffalo, camels, monkeys, squirrels and tigers.

Movement of some classes of non-indigenous animals into and within NSW, and the keeping of such animals, are subject to very strict controls.

For information on the movement and keeping of non-indigenous animals, call Industry & Investment NSW (I&I NSW) on 02 6391 3266.

### Animal welfare

There are minimum animal welfare requirements when businesses keep or transport pet animals in NSW. These requirements apply to businesses such as animal breeders, pet shops, animal grooming or boarding establishments or security dog and transport agencies. For more information, see the relevant Codes of Practice on the [Industry & Investment NSW animal welfare website](#).

Generally, animals which are sick or injured should not be transported unless under the advice of a veterinary practitioner. In addition, there are offences in NSW for transporting dogs unrestrained on the open back of a moving vehicle, or within a vehicle cabin on the driver's lap. If you are in any doubt about the most appropriate method for transporting your pet, please seek advice from your local veterinary practitioner.

Non-indigenous animal permit holders and animal exhibitors should be aware that there may be penalties or offences related to moving non-indigenous animals without prior authorisation.

### Importation of fodder

If you plan to move pets into NSW and are bringing plant-based feed with them you must meet the requirements for the importation of plant material

into NSW. These requirements vary depending on the state of origin.

See [Information on importing fodder into NSW from interstate](#) (Primefact 42). For more details, call I&I NSW Agricultural Compliance on 02 6391 3384.

### **Emergency animal disease**

If you suspect that a pet, native animal or non-indigenous animal being moved into or within NSW is infected with an emergency animal disease, you must call the emergency animal disease hotline on 1800 675 888.

See [Emergency animal diseases](#) (Primefact 588) for details.

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