



Australian Government

AHCLSK338 Conduct dropped ovary technique procedures for spaying cattle

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 7.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to plan, prepare and conduct Dropped Ovary Technique (DOT) procedures and post DOT procedures for controlling fertility in females in extensive beef herds.

The unit applies to individuals who conduct DOT procedures for spaying cattle under broad direction, and take responsibility for their own work.

It is essential that individuals who undertake this unit have worked with cattle for at least one year prior to commencing this unit.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, health and safety in the workplace requirements, animal welfare legislative, regulatory and codes of practice requirements, and sustainability and biosecurity practices.

In addition to legal responsibilities, all units of competency dealing with animals in the AHC Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled humanely to minimise stress and discomfort.

Regulatory requirements apply in some jurisdictions restricting the conduct of the DOT procedure to registered veterinarians. Users are advised to check with the relevant State or Territory regulatory authority.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Livestock (LSK)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Conduct pre-DOT evaluations	1.1 Identify and comply with relevant State or Territory legislation, regulations, codes of practice and animal welfare requirements 1.2 Discuss alternatives to ovariectomy with cattle manager and carefully consider them prior to undertaking DOT procedure 1.3 Confirm pre-operative evaluation of cattle submitted for ovary dropping with cattle manager 1.4 Identify and discuss risks associated with DOT procedure with cattle manager
2. Prepare for DOT operations	2.1 Monitor and determine optimal weather conditions for operation 2.2 Select time of day for operation to minimise animal stress 2.3 Engage adequate numbers of skilled workers 2.4 Select appropriate holding yards, forcing yards, race and settling yards 2.5 Follow low-stress stock mustering, movement and handling procedures 2.6 Allow cattle to settle and cool after yarding
3. Select, maintain and use appropriate equipment	3.1 Select required DOT equipment and check for safe operation, cleanliness and hygienic condition to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection 3.2 Check cattle crush used for procedure is maintained in good working order and operated to ensure minimal risk to the operator and animal 3.3 Prepare wash-down, soaking and disinfecting containers and position ready for use 3.4 Prepare disinfectant solution according to label and safety data sheet directions 3.5 Sharpen ovariator regularly and disinfect before use and between each procedure 3.6 Clean, disinfect and store all equipment at the end of operations to minimise contamination
4. Conduct DOT procedures	4.1 Conduct procedures according to workplace health and safety, biosecurity and animal welfare requirements 4.2 Maintain facilities, hands, handling and equipment hygiene throughout the procedures 4.3 Handle cattle quietly in the holding yards, forcing yards and race

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	so that they are relatively calm when they reach the crush 4.4 Identify common DOT procedural impediments and plan remedial actions 4.5 Provide pain management according to legislative requirements 4.6 Perform DOT procedures according to industry best practice standards and processing rates 4.7 Apply identification earmarks or ear tags to cattle upon completion of procedures, according to relevant State or Territory legislative requirements 4.8 Release and allow ovariectomised animals to settle on to feed and water in the settling yards for several hours, before moving them quietly to pasture
5. Carry out post DOT procedures	5.1 Record cattle identity and date of the procedure, with details of significant observations where required 5.2 Inspect cattle regularly with minimal disturbance for signs of post-operative complications during the healing process and take appropriate action where required

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	Identify and interpret textual information from a range of sources to identify relevant and key information about DOT procedures activities
Writing	Use clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure to prepare DOT records
Oral communication	Use clear language with cattle manager to provide information on DOT procedure, discuss alternatives and risks, and confirm pre-operative evaluation

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK338 Conduct dropped ovary technique procedures for spaying cattle	AHCLSK335 Conduct dropped ovary technique procedures for spaying cattle	Minor changes to application Major changes to performance criteria Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Not equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCLSK338 Conduct dropped ovary technique procedures for spaying cattle

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has successfully conducted dropped ovary technique (DOT) procedures for spaying cattle on at least ten animals, and has:

- conducted pre-operative evaluation of cattle submitted for ovary dropping and risk assessment in consultation with cattle manager
- complied with relevant State or Territory veterinary surgeons or practitioner's legislation, regulations and codes of conduct
- applied workplace animal welfare practices and procedures
- assessed alternative strategies and confirmed key indicators for the use of DOT procedures in consultation with cattle manager
- communicated post-spay management requirements to cattle manager
- identified optimal conditions for carrying out DOT procedures
- followed low-stress stock mustering, movement and handling procedures
- prepared appropriate sites, facilities and equipment according to infection control and hygiene requirements
- applied relevant workplace health and safety and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- carried out DOT procedures according to industry recognised best practice DOT procedure and processing rates, and implemented remedial actions
- prepared and applied pain management according to legislative requirements
- maintained DOT records.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle

- environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices relevant to conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
- principles and practices of conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle, including:
 - alternative options available to control fertility in cattle
 - animal welfare practices and procedures for the use of DOT in cattle
 - anatomy and reproductive features of cattle
 - body condition scoring of cattle
 - cattle nutrition and husbandry requirements for the specific cattle management system
 - industry recognised best practice DOT procedure and processing rates
 - use of, and regulatory considerations for the use of disinfectants
 - health and animal welfare implications of post-operative complications of the use of DOT in cattle
 - animal welfare legislation, codes of practice and procedures relevant to DOT
 - State or Territory veterinary surgeons or practitioner's legislation, regulations and codes of conduct relevant to DOT.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures applicable to conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
 - female cattle
 - materials, tools and equipment applicable to conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
 - environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices applicable to conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
 - industry standards, codes of practice and procedures for animal welfare and conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
 - industry standards, legislation and codes of practice and procedures for animal welfare applicable to conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
 - State or Territory veterinary surgeons or practitioner's legislation, regulations and codes of conduct relevant to conducting DOT procedures for spaying cattle
- relationships:
 - cattle manager, veterinary surgeon
- timeframes:

- industry processing rates.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

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