**Ketamine/Xylazine**

A good preanesthetic sedation facilitates smooth induction and has anaesthetic sparing effect during maintenance. In the procedures carried, xylazine and ketamine were used to sedate the animal.

* Xylazine is an alpha-2-agonists and can be used as a chemical restraint in cattle through its sedative effect.   
  IM or IV xylazine at 0.015-0.025 mg/kg produces standing sedation
* Analgesic effects are minimal
* Extremely anxious cattle require higher doses (e.g. 0.05 mg/kg)

Xylazine is given to adult cattle either IM at 0.1 – 0.2 mg/kg or IV at 0.05-0.1 mg/kg to produce deep sedation often recumbency. In the procedure done however, we used a dose of 0.025 mg/kg.

Ketamine is then given IV in doses of 2 mg/kg to induce anaesthesia. (0.05 ketamine was used in this procedure).

Ketamine appears to produce copious salivation or an inability to swallow the normal saliva volume; this was observed 3 minutes after administering the Xylazine/Ketamine combination in the procedure carried out.

Hypoxia due to hypoventilation during the use of this combination has also been reported. For this reason, supplemental oxygen is recommended.