Amphibians and Aquatic species (frogs, toads, fish, salamanders)

1. Injectable anesthetic overdose: Nembutal or Euthasol® 120 mg/kg intra-coelomic or intra-cardiac (fish, frogs, toads, salamanders) or in dorsal lymph sac (frogs and toads). Death results in 15-30 minutes.
2. Percutaneous anesthetic overdose: Immersion in 6.5% MS222 for at least 30 minutes (aquatic species only)
3. Physical method: Immersion in ice water for immobilization and decapitation using guillotine followed by immediate double pithing. (aquatic species only)

Confirmation of death: amphibians may have reflexive movements after death. To verify death – check for respiration and reflexes like righting reflex and horizontal flotation. In case of doubt, use mechanical methods described in (3).

Reptiles (turtles, lizards)

1. Injectable anesthetic overdose: Nembutal or Euthasol® 150-200 mg/kg intra-coelomic or intra-cardiac.

Confirmation of death: reptiles may have reflexive movements and heartbeat after death. To verify death – check for respiration and reflexes like righting reflex, reflex withdrawal to noxious stimuli. Remove a vital organ (decapitate or open thorax and remove heart).

2. Lizard euthanasia (two stage procedure)
   Stage 1: Inject intracoelomically a volume of the buffered 1% MS222 solution containing 250-500mg/kg of MS-222

   Stage 2: After loss of righting reflex inject 0.1 to 1.0 ml (depending on size of lizard) into the heart.

   Secondary physical euthanasia, while not typically necessary, may be performed through removal of heart.