



LIVESTOCK WELFARE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Established 1978

Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee
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POSITION STATEMENT

LIVESTOCK WELFARE ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED WITH LIVESTOCK PREDATOR CONTROL

The Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee recognises the problems and sensitivities that surround the issue of controlling damage-causing animals that prey on livestock. We strongly recommend that there should be a balanced, sustainable approach which causes the least amount of harm and suffering.

However, we must emphasize that the process of predation can involve severe pain and suffering to affected livestock and that this aspect of predator control must be taken into account when deciding on the necessity or acceptability of measures that are used.

An effective predation control strategy will therefor cover the welfare of wild animals, or ecological concerns, with the welfare of livestock that can be severely maimed in the process of predation must be equally considered.

An agreed philosophy for an effective predation management system is based on:

- adaptation of farm management practices to avoid or minimise losses.
- management of predators, and
- capture and documentation of predation incidents and management interventions and promotion of Best Practice by means of sector specific codes appropriate for each sector and/or bio-system in which there is livestock or game farming enterprises are located.

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