

## HANDLING AND MOVING CATTLE

---

To illustrate safe practices when handling and moving cattle.

---

- 2.1 Trained and qualified staff.
  - 2.2 Veterinarian
- 
- 3.1 Personnel must be knowledgeable in cattle behaviour and must only use low-stress techniques in the routine handling of cattle.
  - 3.2 The main principles of low-stress handling are accommodating the animal's natural behaviours and motivations, reducing noise and other stressors in the environment, and ensuring handlers interact calmly and patiently with cattle.
  - 3.3 Behavior and temperament are influenced by various factors mainly by genetics, human interaction, and environment.
  - 3.4 Cattle are visual animals. They have a 300-degree range of vision.  
Be aware of the area in front and to the side of the rear leg as they tend to kick forward and then back.
  - 3.5 Cattle will mill or circle if frightened or distressed.
  - 3.6 Their instinctive reaction to danger is to flee or fight, and therefore might charge or stampede.
  - 3.7 When restraint is necessary the safest, least stressful restraint must be used.
  - 3.8 Abusive handling PROHIBITED and will be NOT tolerated. Abusive handling includes, but is not limited to:
    - 3.8.1 Using loud noises to frighten or move cattle.
    - 3.8.2 Kicking, beating, striking, tail twisting, dragging
    - 3.8.3 Forcefully pulling cattle by the tail, head, and neck
    - 3.8.4 Improper use of a prod: Electric prods must not be used on calves.

### NOTE:

- 
- 4.1 Announce your presence when approaching the animal.
  - 4.2 In an alleyway or chute system, cattle should be worked with in a head to tail sequence.
  - 4.3 HANDLING AND MOVING CALVES:
    - 4.3.1 Handling:
      - 4.3.1.1 Stroke the calf under the chin or on the withers to encourage a submissive posture.
      - 4.3.1.2 Never stroke or pet them on the head. This may lead to butting.
      - 4.3.1.3 Calves should be handled and petted regularly.
    - 4.3.2 Moving:
      - 4.3.2.1 Several methods can be used to move a young calf:

4.3.2.1.1 Place it in a calf cart.

4.3.2.1.2 If not walking yet.: Place in a wheelbarrow





## HANDLING AND MOVING CATTLE

DATE	NEW VERSION
15-Jan-2021	Version 01: MacDonald Campus FACC approved
3-aug-2023	Version 02: MacDonald Campus FACC approved