

Collection of fleece sample from small ruminants

Recommended instructor to student ratio: 1:10

Category

1. Observation Involving minor interference

Objective

To collect a fleece sample for weighing and microscopic analysis

Alternatives to animal use

There are no practical alternatives.

Equipment

Wool clippers

Safety and Risk considerations

Cuts and abrasions from wool clippers

Drugs, chemicals or biological agents

Nil

Procedure

1. Fleece Sampling (non-shearing)
Animals are restrained by hand or in a race/crush. Sharp clippers are used to shave the required location/area and the fleece collected.
2. Fleece sampling (shearing)
Animals are shorn by a competent shearer using industry-accepted procedure. The fleece is collected from the shearing board after the animal is shorn.

Impact on wellbeing of animals

Minimal if handled appropriately.

Animal Care

Animals should be handled quietly before, after and during the procedure. Animals should be shorn by competent shearers familiar with the species.

Pain Relief

Nil

Reuse and repeated use

Procedures may be repeated if animals remain quiet and are not distressed. Animals that are inadvertently cut during the procedure should not be reused until wounds have completely healed.

Qualification, experience or training necessary to perform procedure

Demonstrator: Experience in the procedure.

Students: Demonstration of the technique and performance of the procedure under supervision

References and relevant links