

Calf management Student Practical's Noyjons/Machavie Experimental farm

09 – 11 March 2021

BY
Khomotso Kgaswane



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Reasons for Identifying livestock

- Livestock are marked using assorted marks ,in a number of different ways for various reasons which include:
 - To prove ownership.
 - For record keeping purpose.



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Methods of identification

1. Ear notches (Not done during student practicals)
2. Tattooing
3. Ear tags
4. Branding



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Ear Notching

- Proved to be the best means of first marking new born animals.
- A commercial ear-clipper is used.
- A standard system (figure 1) in a numerical order
- Students are taught how to read the notches



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE

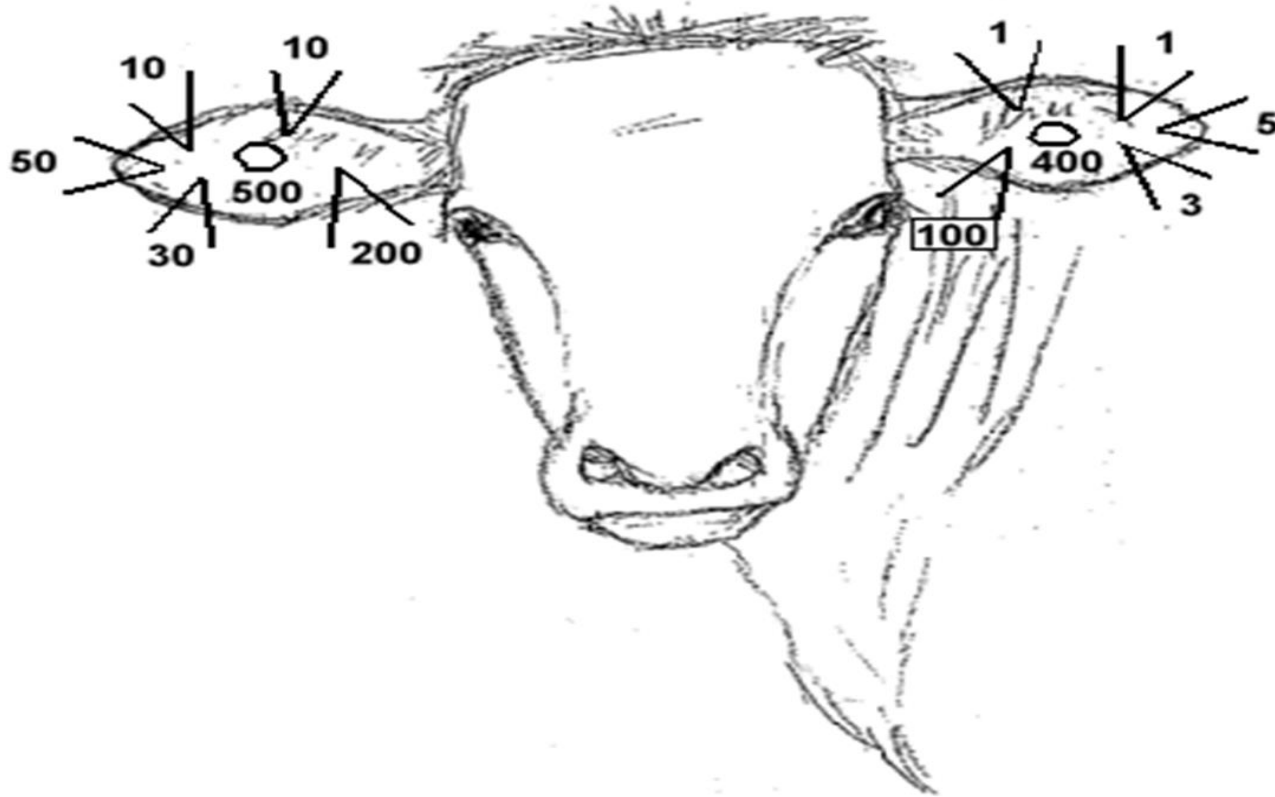


WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Figure 1



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG WE CARE WE SERVE

"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za



Tattooing

- Tattoos are made using spiked letters placed in a pliers like instrument.
- The area where the tattoo is to be applied in the ear (figure 2).
- Tattoo paste
- Tattoo are permanent



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Tattooing



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Ear Tags

- They are easy to apply.
- They get lost, become illegible and soiled.



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Branding

- Calves must be brand marked at the age of six – seven months.
- Cattle are branded on the lower part of the left thigh, second owner on the left foreleg, third owner on the right thigh and the fourth owner on the right lower foreleg



Agriculture &
Rural Development
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Branding

- Branding iron made by mild steel or stainless steel.
- The height of the letters = 40-100mm and space between letters is 12.5 mm.
- Are welded on to steel rods about 1 meter long



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Branding



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**

Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Why Dehorning?

- The occurrence of severe bruises is much lower in dehorned than in horned cattle.
- Cattle can be fed more conveniently and easily with less interference from dominant animals.
- A large number of dehorned animals can be trucked, house and fed together.
- There is less danger of injury to udders, flanks and eyes as well as attendants.



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Methods of Dehorning

1. HOT IRON DEHORNING
2. DEHORNING WIRE



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Dehorning



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Dehorning



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**

Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za

Conclusion

- Castration was also demonstrated for student and different methods were discussed (Baddizor and Knife method) but was not done of calves
- Student were encouraged to work on calves tired down with ropes on both front and back legs, holding the animal down with the tail as "hand brake"



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**
Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

Conclusion



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**

Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



"Together we move North West Province forward"

www.nwpg.gov.za