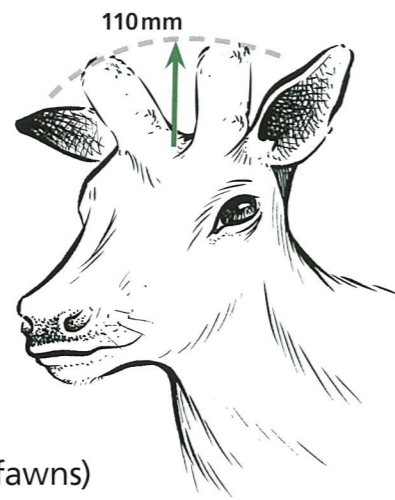


## Selection

- Select only fit and healthy deer for transport
- Any unfit deer requires veterinary certification prior to transport
- Deer should stand in yards or pens for at least 4 to 6 hrs prior to transport
- Water should be available to deer while waiting for transport
- Deer should not be mixed during transport, i.e. size, sex, species
- Deer must be able to stand and bear weight and walk on all four entire limbs
- Deer must be fit enough to withstand the journey without suffering undue pain or distress
- Test any suspect animal for CWD by calling the Exotic Disease hotline 0800 809 966

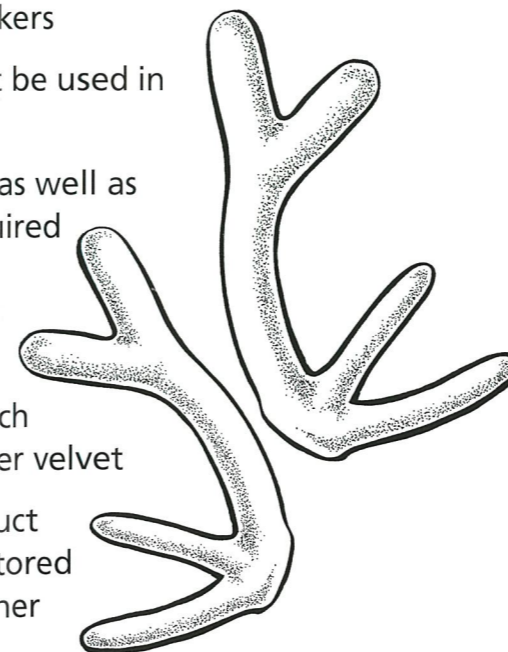
## Transport

- The last day for transporting pregnant hinds is 1 October
- No velvet or hard antler longer than 110mm measured from the top of the skull between the pedicles in any direction will be accepted for transport
- Deer with broken or bleeding antler stubs will not be accepted for transport
- Deer being sent for sale must have been weaned for 10 days or more (applies to hinds and/or fawns)
- Newly weaned deer can be transported from farm to farm provided it is within a 6 hour timeframe from yarding to delivery
- Deer with a body condition score of less than 2 require veterinary attention before transport
- An ASD form must accompany every consignment of deer



## Velvet Antler

- Develveting of any deer, including spikers, is classed as a Controlled Surgical Procedure under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 (AWA 1999)
- This procedure can only be carried out by a registered veterinary surgeon or by approved persons accredited under the National Velvet Standards Body (NVSBS) programme. This means only veterinarians and certified farmers can legally remove velvet. This includes spiker velvet
- The Animal Welfare Act (1999) creates offences for the contravention of these provisions and includes maximum penalties of up to 6 months imprisonment and/or fines of up to \$50,000
- Compliance with these legislative provisions is monitored by MPI (Ministry of Primary Industries)
- The nick test must be applied to each antler to ensure analgesia before removal
- A 7 day stand down period is required for all velvettied stags going to slaughter that have had anaesthetic and/or tranquilizers used, to allow for any drug withholding and healing periods
- Only official NaturO™ rings (mechanical block method) may be used when velveting spikers
- Official NaturO™ rings must be used in the correct manner
- All unused velveting drugs as well as velvet record books are required to be returned to vets for reconciliation by 31 March
- Official NVSB identification tags must be attached to each stick of velvet or bag of spiker velvet
- Velvet is a health food product and must be removed and stored in a clean and hygienic manner



[www.deernz.org](http://www.deernz.org)

See DeerQA Manuals and NVSB Manual for more information

To contact NVSB info@deernz.org or ph 04 473 4500

## Condition Scoring of Deer

### Body condition score chart of Deer

This chart can be used broadly for all species of New Zealand farmed deer. The use of BCS is less accurate for assessing weaner deer

Body condition scoring is based on hands on assessment of condition over the ribs, spine, pelvis and rump of live animals. The simple scoring system varies from score 1 (emaciated) to 5 (excessive condition)

Visual assessment of the body condition of live deer is difficult, particularly during cool months when coat hair is long. A long coat can disguise the actual appearance of the pelvis, ribs and spine, while a short coat can make an animal's appearance more irregular and highlight these areas. The only reliable method of assessing live animal body condition is by hands on touch

<p><b>Score 1</b> Emaciated</p>	<p>No fat cover Pelvis, ribs and spine are prominent Concave rump area</p>
<p><b>Score 2</b> Lean</p>	<p>Minimal fat cover Pelvis, ribs and spine prominent but appear rounded rather than sharp</p>
<p><b>Score 3</b> Good condition</p>	<p>Ideal fat cover Pelvis, ribs and spine not readily distinguished Rump area is flat</p>
<p><b>Score 4</b> Forward condition</p>	<p>Fat Pelvis and rump rounded Spine covered by fat</p>
<p><b>Score 5</b> Excessive condition</p>	<p>Over fat Pelvis concealed by fat cover Rump very convex Spine difficult to find by touch</p>