

Appendix I – Humane killing

The recommended methods of humane killing of sheep and lambs are either the use of close-range firearm or captive bolt to the brain, or lethal injection. Bleeding-out of unconscious (stunned) animals) is permitted.

The poll method is the preferred method for sheep (see Figure A1). The brainstem should be targeted and it is midway along an imaginary line drawn between the base of the ears.

Note: A firearm should deliver at least the muzzle energy of a standard a 0.22-long rifle cartridge.

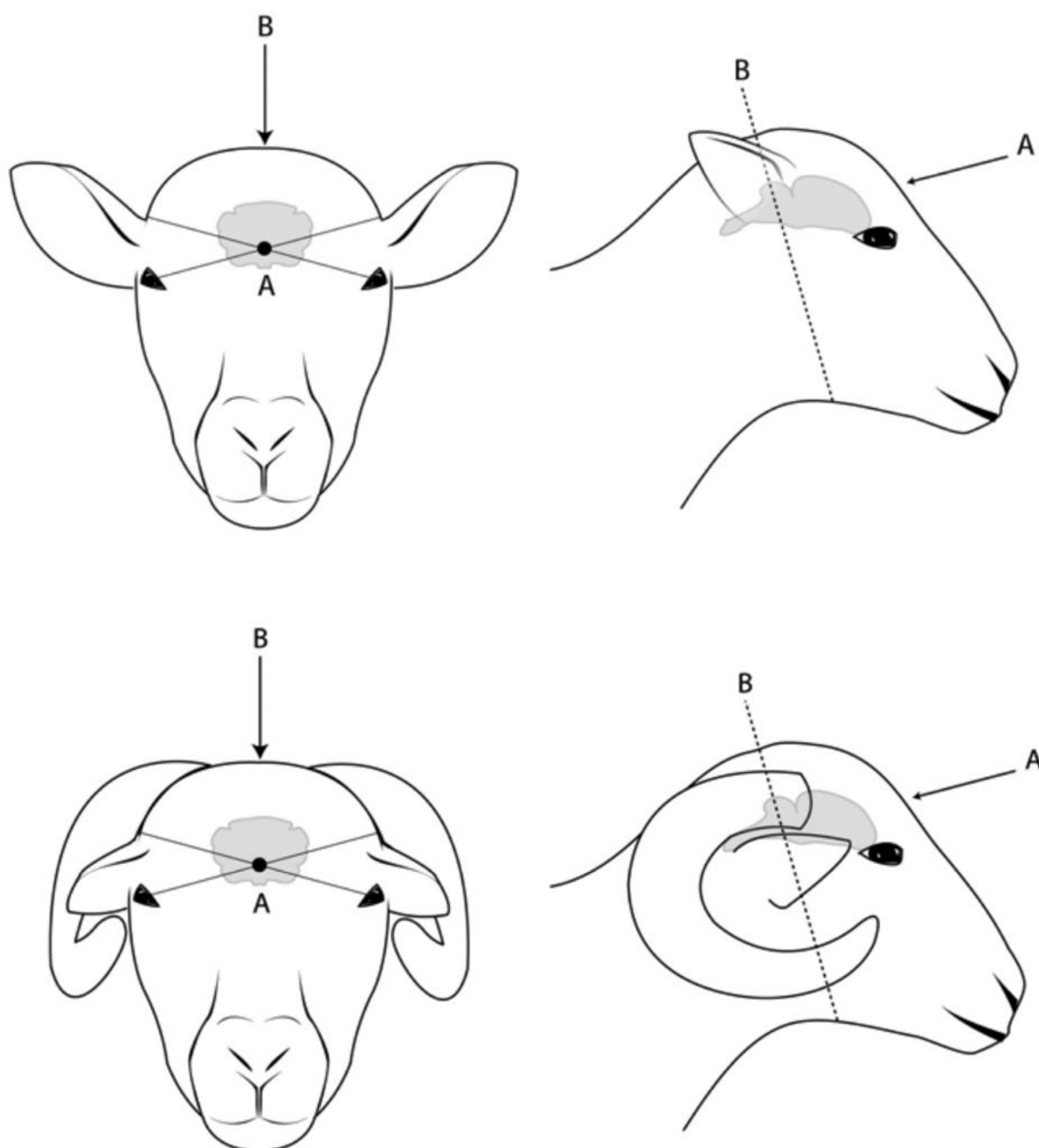


Figure A1: Recommended position and direction of fire for humane killing of sheep.

Note: Close-range firearm use or captive bolt is recommended to be applied to the poll position (B) of the head of sheep.

(A) indicates the frontal method and (B) indicates the poll method. The dots indicate the point of aim and the arrows indicate the direction of aim for the positions.

For the poll method (B), sheep are shot through the skull just behind the base of the horns. The line of fire should be directed slightly forward of the angle of the jaw of the sheep, depending on the point of impact.

