

Approach, Handling and Control of Livestock

Dr Danveer Singh Yadav

Assistant Professor

Livestock Production and Management

It is often necessary on livestock farms, and in villages to apprehend individual or groups of animals temporarily for purposes like

- Drenching
- Dressing
- Vaccination

Animals have to be **approached, handled and restrained** in such a manner that **no harm** comes to either the animals being handled or to the handler.

Anti-cow-kicker

- Used to control a cow while milking or for examination of udder.
- The clips are fitted on the **Achilles tendon** region of hind legs in such a way that the chain hangs in front of **hocks**.

Anti-cow-kicker



Nose ring

- A ring made of metal designed to be installed through the nasal septum of domestic cattle, usually bulls.
- Nose rings are often required for bulls when exhibited at agricultural shows.

Nose ring



www.shutterstock.com - 301594490

Rope

- Rope is **very essential** for restraining animals.
- Cotton rope is preferred as it is strong, safe and easy to make knot.

Muzzle

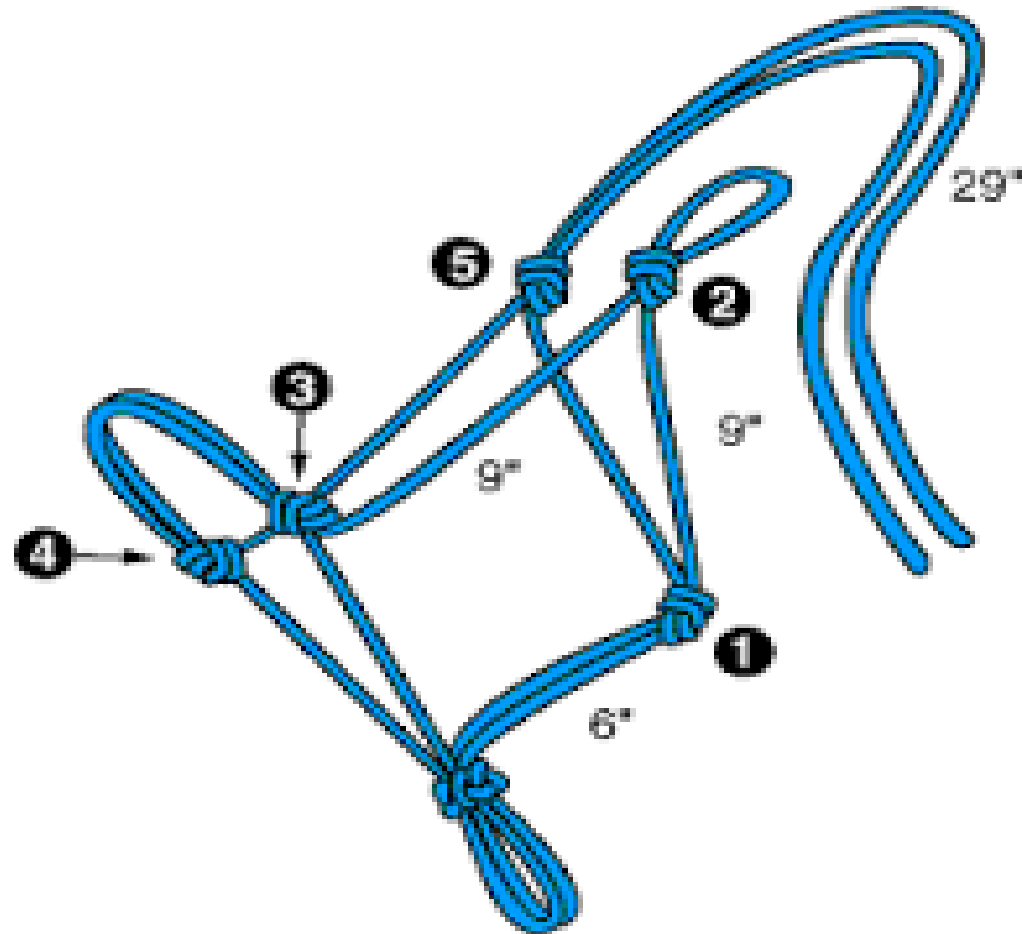
- Muzzles are made up of rope, string, bamboo splits, wire netting or leather straps.
- These are used to envelope mouths of animals to prevent them from biting, self-sucking, bedding-eating, preventing calves from suckling their dams all the time.

