



Methods Of Euthanasia

The aim of euthanasia is to minimise or eliminate the stress the birds will experience prior to becoming unconscious. Trap operators must be willing to accept that humane killing of trapped Indian Myna birds is an important responsibility.

The preferred options for euthanizing Mynas are:

Cervical dislocation (breaking neck) :

- Dislocate the neck by taking the birds legs in the left hand (if right handed) and the head between the first two fingers of the right hand with the thumb under the beak. A sharp jerk with each hand, pulling the head backwards over the neck aims to herniate the brain stem and may break the spinal cord and carotid arteries.
- Cervical dislocation is not suitable for birds larger than 3kg as it is difficult to pull the neck quickly.
- Violent muscular contraction can occur after cervical dislocation.

Inhalation of carbon dioxide (CO₂) :

- Carbon dioxide is more suitable for adult birds
- The Mynas are placed in a container and put to sleep with a small dose of CO₂. The container is sealed for three minutes to retain the gas and the Mynas die quickly without stress.
- The NSW Department of Primary Industries does not consider it humane to euthanize birds with exhaust gas from a car.

Vets :

- Residents should be advised to call the vet prior to catching the Indian Mynas, as some vets aren't willing to euthanizing the birds for you.
- Some vets may charge a small amount.