

On most Taxidermists price lists you find a statement along the lines of

" as we do not have control over the field preparation of trophies we do not accept responsibility for any hairslip that might occur."

The reason for this is quite simple in that the 'golden hour' for a trophy is the couple of hours immediately after it has been hunted.

What is hairslip?

Hairslip is when the hair falls out (slips) resulting in bald patches on the skin referred to as 'hairslip'.

Bacteria found in blood and dirt contributes to this problem, accelerated by heat.

How to prevent hairslip?

- 1) Skin the animal as soon as possible.
- 2) Wash off all blood and dirt.
- 3) Soak the skin in a salt brine solution for a minimum of 3 hours (2kg of salt per 10 litre of water, with 5ml of bactericide per 10 litre of water)
- 4) Remove the skin from the brine and lay it flesh side up on a clean surface
- 5) Apply liberal amounts of salt with particular attention to the nose, ears and eyes regions.
- 6) Leave in the salt for a minimum period of 3 days and then dry the skin as quickly as possible.
- 7) If you do not have excess to a brine solution salt the skin as per point 5 and if possible include a bactericide in the salt. Please do not use formaldehyde or any related chemical as it causes the skin to become extremely 'starchy'