















## **NATSOP-GOA004 NATIONAL STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE: TRAPPING OF FERAL GOATS**

- Never fire when the goat is moving its head. Be patient and wait until the goat is motionless before shooting. Accuracy is important to achieve a humane death. One shot should ensure instantaneous loss of consciousness and rapid death.
- Shots must be aimed to destroy the major centres at the back of the brain near the spinal cord. This can be achieved by one of the following methods:

### **Head Shot**

- The horn structures on adult goats make the temporal (side-on) or rear head shots the preferred points of aim. Shots to the front of the head can be used on kids, but this method is not recommended for mature goats as the brain is located well back in the skull.

### **Temporal position (side view)**

- The firearm should be directed at the side of the head so that the bullet enters the skull midway between the eye and the base of the ear. The bullet should be directed horizontally.

### **Rear of the head**

- The firearm should be aimed at the back of the head at a point between the base of the horns and directed towards the mouth.
- Death of shot animals should always be confirmed by observing the following:
  - absence of rhythmic respiratory movements
  - absence of eye protection reflex (corneal reflex) or 'blink'
  - a fixed, glazed expression in the eyes
  - loss of colour in mucous membranes (become mottled and pale without refill after pressure is applied).
  - If death cannot be verified, a second shot to the head should be taken immediately.
- When large numbers of animals are to be killed in the holding yard, provisions should be made to dispose of carcasses in an appropriate manner (ie by burying and/or burning). Numerous guidelines are available that describe disposal methods, for example:
  - Humane Disposal and Destruction of Stock (Burton 1999).
  - AUSVETPLAN Operational Procedures Manual: Disposal (AHA 2007).
  - Procedure for Dead Stock Disposal (NSW EPA 2001).



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## Recommended shot placements - Feral goat

Diagram 1

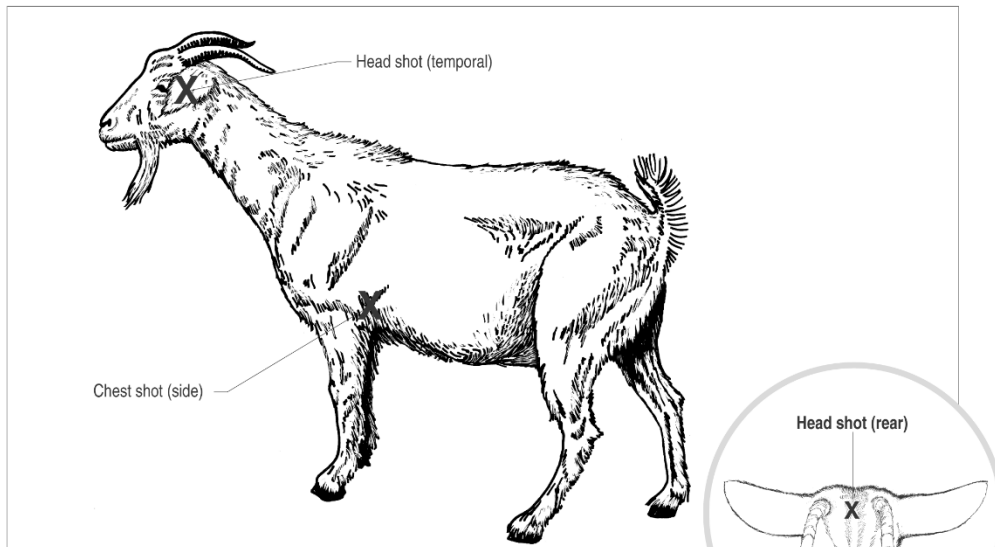


Diagram 2 - Side view (skeleton)

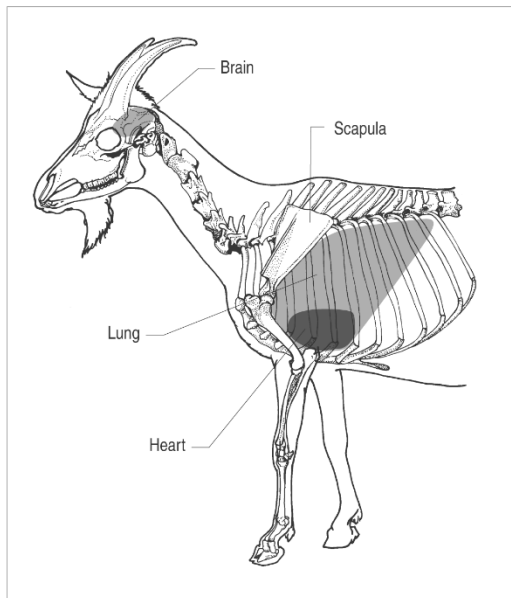


Diagram 3 - Head shot (rear)



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