



SOP 4.11 Restraint and inspection of cattle

Version and Date of Issue: Ver 2, 14th December 2023
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Review due date: 13th December 2026

Purpose

- (1) The objective of this standard operating procedure is to provide guidance to the Charles Sturt University staff on:
 - a. To restrain cattle to enable procedures to be carried out.

Scope

- (2) This procedure applies to any person who is involved in AEC approved projects involving cattle.
- (3) All researchers and teaching staff using animals for scientific purposes must be competent. For definition of competency refer to Charles Sturt University's Policy on 'Animal Care Competency Training and Assessment'

Details of procedure

Restraint and inspection:

- (4) Live animal assessment including fat and muscle scoring may be done visually in yards or manually in a race or crush. If there is no head bail, suitable animals may be restrained by the use of a halter. Operation of crush and head bail. Manufacturer's instructions should be consulted and followed if the operator is unfamiliar with the crush and/or head bail being used. Care should be taken to ensure that the head and neck of each beast is restrained accurately and efficiently in the head bail. The use of a baulk gate should be encouraged in the initial stages of instruction in this technique. Operators should be made aware that cattle can be injured in poorly designed head bails. Operators should be aware of the probability of cattle kicking and ensure the operation of the facility minimises the risk to operators. Emergency procedures to be followed if cattle go down in the race should be taught and understood.

Drugs, chemicals, or biological agents

- (5) N/A

Impact of procedure on wellbeing of animals

- (6) Minimal if handled quietly. Animals which are regularly handled will be less stressed than others.

Animal care

- (7) The use of low stress handling and restraint techniques are necessary for this procedure.



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Pain relief

(8) Not required.

Reuse and repeated use

(9) Repeated use will make cattle wary of entering the race and moving through the head bail.

Qualifications, experience or training necessary to perform this procedure

(10) Demonstrators should be experienced in the procedure and competent in handling cattle.

Record requirements

(11) N/A

Associated documentation (including pictures if available)

(12) N/A

Glossary

(13) N/A

References and relevant links

(14) N/A