



Date Drafted: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

# EUTHANASIA ACTION PLAN

\_\_\_\_\_ Dairy Facility Name

**Names of person(s) authorized to approve animal euthanasia:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Names of person(s) trained and authorized to perform euthanasia:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Herd Veterinarian name & phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Rendering or disposal service (phone):** \_\_\_\_\_

All animals will be evaluated by the trained and authorized person(s) listed above for prognosis. Once the decision has been made that euthanasia is the most humane treatment for the animal, euthanasia will be performed promptly utilizing the checklist outlined on the reverse of this page. Once the animal has been confirmed dead, the animal will be transported to the appropriate deadstock storage area to await removal.

<b>Animal Age</b>	<b>Euthanasia Method of Choice</b>	<b>Alternate Euthanasia Method</b>
<b>Calves</b> (up to weaning age)		
<b>Youngstock</b> (weaning to 850 pounds)		
<b>Adult</b> Bulls		
Cows		

# CHECKLIST FOR EUTHANASIA ON THIS FARM

The checklist is a summary only and not in itself adequate or complete information for the safe use of either a firearm or a captive bolt device. The use of either a firearm or a captive bolt device without receiving specific training could result in serious injury or death to operators or other farm employees.

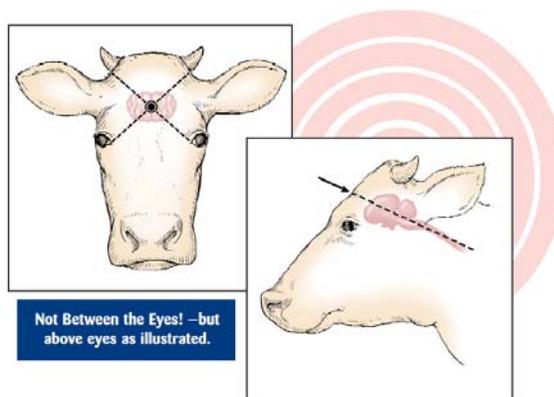


Figure from Shearer & Nicoletti: Humane Euthanasia of Sick, Injured, and/or Debilitated Livestock, University of Florida

## EUTHANASIA BY FIREARM or CAPTIVE BOLT DEVICE (CBD)

- Only persons listed on the front of this sheet can authorize euthanasia to be performed. Only employees trained and certified on the front of this sheet will perform euthanasia.
- The employee will remove the firearm from its locked storage area and carry it to the animal's location. The firearm or CBD will be unloaded during storage and transportation to the animal.
- With the firearm safety on, the employee will load a single round (or blank in the case of the CBD) and position it according to the diagram above. No other employee is to be positioned in front of or near the firearm operator or the animal to be euthanized.
- After discharging the firearm, it will be placed in a safe location (such as its storage box) while the animal is monitored for death:
  - Absence of breathing.
  - Absence of the sound or feel of a heartbeat under the elbow.
  - No blink reflex when the clear part of the eye is touched.
- With the CBD it may take several minutes for death to occur. Muscle twitching or paddling movements may be observed shortly after death. If after 5-10 minutes death cannot be confirmed or the animal regains consciousness then the process is repeated. Unconscious animals can also be pithed or bled out according to the herd veterinarian's instructions.
- Only after death is confirmed is the animal transported to the disposal area.
- The firearm or CBD is confirmed to be unloaded, it is transported back to its secure locked location. A regular cleaning and maintenance program for the device is in place.