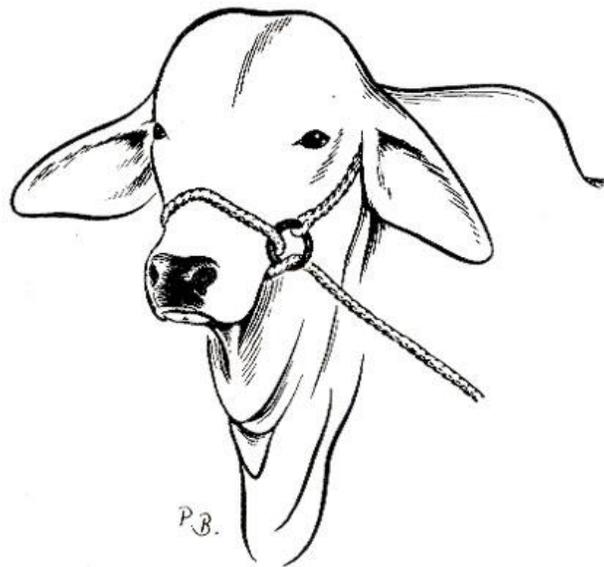


Restraint for Examination of the Bovine Foot

❖ Halter

The primary method of restraint used in dairy cattle is the halter. The halter is sometimes used in beef cattle to control the head after the animal is restrained in a chute. The halter can be made of cotton, nylon, twine, etc. It is mainly used to control the head and once the head is controlled, the animal can be handled with relative ease. The proper placement of the halter is important and it begins with making sure the lead is placed on the left side of the animals head. A simple rhyme to help remember how to correctly place the halter on the head is as follows; "the part that draws goes under the jaws." This leaves the top part of the halter to go over the poll and behind the ears.



❖ Tilt Table

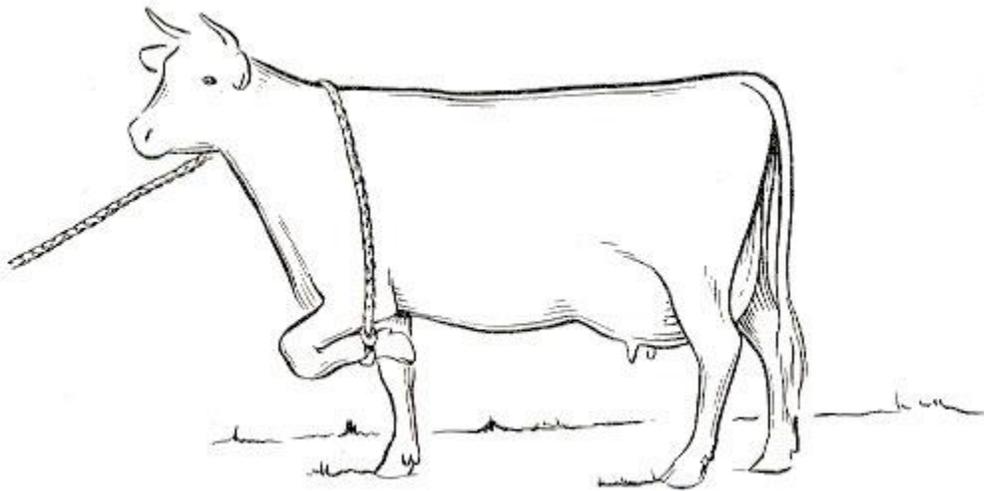


❖ Elevating the Legs with Ropes

Front Leg Hopple

In this way a front leg may be raised and held off the ground for examination or treatment. This restraint can also be used to make a cow stand still and to keep her from kicking with a hind leg.

A rope with an eye in one end is used to form a loop around the pastern. The other end of the rope passes over the withers where it should be held by an assistant so that it can be released quickly if the cow starts to go down.



Raising the Rear Leg Manually

About the best way to hold a cow's foot for hoof trimming is for the operator to rest it on his own knee. In using this simple method one is less likely to injure the cow than in using the beam hook or a more elaborate method.

A nose lead is used and the cow's head pulled to the side opposite that of the foot to be lifted. The operator grasps the leg at the pastern with his left hand.

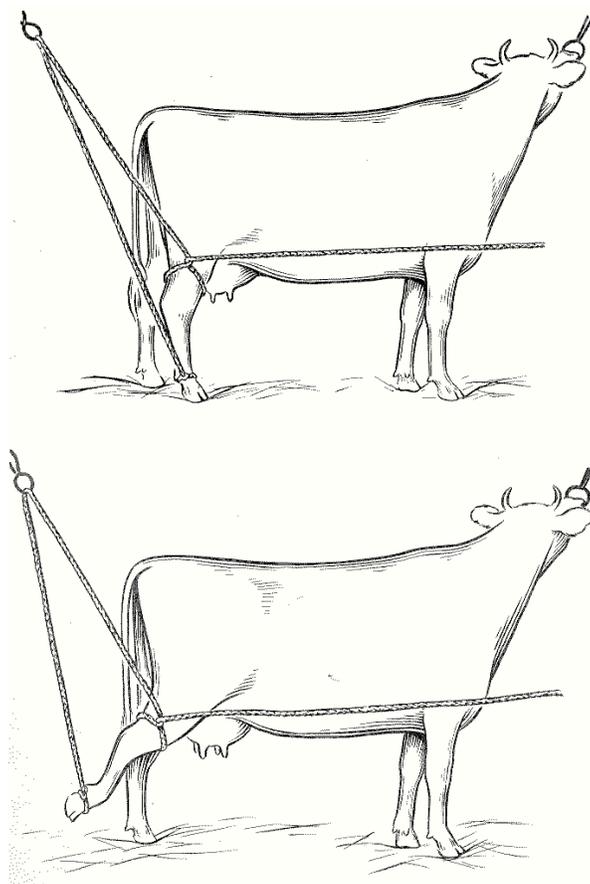


Raising Rear Leg Beam Hook Method

This is a method of raising a cow's foot off the ground and holding it in a position which will permit one to examine it or to treat it. It is particularly useful for the treatment of hoof rot in dairy herds as it can be applied to animals in stanchions.

By means of a nose lead the cow's head is pulled to the side opposite the leg which is to be lifted and made fast to a stanchion. A set of beam hooks is fastened to a beam above and somewhat behind the cow. A 30 foot piece of rope with an eye or a quick-release honda is used to make a loop around the cow's leg below the fetlock.

The free end of the rope is passed upward through the ring of the beam hook so that it goes in a direction toward the head of the cow. Passing down from the beam hook, the end is brought around the leg above the hock, going from the inner to the outer side and back around the standing part of the rope to form a half hitch. It is then carried forward and wrapped once around a part of the stanchion. The cow's foot is lifted off the ground and the slack in the rope taken up. The animal may struggle; but if her foot is lifted and the rope tightened simultaneously, the foot can be raised high enough to permit one to work on it. The end of the rope is then made fast with a halter tie to hold the foot at the desired height.



Raising Leg with a Block and Tackle



❖ Casting

Burley Method of Casting -

<http://research.vet.upenn.edu/Dairy/Restraint/CastingRestrains/BurleyMethodofCasting/tabid/3916/Default.aspx>

Rope Squeeze -

<http://research.vet.upenn.edu/Dairy/Restraint/CastingRestrains/RopeSqueeze/tabid/3917/Default.aspx>

❖ Hydraulic Hoof Trimming Chute



