

ADVERSE EVENTS
Illness/Injury, Death or Unexpected incident report
 Please complete one form for each species

Send this form promptly to the NGS AEC if an animal/s become ill or dies in unusual and unexpected circumstances or if there is an unexpected incident (e.g. the animal is lost, injured, stolen). This includes all animals that are housed on the school premises covered by all categories of approval. Please return this form to NGS AEC C/- Catholic Education Office, 116 George Street, THEBARTON SA 5031 or email coleen.roddam@cesa.catholic.edu.au

School name and address

[Redacted]

Animal Ethics Focus Person or delegate

[Redacted]

Animal/species and number of animals affected

Merino ewe and twin lambs

Date of incident

19/06/2018

Signs of ill-health/ injury/ abnormal behaviour etc

The ewe was under the care of the school veterinarian as she showed signs of hypocalcaemia and pregnancy toxemia. This is believed to be linked to a management error in the feeding of the pregnant ewes. Symptoms included weakness in legs, in-appetent, neurological signs and scours. The ewe was receiving 'palliative' supportive care in an attempt to prolong her life to allow the lambs she was carrying to reach full term.

Unusual/ unexpected environmental conditions

Environmental conditions were not a major contributing factor.

Action taken – If a veterinarian was consulted provide details: name of veterinary practitioner, date and nature of consultation and outcome of consultation. Attach relevant reports.

The ewes had already been assessed a week earlier and was receiving specialised care under the direction of the school veterinarian. However her condition deteriorated rapidly, and the decision was made early on the morning of the 19th to euthanize in order to ensure best welfare. Upon assessing the size of the unborn lambs, the decision was made to attempt a delivery via caesarean of the ewe, which was then euthanized. Both lambs were born alive however despite CPR, they were believed to be too premature and both lambs died within half an hour of their delivery.

Probable cause of illness, injury, death or unexpected incident

The ewe was euthanized as a direct result of a deteriorating condition linked to hypocalcaemia and pregnancy toxemia. The lambs died as a result of being delivered prematurely.

Action to prevent future occurrence

Management of feed rations has been readjusted to ensure no errors are made in the future. Continuing high levels of observation and checking of ewes and lambs should continue to reduce the risk of potential adverse events, and allow for early identification and appropriate action to be taken.

Animal Ethics Focus Person or delegate lodging this form

Name: [Redacted]
 Signed: [Redacted] Date: 19/06/2018

Principal

Name: [Redacted]
 Signed: [Redacted] Date: 19/06/2018