Chapter 2: Restraint Tools and Techniques

Objectives

- Identify behavioral characteristics unique to each species.
- Describe restraint techniques used on large animals.
- Compare and contrast restraint procedures used in each species.
- Identify various facilities, tools, and equipment used in large animal restraint.

Key Terms

alleyway—the narrow passage area that prevents cattle from turning around as they approach the chute.

casting—the use of ropes to lay down cattle.

chute—an adjustable restraint device used for restraining cows; similar in appearance to a stock.

halter—a restraint device that fits around the head and is used to lead or secure an animal.

hot shot—a probe with an electrical shock used for encouraging animals to move.

hyperthermia—an abnormal elevation of body temperature, usually as a result of a pathologic or stressful process.

nose ring—a ring inserted through the nasal septum for purposes of restraint.

palpation cage—gates placed directly behind the chute that facilitate entrance into the tailgate of the chute by prohibiting cattle in the alleyway from approaching the chute.

pig board—a board used to restrain a pig.

stanchion—a stock with a head catch.

snout snare—a restraint device that goes around a pig's snout.

stock—nonadjustable restraint device consisting of vertical pillars arranged in a rectangular shape connected by horizontal bars; used to keep livestock restrained in a standing position.

sweep tub—a round pen in which the gate pushes forward allowing for cows to be crowded into an alleyway.

tailing-up—grabbing the base of a cow's tail and elevating it vertically to restrain the animal.

twitch—a restraint device used on the horse's nose.

Review Questions and Answers

1. State three rules that should be followed to ensure safety when tying horses.

   To ensure the safety of both horses and handlers, the following rules should be adhered to when tying horses:

   - *Always use a quick release knot.*
   - *Secure to a solid post or hitching rack. Never tie to gates, fence rails, or the like.*
   - *Lead ropes should be tied short and high enough to prevent the animal from lifting a leg over the rope.*
   - *Ensure a minimum of 12 feet between animals.*

2. Identify the primary difference between a chute and a stock.

   Both chutes and stocks are used to restrain cattle. The chute has the added advantage of adjustable (squeezable) sides. Although very useful, stocks are not meant for processing large numbers of animals and should never be used with fractious cattle. Some stocks are used for horses as well as cattle. When a stock is used for cattle restraint, it has a head catch; stocks used for horse restraint do not have a head catch. A horse would never be placed in a chute.

3. Describe the procedure for cradling a foal.

Cradling is an excellent restraint technique for foals. To cradle a foal, place one arm around the foal's chest and the other around the rump. Cradle foal in arms. If the foal is very exuberant, the handler can also grasp the base of the tail.

4. List the standard facilities used to process cattle.

Standard facilities used when processing cattle include the chute or stock, pregnancy gate, alleyway, and sweep tub. Additional handheld equipment can include ropes, hotshots, prods, poles, paddles, halters, nose tongs, and nose rings.

5. Diagram the placement of the ropes used for casting cattle.

See Figure 2-15 in the text.

6. Compare and contrast nose rings and nose tongs.

a) Similarities

- *Both are placed in nasal septum.*
- *Both are used to restrain cattle (bulls).*
- *Both can cause damage to nasal septum.*

b) Differences

- *Tongs are temporary.*
- *Rings are permanent.*

7. Name the equipment used to restrain goats for milking.

Stanchions are most commonly used to restrain goats for milking.

8. Describe the procedure used to tip a sheep

Stand to the left side of the sheep. Hold the head by securing mandible with left hand. Place left knee just caudal to the sheep's left shoulder. Place right hand on the sheep's back over the

hip area. Turn the sheep's nose away from you towards its shoulder. Apply pressure to the hips with right hand. Step back with your right leg. Continue to bring the head around until the sheep is sitting down with its back leaning against the technician's legs.

9. Identify the animal species most likely to regurgitate when stressed.

   The llama is the species most likely to regurgitate when stressed.

10. State two complications associated with the use of a pig snout snare.

    Complications associated with use of the snout snare include damage to entire snout as a result of the tourniquet effect and damage to nasal cartilage.