

# North Carolina Department of Agriculture



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## Euthanasia and Depopulation

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**Euthanasia – Transitioning of animals to death in a manner as painless and stress free as possible**

**Depopulation – Putting to death of large numbers of livestock and poultry as quickly as practicable in a humane and responsible manner in order to confine or control the spread of disease or to prevent suffering or neglect.**

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# Reasons:

**Disease**  
**Disease Exposure**  
**Unable to Feed or Water**  
**Research Animals**  
**End of Production Life**

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# Options:

**Cervical Dislocation**  
**Injection**  
**Stunning**  
**Fire Arm**  
**Suffocation**  
**Gas**  
**Foam**  
**Blunt Force**

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## **Considerations:**

**Safety**  
**Component Availability**  
**Qualified Personnel**  
**Speed**  
**Complexity**  
**Cost**  
**Secondary Carcass Use**  
**Disposal**

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## **Decision:**

**How many animals are involved**

**How much time do  
I have to make the decision**

**How soon does the process have to be  
carried out**

**Who has the authority to make the  
decision**

**Who is paying the bill**

**What is Plan B**

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