Wire Netting Muzzle

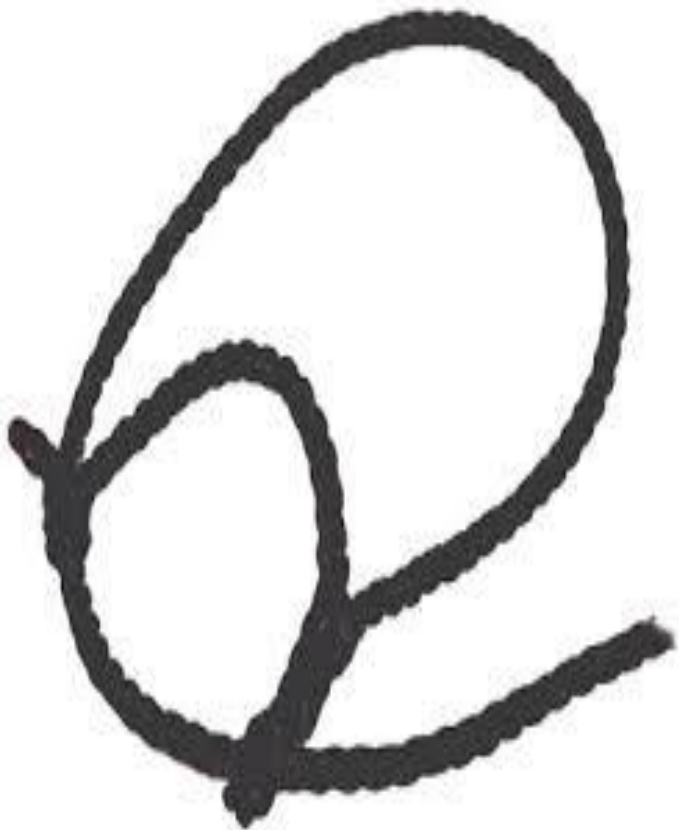


Halter

- Halter are made of leather but for farm animals simple ones made for rope can be used.



Halter



Travis

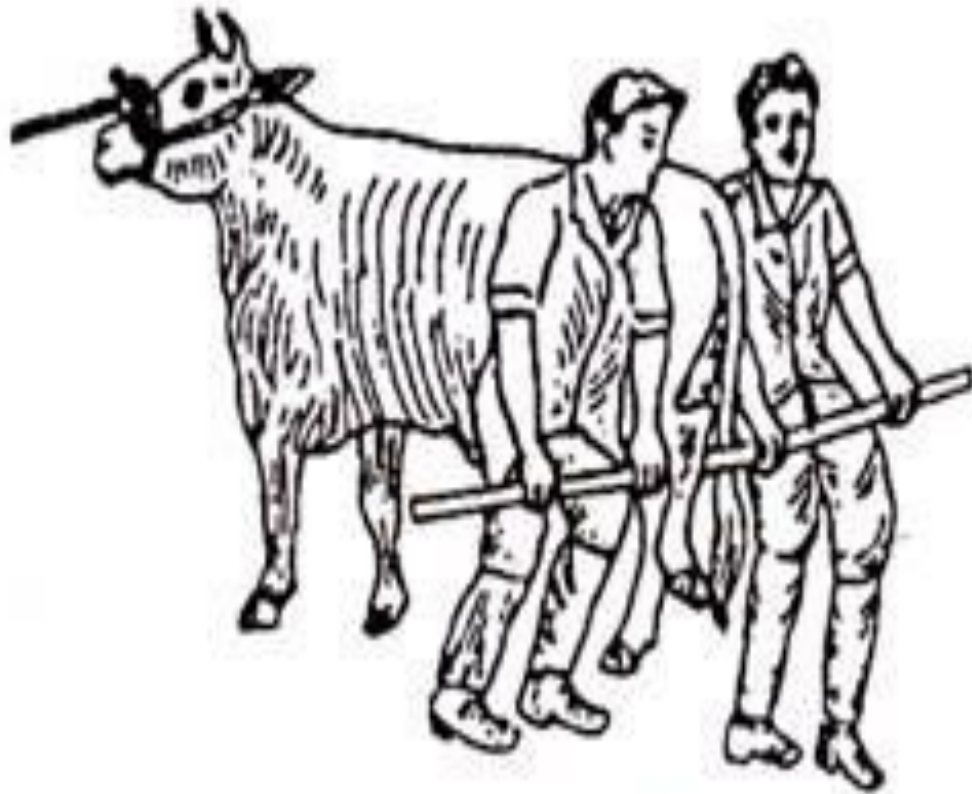
- Travis: is made of hard seasoned wood or metal tubing the latter are available



