

SOP 11 – EUTHANASIA

Purpose: *Contains enough information to ensure that staff can act promptly and ensure that cattle are euthanized by qualified persons in a manner that is quick, and causes the least possible pain and distress*

- (name) is authorized to euthanize any cow that has an untreatable condition, is not responding to treatment, or not fit for transport, using: **(indicate your practice by circling one of the approved methods below)**
 - Free bullet - .22 caliber for calves, .22 magnum or high-powered rifle for mature heifers, cows and bulls;
 - Penetrating captive bolt – followed by pithing, bleeding or cardiac puncture;
 - Non-penetrating captive bolt – followed by bleeding (not for adult cattle); or
 - Injection with barbiturates and other drugs (administered by a licensed veterinarian)

Additional notes on euthanasia methods or personnel:

- Confirm death (*explain how*)

- Do not move or leave the animal prior to confirmation of death

Need help tailoring this SOP?



- Who is authorized to euthanize on your farm?
- Do you dispose of animal on-farm or have a contact that removes the deadstock (i.e., Dargatz?)

