












## SOP – Drench Sheep

This SOP cannot cover every possible scenario and should be used in conjunction with the manufacturer's instructions

DRENCHING EQUIPMENT		VACCINATING EQUIPMENT		POUR-ON EQUIPMENT	
					
DRENCHING TECHNIQUE		VACCINATING TECHNIQUE		APPLYING POUR - ON	
					
<b>WARNING!</b>					
Dust		Slip/trip/fall on uneven surfaces			
Disease from livestock (e.g. scabby mouth)		Protruding objects in yards			
Manual Handling		Over exposure to sun			
Cut (from teeth) or bite from sheep		Jab from needle (when vaccinating)			
Spill/splash of 'pour-on' on skin		Dehydration			
<b>WEAR THE GEAR</b>					
					
Safety Footwear	Wide Brim Hat	Sun Screen	First Aid Kit		Fresh Drinking Water
<b>Check before you start</b>					
<b>Procedure</b>			<b>Notes</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Check that the stockyards have no tripping hazards or protruding objects</li><li>• Ensure that the correct drench is being used and read the product label</li><li>• Shake the drum to mix drench well</li><li>• Check that there are no leaks in the drenching equipment (gun, tube, backpack etc.)</li><li>• Ensure the nozzle is tight and at the right angle</li><li>• Know the approximate live weight of the stock being drenches (weigh a sample of mob)</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep a record of drenching dates and withholding periods</li><li>• Safety Data Sheet for drench is kept in the farm office</li><li>• Always ensure that equipment is correctly calibrated (recheck every 200 animals)</li><li>• Always keep more than one gun maintained and ready for use</li><li>• Drench to the weight of the heaviest animals in the mob</li><li>• Estimating weights can result in under-drenching</li></ul>		
<b>Carry out the Task – Oral Drenching</b>					
<b>Procedure</b>			<b>Notes</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gather up livestock, herd into yards and shut gates</li><li>• Herd livestock into race(s) and shut gates</li><li>• Begin from the back of the race and drench livestock</li><li>• Place hand either under jaw (and/or over nose) of livestock to ensure head of livestock is horizontal</li><li>• Place drench gun nozzle through corner of mouth and deliver drench over back of tongue</li></ul>			<b>Never</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Never</b> pack livestock too tight into stockyards or races (they can smother very quickly)</li><li>▪ <b>Never</b> allow sheepdogs to bite livestock</li><li>▪ <b>Never</b> handle livestock in an aggressive manner</li></ul>		

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- Ensure each animal has swallowed drench
- Open front drafting gate(s) and let livestock into next pen and repeat until task is completed

### Carry out the Task – Controlled Release Capsules

Procedure	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather up livestock, herd into yards and shut gates</li> <li>• Herd livestock into race(s) and shut gates</li> <li>• Begin from the back of the race and drench livestock</li> <li>• Place hand either under jaw (and/or over nose) of livestock to ensure head of livestock is horizontal</li> <li>• Place gun through corner of mouth and on to tongue (avoiding teeth)</li> <li>• Allow animal to swallow to draw capsule and applicator into back of throat</li> <li>• Press the release button when applicator is fully inserted</li> <li>• Ensure animal has swallowed capsule before releasing the animal</li> <li>• Open front drafting gate(s) and let livestock into next pen and repeat until task is complete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to Oral drenching notes</li> <li>• Incorrect angle of gun can damage animals throat</li> </ul>

### Carry out the Task – Injectable Treatments (vaccines)

Procedure	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather up livestock, herd into yards and shut gates</li> <li>• Herd livestock into race(s) and shut gates</li> <li>• Begin from the back of the race and vaccinate livestock</li> <li>• Ensure needles are sharp</li> <li>• Ensure needle is set so that bevel is facing outwards</li> <li>• Hold animal be 'top-not' and turn head and neck into angled position</li> <li>• Take a pinch of skin (in front half of neck)</li> <li>• Inject under the skin (not into neck muscle)</li> <li>• Open front drafting gate(s) and let livestock into next pen and repeat until task is completed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to Oral drenching notes</li> <li>• Use as small a gauge needle as possible and just long enough to inject vaccine under skin</li> <li>• Poor technique can result in infection and/or downgraded carcasses</li> <li>• Only inject dry and clean animals</li> </ul>

### Carry out the Task – Pour-on

Procedure	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather up livestock, herd into yards and shut gates</li> <li>• Herd livestock into race(s) and shut gates</li> <li>• Ensure the correct nozzle is on drenching gun (e.g. T bar or jet)</li> <li>• Run livestock through yards and apply pour-on as animal enters the neck of drafting race</li> <li>• Apply pour-on from shoulder to tail-base/rump (and over crutch if required)</li> <li>• Repeat until task is completed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Never</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Never</b> let pour-ons come in contact with skin – <b>'WEAR THE GEAR'</b> (gloves)</li> <li>▪ <b>Never</b> smoke while using pour-ons (many pour-ons are highly flammable)</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to Oral drenching notes</li> <li>• Use pour-ons in well ventilated stockyards</li> <li>• Be aware of weather forecast and check if pour-on is rain-fast</li> <li>• For most pour-ons best result are achieved off the shears or no more than 3 months of wool growth</li> </ul>

### Job's done

Procedure	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return livestock to fresh pasture</li> <li>• Return unused drench to the original container</li> <li>• Flush out and clean equipment (and oil rubber seals)</li> <li>• Return equipment and drench to chemical shed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report any damage to the farm manager</li> </ul>

### Additional Notes

## SOP – Drench Sheep

**Operators must only operate equipment which they have been trained and approved to operate**

Operators must be able to demonstrate operational competency:

**1** = Needs Training, **2** = Able to work under supervision, **3** = Competent, **4** = Able to train others

NAME OF EMPLOYEE	SIGNATURE	DATE	TRAINER	LEVEL OF COMPETENCY