

Methods of Raising a Leg

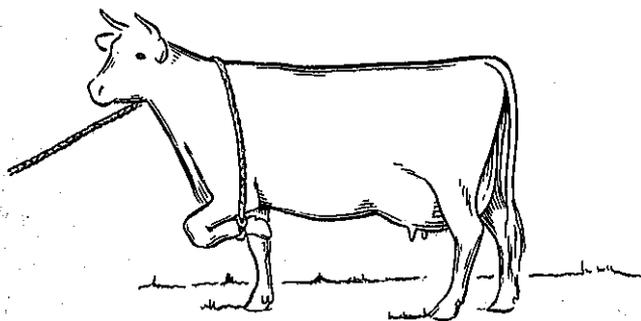
There are a number of ways of raising a cow's leg. Probably the best method, if the operator is strong enough, is to pick it up by hand and hold it. The other methods, which involve ropes, permit the animal to swing from side to side and there is always the chance that the cow may fall or go down, which, if the leg is tied up, may cause her to dislocate her hip.

Bulls and beef cattle should be confined in stocks or a rack before any attempt is made to lift their legs.

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.

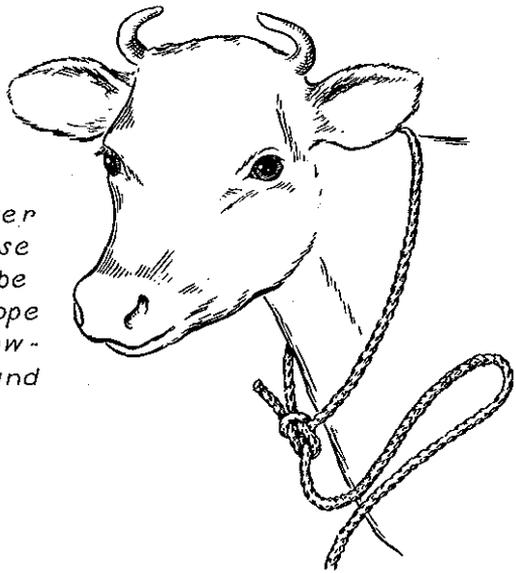
A rope with an eye in one end is used to form a loop around the pastern. The other end of the rope passes over the withers where it should be held by an assistant so that it can be released quickly if the cow starts to go down.



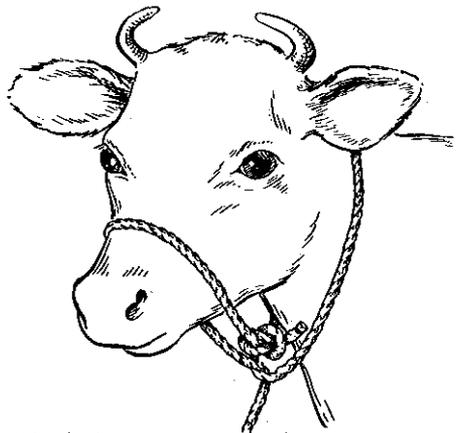
Special Restraints

Temporary Rope Halter

The same rope halter described for the horse on page 48 may also be used for a cow. A rope loop fastened with a bow-line knot is placed around the cow's neck.



A bight in the standing part is passed through the loop and over the nose.



The nose piece should be pulled tight when the halter is in use.

Casting Restraints

Cows are more easily and safely cast than horses since they struggle less and are more willing to lie down. Bedding should be arranged for them none the less, as it may save them from bruises.

Bulls are more vigorous and are harder to cast and control. It may be safer to cast them with a double side-line harness than with one of the squeezes.

