

Humane Euthanasia of Cattle

Euthanasia should be utilized when an animal's condition is such that additional treatment options are unlikely to offer sufficient remedy. In many cases it is the only practical way to prevent unnecessary suffering. To that extent, it is the responsibility of all who own or work with livestock to have the proper equipment and knowledge to conduct this procedure effectively. "Euthanasia" is a Greek term meaning "good death". In this context, its objectives are met when death is induced which causes a minimum of pain and/or distress to an animal. Avoidance of pain and distress requires that euthanasia techniques cause immediate loss of consciousness followed by cardiac and respiratory arrest that ultimately results in loss of brain function. Persons who perform this task must be technically proficient and have an understanding of the relevant anatomical landmarks and the protocols used for humane euthanasia of animals.

Protocol for the Humane Euthanasia of Cattle

1. Doctors A, B, C (specific names) is/are the person(s) responsible for the euthanasia of any cattle, and making the final determination of the need to euthanize a particular animal.
2. Doctors A, B, C, (specific names) has/have been trained in proper euthanasia techniques by BQA Euthanasia Training Module/ Dr. Joe Smith/ Other.
3. Our feedyard will utilize .357 Magnum/penetrating captive bolt/other firearm for euthanizing cattle. The gun or penetrating captive bolt is stored in locked box in office or in doctoring shack XYZ. Maintenance of the euthanizing equipment is done by General or Cattle Manager.
4. Doctors A, B, C has/have been shown by Dr. Veterinarian the anatomical landmarks used for proper euthanasia and have demonstrated this competence on cadavers.
5. Doctors A, B, C has/have been trained on the signs used for confirmation of the death of cattle by Dr. Veterinarian.
6. Doctors A, B, C has/have been informed that if they are unable to complete this task for any reason to contact Management immediately.