

Ram Sedation Information

This document contains very important information on the usage of ram sedation. We recommend everyone involved on the day of shearing to have a read to make sure the day flows smoothly.

The product:

We dispense a ram sedation called Acepromazine (2mg/ml) which is labelled as ACP -2. The ACP-2 sedative is a lower concentration option than some other clinics use. The lower concentration makes this sedative safer to use and more accurate to dose. Therefore, it is always VERY IMPORTANT to follow our label. The meat withholding period for ACP-2 is two days.



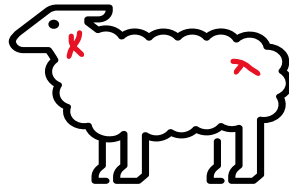
The dose:

ACP-2 has a wide safety range for the dosage required. It is registered for 2-5ml/100kg ram. It is very important to discuss with our team your rams' breed/condition/age/character/weight before deciding on the dose best for your ram team. This can be done on farm during a farm visit, so please make sure to plan ahead before deciding you require ACP-2 dispensed. It would be preferable if we could be given 2 weeks' notice so that we have time to organise a farm visit if necessary (if we have not been on farm in the last 12 months this is a legal requirement).

Sedation protocol

- Rams need to be fasted for 24 hours and housed in the shearing shed prior to shearing and sedation. They will need to be monitored for the rest of the day to make sure the sedation is not having any adverse effects (up to 4-6 hours post administration).
- We recommend weighing the rams and placing them in batches of similar weights. These batches can be further grouped into 30-minute shearing block.
- Sedation is most effective given 20-40 minutes prior to shearing.
- Make sure to use an 18 G x ½ - 1 inch (depending on muscle present) clean needle when injecting. You can either have the ACP-2 mounted to an injection gun (always check the gun before administering a dose) or in syringes.
- Inject the correct dose into the muscle- two locations can be used- muscles in the rump or in the neck. As you are injecting each ram it is important to raddle them, so you know which ram has already been done. If you 'mis-fire' and are concerned you have missed a ram, wait 60 minutes to make sure there is no drug effect before re-administering.
- Avoid shearing and using ACP-2 seven weeks prior to joining - As the sperm cycle is 7 weeks and any "stress" can disrupt the cycle. ACP-2 can also affect how testicles regulate their temperature and it is possible for them to overheat affecting sperm production.
- It is very important that your ram team is in optimum condition without stressful events occurring prior to joining.

Intramuscular injection sites (neck muscle and rump muscle):



Side effects

- This drug is a sedative and there is no reversal. Therefore, if too much is given, we cannot reverse the drug. It needs to be processed and eliminated from the body on its own accord.
- It can have effects lasting up to 4-6 hours; therefore, it is very important that the environment that the rams recover in post shearing period is protected. This drug can lower blood pressure, body temperature and heart rate. If conditions are too hot/cold the ram may struggle to thermoregulate which can lead to life threatening situations (hypothermia/ hyperthermia).
- Do not drench sheep if they are sedated as they may not have a strong swallow reflex and are at risk aspirating drench into their airways.
- The drug may relax the penis causing it to protrude – when shearers are at work, they may need to be extra careful in this area.
- If there are any adverse reactions or the drug is not working as labelled, it is paramount that you call the practice at this point in time so we can help where necessary.



Please do not hesitate to contact us on (03) 5484 2255 if you have any further questions.