

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
LARGE ANIMAL TEACHING

SOP No: ATT 032

SUBJECT: Cervical dislocation of poultry

POLICY: **Demonstrator:** Operators should be familiar with the correct techniques and the anatomy of poultry before demonstrating this procedure.

Students: Procedures should be clearly demonstrated to students before they handle birds.

PRECAUTIONS: Covered footwear and disposable gloves.
Dust masks may be required depending on risk.
Do not pick up birds by the neck or legs.
Birds should be handled quietly before and during the procedure.
Wash hands and exposed body parts thoroughly with soap and water after handling birds.

EQUIPMENT:

PROCEDURE:

1. Hold bird's legs firmly with one hand.
2. Grasp the head between first 2 fingers of the other hand with the thumb under the bird's beak. Using a sharp jerk with each hand, pull the head backwards and downwards over the neck until the spinal cord and carotid artery are broken. Place the bird in a receptacle to avoid flapping feathers and dander into the air.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: 24.06.2009

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. McCurbin, D. M. & Bassert, J.M. 2006, Clinical textbook for veterinary technicians. Elsevier Saunders, 79.
2. <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ANZCCART/publications/Euthanasia.pdf>