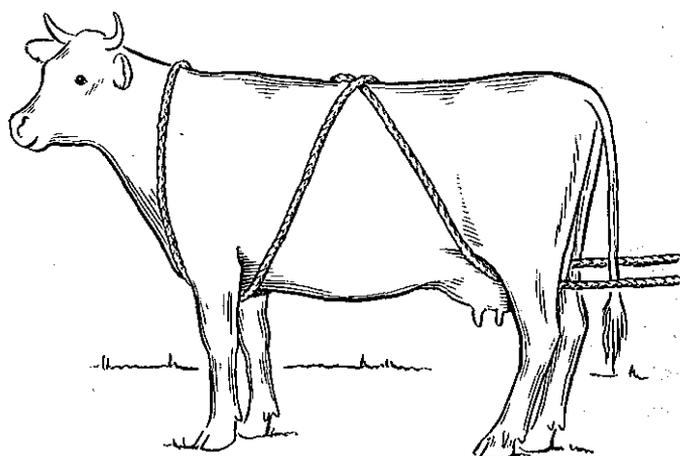
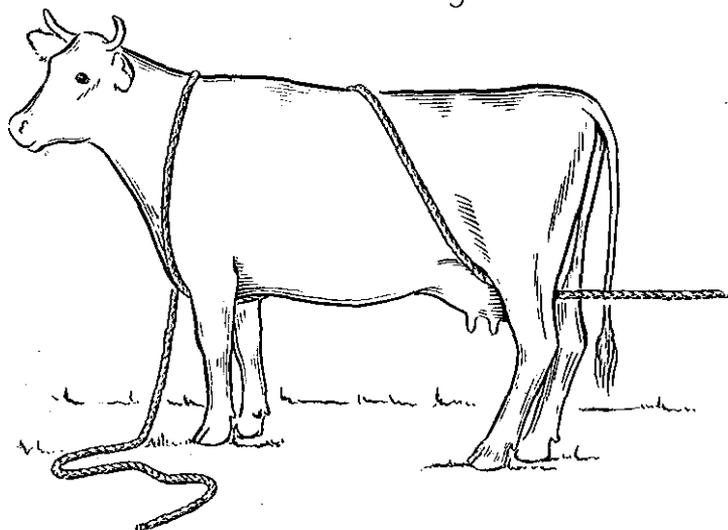
Burley Method of Casting*

This method of casting cattle, devised by Dr. D. R. Burley of Georgia, has many advantages over the other casting methods. First, it is not necessary in this method to tie the rope around the horns or the neck. It is simply passed around the animal's body which takes less time. Second, this restraint does not put pressure over the thorax and thus does not interfere with the action of the heart and lungs. Third, it does not endanger the genital organs of the bull or the mammary vessels of the cow. Finally, with this restraint both rear legs may be tied with the ends of the casting rope.

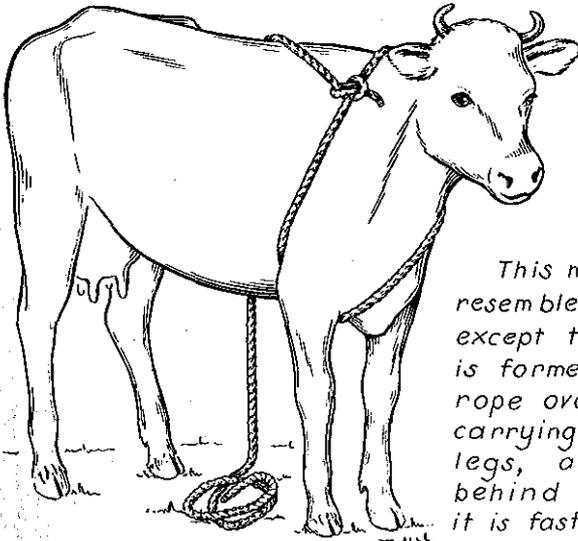
While the cow is being held by a strong halter or by a nose lead a forty foot piece of rope is placed over her back with its center at the withers. The ends are carried between the forelegs and crossed at the sternum. One end is carried up each side of the animal's

*Leard, T., and Leonard, C., "The Georgia Vet.," Univ. of Ga.

body and the two are crossed again over the back. Each end passes downward between the rear legs going between the inner surface of the legs and the udder or scrotum, as the case may be.



Rope Squeeze, Second Method



This modified rope squeeze resembles the Standard one except that the first loop is formed by throwing the rope over the cow's neck, carrying it between the front legs, and bringing it up behind the shoulder where it is fastened with a bowline. The advantage of this is that

when the rope is pulled, pressure is applied behind the shoulder rather than over the trachea.

