

# **Safe Working Procedure (SWP) Skinning & Control of Hides**



## **Fallen Stock**

## Fallen Stock - Skinning & Control of Hides

The objective of this Safe Working Procedure (SWP) is to ensure the skinning and handling of hides is carried out safely, minimizing risk of accidents or injuries to personal and meets all legislative requirements. This SWP should be followed by all individuals carrying out skinning or handling of hides within the Fallen Stock Reception Shed.

### Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

				
<b>Long Sleeve / Waterproof Trousers</b>	<b>Waterproof / Steel Toe Capped Footwear</b>	<b>Gauntlet Gloves</b>	<b>Gas Monitor</b>	<b>PVC Apron</b>

### Specific PPE Details

Gas monitors will not be required where stationary / fixed gas monitors are in operation and working correctly, monitors must be regularly inspected and maintained in accordance with manufacturers specifications

### Preparation

- Animal carcasses are delivered to Dundas Chemical Company Ltd – Fallen Stock Reception Shed.
- Following delivery animals are sorted and positioned into those that can be skinned and those that are to be destroyed.
- Animals for skinning to be transported by loadall to rear of the fallen stock reception – skinning area.
- Animals checked for any damage or decomposition before being confirmed suitable for skinning.
- Separate storage areas to be established for animal skins which are less than 48 months old and for those older than 48 months, they must remain separate at all times following skinning until negative Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE) results have been received.
- Upon review of the animal, where the condition or quantity of brain stem available may return a 'No Test' the skin must not be removed and the animal must be destroyed.
- Sampler submission forms to be completed to reflect whether the skin has been removed or not, displayed on the form as 'Skinned' or 'Minced'.

#### Skinning Calves (Less than 48 Months)



- Smaller calves are manually lifted onto the skinning table by two operatives, one lifting by the front legs and the other the rear legs. Depending on the size of the calf this may be able to be done by one operative.
- No cuts must be made where the operative is cutting towards themselves.
- Hand cuts to be made at all appropriate positions as detailed in the diagram above.
- Once the above cuts are made the hide can be released at appropriate positions prior to being removed by mechanical means.
- Carcasses are then manually lifted from the skinning table into a pile to await removal of the skin by mechanical means, this pile must always remain separate from 48+ cattle.

#### Skinning Larger Cattle (48+ Months)



- Chains connected to the loadall to be attached around the front legs of the animal carcass and raised to appropriate height for skinning.
- No cuts must be made where the operative is cutting towards themselves.
- Where required the head can then be removed prior to making the cuts in the appropriate positions.
- The hide is then partially cut away from the body ready to be removed.
- A chain connected to the rear wall is then attached to the animal hide while still in the raised position suspended from the loadall.
- Loadall operator must then ensure there are no persons in the vicinity prior to reversing.
- The loadall will then be reversed removing the hide from the carcass.
- The operative performing skinning should operate the loadall where movements are required during the task.

### Following Removal

- Once removed the hide is salted to avoid degradation and is flat to allow excess fluid to drain from it.
- Over 48+ month cattle identification tag from the animals leg must be removed and attached securely to the hide at the leg so it is available for identification.
- Hides from 48+ months cattle must remain on a separate pallet with a cone on top until negative tests results have been received.
- In the event of a positive or a 'No Test' the relevant hides must be removed, slashed to indicate not suitable for processing other than destruction (mincing).