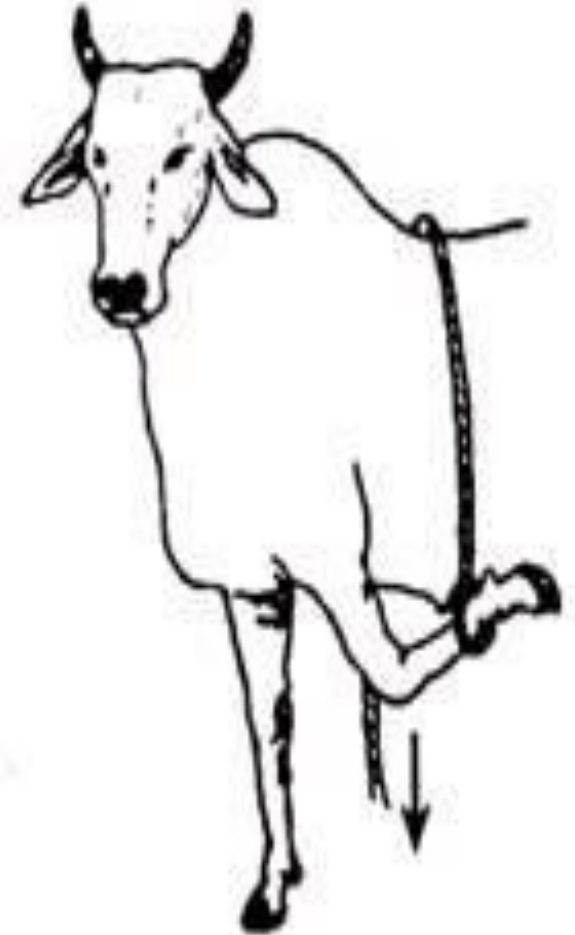
Lifting fore legs of cattle

- A rope is tied to **canon of the leg** to be lifted, above fetlock and the end is passed over the withers to the other side.

Lifting Hind legs/ fore legs of cattle



Lifting hind leg



Lifting the fore leg of a cow

Fig 38.1

Lifting hind legs of cattle

- One attendant on each side grasps the pole with both hands and lifts the hook backwards and upwards at the same time leaning hard against the hind quarters of the animal to help it to keep its balance.

Casting of animals

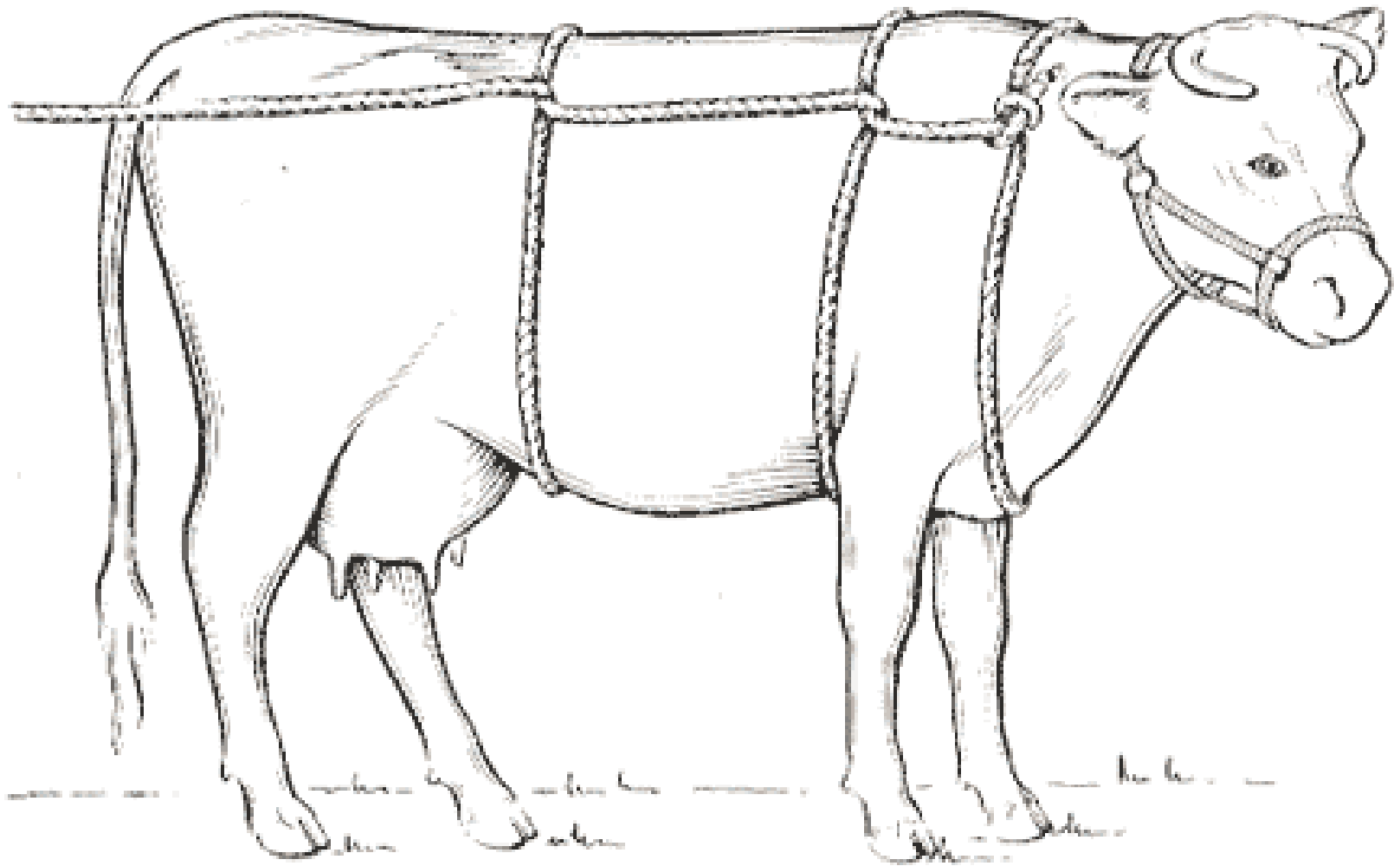
- Casting means **throwing animals on the ground**.
- Casting is done if the animals are to be **controlled for a long time**, such as performing
 - **Operations**
 - **Shoeing**,
 - **Dehorning**
 - **Branding**.

