

SOP No: AHT 15

SUBJECT: Euthanasia of Sheep (Lethobarb)

REASON FOR USE: This procedure may be used for the humane euthanasia of sheep at the conclusion of a trial.

POLICY: This procedure may only be performed by operators skilled in the technique.

PRECAUTION: Overalls, gloves, closed in shoes.
A second operator is required to restrain the animal
Eye protection

EQUIPMENT: 18-20g needle
20 ml syringe Luer lock
Lethobarb (sodium Pentobarbitone 100mg/kg)
Weighing equipment

PROCEDURE:

1. Determine the animal's weight to calculate (over)dose.
2. Restrain the sheep.
3. Shear or clip both sides of the neck
4. Occlude the vein to insure it is clearly visible. Insert the needle and syringe low down on the neck as an IV injection, preferably into the left jugular vein. Draw back on syringe to ensure blood appears. Remove occlusion
5. Administer Lethobarb
6. Monitor vital signs (check for the absence of eye reflexes and heart beat and appearance of glazed eyes).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Animals should be killed in a quiet, clean environment, away from other animals if possible. Carcasses must not be disposed of until death is established. Particular care should be taken with pregnant sheep to ensure foetal death. The carcass should be regarded as "Poisonous" and disposed of accordingly to prevent access by domestic or feral scavengers.

DATE ISSUED: 23 June 2010

REVISED:

REFERENCES

- 1- Reilly, J.S. Editor (1993). Euthanasia of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes. Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART).
- 2- www.avma.org
- 3- The University of Queensland, Standard Operating Procedures, Laboratory Animal Research, Euthanasia of Rats (Lethobarb), [SOP No: AHT 39](#).