



SOP 9.05 Collection of semen: Electroejaculation (EEJ) method for rams

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Purpose

- (1) The objective of this standard operating procedure is to provide guidance to the Charles Sturt University staff on:
 - a) Collection of semen by use of an electro-ejaculator (EEJ).

Scope

- (2) This procedure applies to any person who is involved in AEC approved projects involving collection of semen from rams using an electro-ejaculator.
- (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

- (4) The ram is restrained in lateral recumbency, standing, or sitting positions. The penis is extruded from the prepuce and held with gauze so that the urethral process hangs freely in the mouth of an appropriate tube (gentle electrical stimulation may be required to assist in extruding the penis).
- (5) The procedure as detailed in the instruction manual for the device being used should be followed. Where possible, devices where the stimulation can be introduced gradually should be used.
- (6) In most cases, rams will ejaculate after one stimulation and some gentle rectal massage with the probe. If the first series of stimulation is unsuccessful, only one more attempt may be made.

Drugs, chemicals, or biological agents

- (7) Not required.

Impact of procedure on wellbeing of animals

- (8) No effect on the ram's health or fertility.

Animal care

- (9) The procedure is usually well tolerated, and rams will recover completely without adverse effects. Routine management can resume.



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Pain relief

(10) Not needed.

Reuse and repeated use

(11) Only one demonstration/collection per ram via EEJ per day, up to 2 days in a 14-day period

Qualifications, experience or training necessary to perform this procedure

(12) Demonstrator must have sound knowledge of how to use the electro-ejaculator.

Record requirements

(13) Appropriate monitoring and recording of the use of animals must occur.

Associated documentation (including pictures if available)

(14) None required.

Glossary

(15) Electro-ejaculator - EEJ

References and relevant links

(16) <https://www.animaethics.org.au/legislation/other-australian-legislation>

(17) <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/animal-welfare/general>