

# DIY Disbudding Equipment Checklist

### Restraint

- · Custom built calf crush with head bail OR
- Disbudding restraint e.g. Shoof Debudding Calf Restraint





Pre-cautery Pain Relief Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drugs (NSAID)

- 1 Meloxicam (20mg/mL) AND injector gun
  - → 1 ml/40kg
- 2 Meloxicam (40mg/mL) AND injector gun
  - → 0.5 ml/40kg
- 3 Buccalgesic (10mg/mL meloxicam) AND applicator
  - $\rightarrow$  0.5mL/10kg

### Site preparation

- Cordless clippers (charged)
- Secateurs (for removing larger horn buds)
- Hot iron cautery
- Gas bottle with disbudding iron
- Handheld gas disbudding irons
  - » Spare butane gas canisters











### Hot iron cautery cont.

- High quality electric burner that can reach appropriate temperatures
- Appropriate disbudding tip size (size 18-22mm)
  - » Choose tip size appropriate for horn bud (e.g. 18mm diameter for younger calves, 22mm for older calves). Be sure to check the tip size on the largest calf before conducting the procedure. Ensure the tip covers the entire circumference of the horn bud.
- Lighter
- Maintenance equipment:
  - wire brush
  - spanners
- · Safety equipment:
  - leather gloves
  - bucket of cold water

All required equipment should be available from your local rural store or online retailer e.g. Shoof.

## Post cautery local anaesthetic, antiseptic or antibiotic spray

- Tri-solfen or appropriate antiseptic spray
  - Tri-solfen AND applicator
  - $\rightarrow$  4ml per horn, allow 8ml/calf
- Cetrimide-containing antiseptics (e.g. Chloromide antiseptic spray)

### Fly Control

- Appropriate fly control e.g. Extinosad aerosol, Cetrigen Wound Spray, Chloromide Antiseptic Spray
- -This should be accompanied by fly control management and cleanliness within sheds

# Other husbandry equipment as needed

- · Elastrator rings and applicator
- Ear and NLIS tags + applicator
- · Vaccination gun and vaccine
- Genomic testing equipment

### Miscellaneous

- · Aerosol Tail paint blue/orange/red
- 18 g 1-inch needles
- · Sharps container

# Record keeping and documentation

- NLIS reader if applicable to your system
- List of calf IDs, treatments applied and date
- Drug batch numbers
- Drug withholding periods

### **Biosecurity**

- · Disposable gloves
- Change of overalls/waterproofs
- Alcohol wipes (for wiping injector guns etc)
- Disinfectant and brush for cleaning boots, hoses etc.



#### Disclaimer

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#### Acknowledgement

Dairy Australia