Reuff's method

1. Make a running noose at one end of **9 m** rope and pass round the base of horns. (In case of dehorned animals, the loose noose is placed round the neck).
2. Make a half hitch round the neck.
 - (a) A second hitch round the chest immediately behind the elbow, and
 - (b) A third round the abdomen in front of the udder or scrotum.

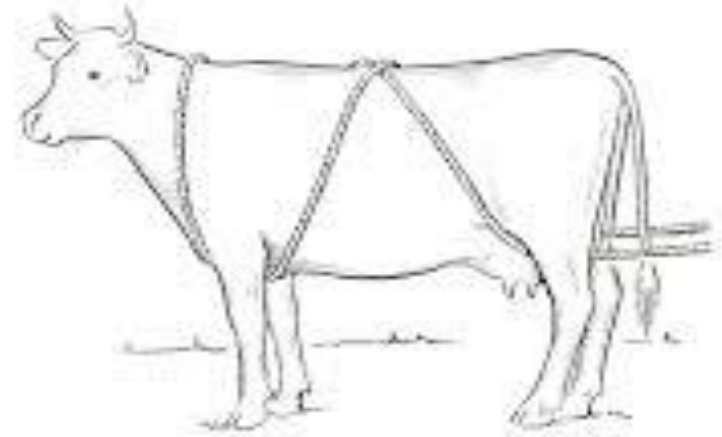
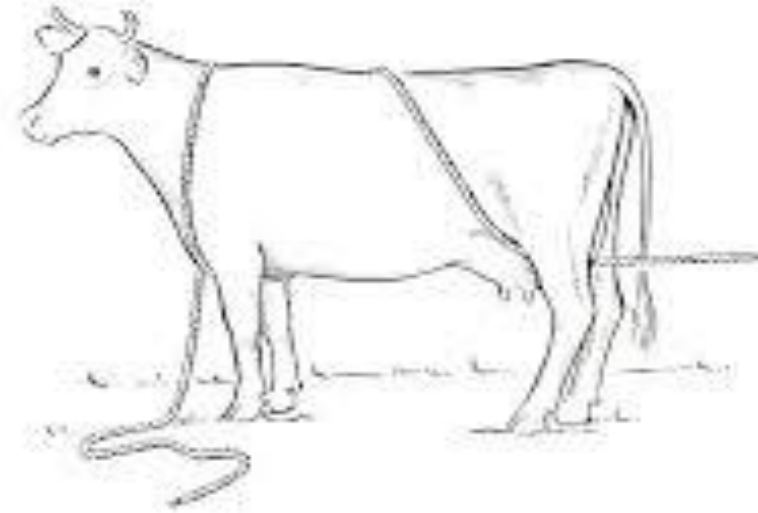
3. The rope is pulled by two assistants, and animal will sink to the ground.
4. When the animal sinks to ground keep the head and neck down, while legs are being secured separately by ropes.
5. Secure the feet to any fixed object or fasten two hind legs with one foreleg together and keep on the solid board for necessary examination or operation.

Reuff's method



Alternative Method

1. An alternative method is to place the middle portion of a rope around the cow's neck and crossing the free ends under the neck.
2. The each free end is passed from in between the elbows backwards one on either side of the animals.



3. The ropes on either side should pass through the space between the under and thigh.
4. The animals will crouch and sink to the ground if the free ends of the rope are pulled backwards.