For the frontal method (A), the firearm should be directed at a point midway across the forehead where two imaginary lines from the topside of the base of the ears and top of the eyes intersect.

For blunt trauma in lambs less than a day old use the frontal position (A).

The diagrams are representational and individual anatomical differences should be taken into account.

A person must only use bleeding out by a neck cut to kill a conscious sheep when there is no firearm, captive bolt or lethal injection reasonably available. This method is done by cutting the main blood vessels in the neck (neck cut) with a suitable, sharp knife. The neck cut is the only method to be used where permitted in conscious sheep. When sheep are bled out, it is not necessary to sever spinal cord or to pith.

Confirming death in sheep after humane killing

Three or more signs must be observed to determine whether the method used for humane killing has caused death.

Signs of death include:

- loss of consciousness and deliberate movement including eye movement
- absence of a corneal 'blink' reflex when the eyeball is touched
- maximum dilation of the pupil
- absence of rhythmic respiratory movements for at least five minutes.

Return of rhythmic breathing, corneal reflex, vocalisation or deliberate movement are the main signs that an animal is only stunned and requires the application of an approved method to ensure death.

If it is not certain that an animal is dead, an approved method should be used immediately to ensure death in a rapid and humane manner. If necessary, bleeding-out or another technique should be used to ensure death in unconscious livestock.

From the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines – Livestock at Sleyards and Depots (Edition 1) & Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep (Edition 1).

Appendix 2: Drought Action Plan template

Use this template to clarify your farm situation and help develop your Drought Action Plan

Farm Name		Farm area (ha)			Month/Year					
Locality		Time of calving			Time of lambing					
Livestock (cattle) (if you have more than one mob in each animal class add extra rows)										
Class of stock	Herd Name	Number	Current fat score	DSE rating	Total DSE (number x DSE)	High priority (feed for production)	Medium priority (feed for maintenance)	Low priority (hold or sell)	Market options	Comments
Weaners										
Calves at foot										
Heifers										
Steers										
1st calf heifers										
3-5 year-old cows										
6-year-old plus cows										
Bulls										
Total										

Livestock (sheep) (if you have more than one mob in each animal class add extra rows)

Class of stock	Mob Name	Number	Current condition score	DSE rating	Total DSE (number x DSE)	High priority (feed for production)	Medium priority (feed for maintenance)	Low priority (hold or sell)	Market options	Comments
Weaners										
Lambs at foot										
Wethers										
Maiden Ewes										
Adult (>2 yr) Ewes										
Old age 6 yr plus Ewes										
Rams										
Total										

Other livestock

Class of stock	Group Name	Number	Current condition score	DSE rating	Total DSE (number x DSE)	High priority (feed for production)	Medium priority (feed for maintenance)	Low priority (hold or sell)	Market options	Comments
Horses										
Goats										
Alpaca										
Other										
Total										

What feeds are on hand

Storage type and location	Feed type (grain or hay)	Quantity: (number of bales)	Weight of bales (kg)	Total quantity (tonnes)	Estimated energy (ME)	Crude protein %	Fibre NDF %	Comments
Silo 1								
Silo 2								
Silo 3								
Hayshed 1								
Hayshed 2								
Hayshed 3								
Silage pit 1								
Silage pit 2								
Silage pit 3								
Total								

Paddock feed on hand

Paddock name	Area	Average kg DM/ha	Estimated quantity	Comments
Total of farm				

Paddock feed summary

Number of hectares	X	Quantity of pasture	=	Total kg pasture on hand	divide by 1,000	=	Tonnes DM/farm
	X		=		divide by 1,000	=	

What water supplies are on hand

Water Source	Current Volumn (ML)	Access Yes/No	Quality suitable Yes/No	Salinity suitable Yes/No	Estimated weekly use	Estimate number of weeks	Estimated run out date	Comments
Dam 1								
Dam 2								
Dam 3								
Dam 4								
Bore 1								
Bore 2								
Creek								
River								
Town supply								
Neighbouring supply								
Total								

Weekly water consumption

Number of cattle	X	Daily consumption	X	7 days	=	Weekly consumption for cattle
	X	litres/day	X	7 days	=	litres/week
Number of sheep	X	Daily consumption	X	7 days	=	Weekly consumption for sheep
	X	litres/day	X	7 days	=	litres/week
House and garden	X	Daily consumption	X	7 days	=	Weekly consumption for house
	X	litres/day	X	7 days	=	litres/week
Total weekly water consumption litres/week						

Drought action planning check list

Discuss options with:

Family members	Yes/No
Accountant	Yes/No
Bank manager	Yes/No
Stock agent	Yes/No
Farm staff	Yes/No
Neighbours	Yes /No
Meat and wool extension staff	Yes/No
Feed merchant	Yes/No