



Aussie sheep languish on 'jinxed' live sheep vessel

Fully laden MV Maysora delayed in WA waters

The MV Maysora fully loaded with up to 80,000 live sheep on board has been delayed off Fremantle WA since Saturday 15 October.

An informed source advised **Animals Australia** that the Australian Maritime Safety Authority ordered that the ship remain in Fremantle whilst it launched an inquiry into a crane on the MV Maysora collapsing onto a supply struck during loading injuring the driver. The source now confirms that the vessel destined for the Middle East has been further delayed due to mechanical problems.

"Animals Australia is deeply concerned that tens of thousands of sheep have already been languishing aboard the Maysora for a week. These large ships are reliant on mechanical ventilation for the animals. With Perth expecting temperatures up to 28 degrees tomorrow – it will be crucial that the ship's engines are able to work to capacity to reduce suffering and the inevitable increase in deaths on board.

"This latest incident is yet further proof of the unacceptable risks inherent in the live animal trade from Australia. This 'unforeseen' delay means the body count will be even higher than normal.

"The only certainty in this unethical trade is the ever present risks and that the animals always pay the ultimate price," concluded Ms Oogjes.

This time last year (November 2004) the MV Maysora was delayed in Aqaba port in Jordan with 3,300 cattle languishing on board for almost a week whilst importers argued about feedlot space.

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