

ONLINE ARTICLE

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Author:	Amy Phillips
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Meat and Livestock Australia is carrying out a transport trial to see if the curfew for cattle killed under MSA specifications can be extended.

Meat Standards Australia is a beef grading program that labels beef with a guaranteed grade to ensure a good eating experience for the consumer.

For the producer, that means they have to meet a variety of criteria which include certain breed content, meat colour, marbling, fat depth, maturity, pH of the carcass and they can't weigh over 340 kilos.

It also means cattle have to be killed within the next day of being trucked, causing some restrictions to far western producers.

MSA manager, Michael Crowley says if the trials show that cattle who have been trucked from longer distances grade MLA will be willing to change.

"We'll be very objective about it.

"For anything to be included in the MSA grading model it has to go through consumer testing.

"We'll statistically analyse the results and if they tell us there is an impact on eating quality then we still may be able to include those cattle in but there may be a discount."