

Appendix 2: Stock Tasks (Standards 2.8 and 2.9)

Consideration should be given to whether the procedure is necessary, and procedures must be carried out only by competent persons. A competent stockperson should be a trained and/or experienced stockperson who understands the welfare implications of the procedure, the methods they are using and the conditions for use. When husbandry procedures are carried out on-farm, it is a requirement that you document this in your health plan, and this should include justification for the need of the below procedures and use of analgesics. Where anaesthetic is used, it must be recorded in the medicine administration records (**Standard 4.1**).

CATTLE:

PROCEDURE/METHOD		CONDITIONS OF USE			
		Animal Age	Operator	Anaesthetic	Analgesic
Castration	Elastration/Rubber ring	Up to 7 days	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Clamp/Bloodless	Up to 2 months	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Any other method	Up to 2 months	Vet Only	Yes	Recommended
	When animal is over 2 months of age	2 months +	Vet Only	Yes	Yes
Disbudding	Chemical cauterisation (this method is not recommended)	Up to 7 days	Competent Stockperson	N/A	Recommended
	Other methods e.g. hot iron	Up to 2 months	Competent Stockperson	Yes	Recommended
Dehorning	Dehorning (this method is not recommended; disbudding is preferred)	Up to 5 months	Competent Stockperson (Ideally Vet)	Yes	Recommended
	Trimming insensitive tip of ingrowing horn	Any age	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Any other method	Any age	Vet only	Yes	Yes
	Any method	Over 5 months	Vet only	Yes	Yes

Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics) Act 1954 as amended and Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966. The Prohibited Procedures on Protected Animals (Exemptions) (Scotland) Regulations 2010, as amended. Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006.

SHEEP:

PROCEDURE/METHOD		CONDITIONS OF USE			
		Animal Age	Operator	Anaesthetic	Analgesic
Castration	Elastration/Rubber ring	1st week of life only	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Rubber ring applicator with anaesthetic injection	Up to 3 months	Competent Stockperson	Yes	Recommended
	Clamp/Bloodless e.g. burdizzo	Up to 3 months	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Clip	Up to 3 months	Competent Stockperson	N/A	N/A
	When the animal is over 3 months of age or where any methods other than above are used		Vet only	Yes	Yes
Tail Docking*	Rubber ring	Up to 7 days	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Rubber ring applicator with anaesthetic injection	Up to 3 months	Competent Stockperson	Yes	Recommended
	Clip	Up to 3 months	Competent Stockperson	N/A	N/A
	Hot iron/Clamp	Up to 2 months	Competent Stockperson	Yes	Recommended
	Surgical/Other	Any age	Vet only	Yes	Yes
Dehorning & disbudding	Trimming insensitive tip of ingrowing horn	Any age	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	All other cases**	Any age	Vet only	Yes	Yes

* There must be sufficient tail to cover the vulva or the anus. Any shorter must only be in the case of emergency, disease or injury following consultation with a vet (and administration of anaesthetic).

**Under the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 (as amended), only a veterinary surgeon may dehorn or disbud a sheep, apart from trimming the insensitive tip of an ingrowing horn, which if left untreated could cause pain or distress.