

SOIL ASSOCIATION ORGANIC STANDARDS

APRIL 2005

42.8 Stunning, killing and slaughtering

Cattle

42.8.8

You must only stun or kill cattle with:

- penetrative captive-bolt
- electrocution, or
- free bullet.

Sheep

42.8.9

You must only stun or kill sheep with:

- penetrative captive-bolt
- electronarcosis
- electrocution, or
- free bullet.

Pigs

42.8.10

You must only stun or kill pigs with:

- electronarcosis
- electrocution
- free bullet, or
- penetrative captive bolt. You can only use this for pigs in emergency or for back-up.

42.8.11

With our permission, you may stun or kill pigs with carbon dioxide. However we will need to inspect this first to satisfy ourselves that any welfare advantages outweigh the disadvantages in your system.

Deer

42.8.12

You must only stun or kill deer with:

- penetrative captive-bolt, or
- free bullet.

Poultry

42.8.13

You must slaughter birds as soon as possible after they arrive.

42.8.14

You must only stun or kill poultry by the following methods:

- non-penetrative captive bolt, or
- electronarcosis:

- i. dry electrodes, or
- ii. waterbath stunners.

42.8.15

You can only use neck dislocation to kill poultry in an emergency or as a back-up.

42.9 Stunning and killing methods

Carbon dioxide

42.9.12

You must:

- monitor the system all the time you are killing pigs, and
- have suitable back-up equipment available in case the carbon dioxide system fails.

42.9.13

The person who does the checks must:

- be trained to do the checks
- be a licensed slaughterman, and
- know the critical control points and evacuation procedures.

42.9.14

When pigs leave the gas they must be dead. You must bleed them as soon as possible.