

Policy Statement Concerning Tail Docking of Lambs

Resolution: Position on Tail Docking of Lambs:

Resolved that the American Veterinary Medical Association adopt the following AVMA position on tail docking of lambs.

Lambs are tail docked for cleanliness and to minimize fly strike, but cosmetic, excessively short tail docking can lead to an increased incidence of rectal/vaginal prolapses and is unacceptable for the welfare of the lamb. We recommend the lambs' tails be docked at the level of the distal end of the caudal tail fold.

Adopted AVMA July 21, 2000/Re-adopted May 2008