

**LOCAL JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

1. SOP FOR SLAUGHTER HOUSE COLLECTION OF CATTLE REPRODUCTIVE TRACTS

Effective Date: November 5, 2008

Author: Esther Semple, Lab Manager

Purpose: To comply with OHSA and University of Guelph Safety Policies

Approvals Required: Faculty Supervisor, Local JHSC, EHS

To Be Posted: Department of Biomedical Sciences safety desk, and RHB Laboratory

2. DEFINITIONS: n/a

3. REQUIREMENTS OF POSITION:

Educational/Training:

Appropriate technical training, knowledge of cattle anatomy, and a valid driver's licence. Technician must have completed departmental safety orientation, WHMIS Training with yearly updates and other safety courses as applicable.

Must provide Cargill Ltd. with copies of University of Guelph WSIB and Liability Insurance certificates. Must complete Cargill safety orientation (training may be administered here by lab manager).

4. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS:

Location: Cargill Meat Solutions Inc., Watson Road, Guelph is less than 10 km from the University of Guelph.

Personnel: Research technician

Equipment: 2 butcher knives, scabbard, scissors, steel knife sharpener, protective apron, meat hook, safety helmet, hair net, safety ear plugs, safety rubber boots, rubber gloves and steel glove, polyethylene bags, thermos and tubes containing PBS.

Safety Equipment: While at Cargill, the technician is to operate under all rules and regulations of Cargill Inc, and under the authority of the floor supervisor. The following personal protective equipment is required:

- Coveralls provided by lab (Uof G), and Cargill smock/labcoat to be used. No jewellery of any type is permitted while in the plant. Change clothing at the Quality Control office.
- Protective apron, hard hat, hair net and earplugs
- Belt attached to scabbard containing a steel sharpener, knives, hook, and scissors to be worn at the waist.
- Approved safety rubber boots, non-slip with steel-reinforced toe
- Rubber gloves are worn, covered by a chain mail glove over the non-dominant hand (left hand, if right-handed).

Procedures:

Thermos, polythene bags, and tubes for tissue collection are carried to the kill floor. Technician walks through disinfectant footbath at the entrance to the kill floor, washes boots and hands and takes a position on the line at the eviscerating table. When there are no suitable heifers on the line, technician stands aside at a safe place or returns to the office to wait. At the eviscerating table, technician stands beside a Cargill employee who uses a knife to separate the intestines from the complex stomach. After that, technician locates the ovaries, then cuts them away using one of the knives in the scabbard. Ovaries are collected into a thermos containing warmed PBS. In some cases the whole reproductive tract is dissected out, and taken to a table away from the line, where oviducts or a fetus can be collected. Knives should be sharpened frequently between collections. After tissue collection is complete, the equipment is cleaned and hands washed. Technician walks through the footbath out of the kill floor to the office, packs and carries equipment to the car, then drives back to the University of Guelph.

5. CONTINGENCY PLAN AND REPORTING:

Accident Response:

Report to floor supervisor at Cargill Inc. Follow their instructions.

Contact police in case of car accident on Cargill property or en route.

Seek appropriate first aid or medical attention as appropriate.

Notify supervisor at University of Guelph or the Administrative Assistant in the Biomedical Sciences Department Office.

File incident report with supervisor and submit form to Departmental Office and EHS.

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Follow all established procedures for disposal of waste tissue. Short-term storage of excess tissue in freezer is followed by incineration at central facility (Pathobiology).

7. REFERENCES:

8. DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES:

Technicians, Graduate Students as required

E. Semple, Lab Manager

Environmental Health and Safety

Local JHSC, Department of Biomedical Sciences

Written by: C. Boachie and E. Semple, 2001; revised E. Semple 2008-11-05

Authorization: Lab Manager, Faculty Supervisor

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