## **Anatomical Sites for Livestock Euthanasia**



## Firearm and Bullet/Shotshell Selection for Euthanasia of Livestock

<u>Handguns and rifles</u> - A .22 caliber rifle is sufficient for young animals, but results are not consistent in adult animals. A .22 magnum or larger caliber firearm is preferred.

<u>Shotguns</u> – A 12, 16 or 20 gauge are preferred loaded with slugs are best, but birdshot No. 2, 4, or 6 can be used.

## **Confirmation of Death**

Regardless of the method of euthanasia used, death must be confirmed before disposal of the animal. The following should be used to evaluate consciousness or to confirm death.

- 1. Lack of a heartbeat
- 2. Lack of respiration
- 3. Lack of a corneal reflex
- 4. Presence of rigor mortis



## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY University Extension

http://vetmed.iastate.edu/HumaneEuthanasia



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