



# Care Wellness & Training

## TrainingTalker...

2025 1st. Quarter

### Euthanasia

**Euthanasia (EU=Good, Thanatos= Death)**

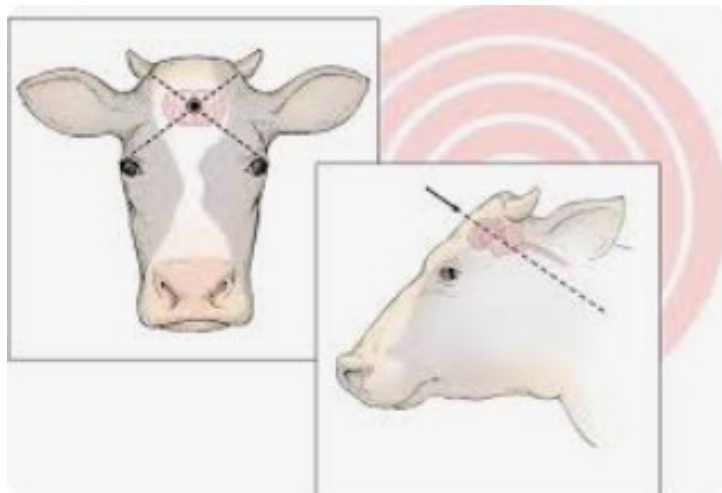
#### **Primary and Secondary**

In the event that the primary person responsible for performing euthanasia is unavailable, **a secondary person or service provider (e.g., another trained employee, or farmer, veterinarian, renderer) must be identified** to ensure that euthanasia can always be performed in a timely manner is **required**.

The word Euthanasia is defined as ending the life of an individual animal in a way that minimizes or eliminates pain and distress, per the AVMA Guidelines.

As a producer of livestock it is our requirement to have a **written plan** in place with annual training for a primary and secondary person who is trained and able to demonstrate proper euthanasia.

Immediate euthanasia is defined as being performed within 4 hours from the point that a decision to euthanize has been made . ~AABP 2023.



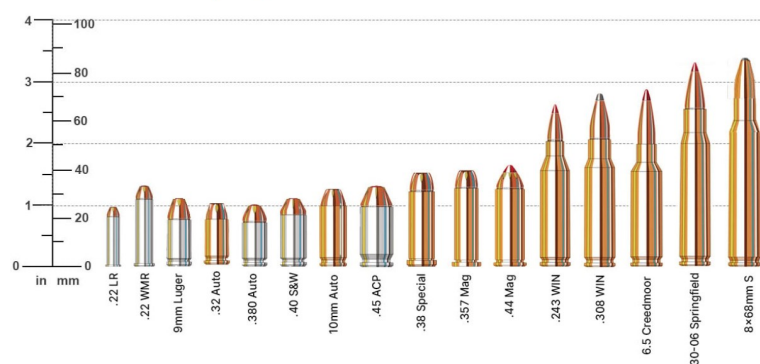
## AABP Guidelines for Euthanasia dated March 2023

The “AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals (2020)” recognizes and accepts three primary methods of euthanasia for cattle:

- **Intravenous** (IV) administration of a lethal dose of a barbiturate or barbituric acid derivative to induce a transition from consciousness to unconsciousness and death.
- **Gunshot** using an appropriate firearm, ammunition and anatomic site to cause physical disruption of brain activity by direct destruction of brain tissue.
- **Penetrating captive bolt** to induce unconsciousness **in combination with an adjunctive step** such as exsanguination, intravenous administration of a solution of either potassium chloride or magnesium sulfate, or pithing (increasing destruction of brain and spinal cord tissue) to ensure death. Non-penetrating captive bolt can be used for the euthanasia of neonates and calves less than two to three months of age when followed by use of an adjunctive method to assure death. When properly applied, the above euthanasia methods cause the animal’s rapid loss of consciousness and death without undue distress to the animal

### Ammo Caliber Size Chart

Ammunition Caliber Size, Usage and Ballistics Guide



Left to Right: 22 Short, 22 Long Rifle, 22 Magnum

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## Equipment

### Rifles and Handguns

In cattle over four months of age, it is necessary to use .22 Magnum or higher calibers for consistently effective euthanasia.

### Shotguns

Shotguns are very lethal at close range (less than three feet from the point of intended entry), whether loaded with shotshells or slugs. The 12-, 16-, and 20-gauge shotguns are a good choice for euthanasia of adult cattle

~AABP 2023 Euthanasia Guidelines

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## Confirming Death

Confirmation of death following a euthanasia procedure is absolutely essential regardless of what method of euthanasia is chosen. Keep personal safety in mind when confirming death because animals can make sudden involuntary movements. The primary indicator for confirmation of death is cardiac arrest. Lack of heartbeat and respiration for **three-to-five minutes** should be used to confirm death

~AABP 2023 Euthanasia Guidelines

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## Carcass Disposal

Following euthanasia, animals should be disposed of according to state laws and guidelines. Options may include rendering, burial, composting, incinerating, and potentially landfills.

Handling of deadstock should be completed in a dignified and discreet way thus to not bring attention to the carcass or facility.

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[illegible]