

National Deer Velvetting Scheme

The National Deer Velvetting Scheme (NVAS) was established by the Deer Industry Association of Australia in association with the AVA and the veterinary surgeons boards of each state.

The scheme allows farmers to access S4 drugs to enable velvetting to be performed without the presence of veterinary surgeons. Strict criteria have been laid down to allow this to be done safely and ethically. This involves Farmer accreditation, followed by ongoing monitoring.

Farmer accreditation:

When farmers want to be accredited, they have to go through a training course this can be organized group courses or individually run by local veterinarians with experience in the field. See the Deer Velvetting manual (available on request and posted on the veterinary surgeons board website www.vsbsa.org.au).

They then have to sit an open book exam that is sent out by the **NVAS Administrator** and returned to her. They have to have a 75% pass rate to proceed to the next step. If they have not achieved this, they are asked to do the course again with their vet.

Once they have passed their exam, their vet is formally notified by the **NVAS Administrator** of the farmer's status and stating that they can now undergo their practical exam, which is velvetting at least 3-5 animals in the veterinarian's presence.

Once the vet is satisfied that the farmer is competent at velvetting and that the facilities are up to the mark, he then fills out the relevant paperwork (in the course notes) and returns it to the **NVAS Administrator**.

The **NVAS Administrator** then issues the farmer with an accreditation number and he is then able to order tags.

Monitoring:

At the end of each velvetting season the farmer must fill out an audit form (see manual) which his veterinarian must sign.

In addition, every three years he must do a refresher exam, again an open book one.

If the annual audit, and annual administration fee (or DIAA membership) is not returned then the farmer is suspended from the scheme. The NVAS administrator then writes to their veterinarian informing them that the farmer is no longer part of the NVAS and pointing out that they should no longer supply S4 drugs under this scheme's auspices.

If the farmer wants to restart his accreditation, then he will have to start the whole procedure again.

Dispensing Schedule 4 medications

It remains the veterinarian's responsibility to ensure that farmers are accredited and working within the framework of the scheme in a safe and ethical manner. If S4 medications are dispensed you need to be sure you are following the professional

dispensing service Checklist (available on the VSBSA website). The Veterinary Surgeons Board of SA is particularly concerned about the use of Xylazine by lay persons due to the potential for misuse, health and safety factors.

The Current NVAS Administrator is:

Solange Shapiro
NVAS Administrator

PO Box 37
Lismore Victoria
Australia 3324

Tel: 03 5596 2323
Fax: 03 5596 2313
shapiro@tca-online.com.au

The South Australian Veterinary Representative is

Dr Simon Arnesen
Lincoln Veterinary Centre

4 Proper Bay Road
Port Lincoln
Tel: 08 86823100
Fax: 0886826842
lincvet@bigpond.net.au

Additional information available on the Veterinary Surgeons Board Web site:
<http://www.vsbsa.org.au/>

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.