





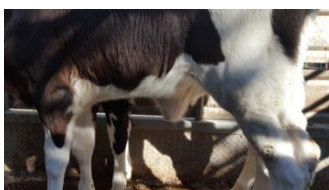


## Veterinary Disbudding

The routine husbandry procedure of disbudding/dehorning dairy calves is considered necessary as majority of the dairy breeds and F1 calves are horned. The procedure of disbudding/ dehorning calves is recognized to be a stressful and painful procedure and may be seen by many as a procedure that negatively impacts on the calf's welfare. Therefore, it is important to provide a painless procedure that has minimal impact on the calf's welfare and production. It is recommended to disbud the healthy calves between 3 and 12 weeks of age, ideally before 2 months of age. The procedure can be carried out by the vets, and you do not have to be present. Just let the vets know which calf group they will be disbudding on the day. The disbudding procedure includes:

<p>1. Firstly, the calves are sedated with xylazine.</p> 	<p>2. The calves are then given a pain relief (meloxicam) injection subcutaneously.</p> 
<p>3. The hair around the horn buds is clipped.</p> 	<p>4. A local anesthetic is then injected around the nerves that innervate the horn bud</p> 
<p>5. The horn buds are then burnt using a gas burner</p> 	<p>6. Finally, a topical antiseptic spray is applied where the horn bud was burnt.</p> 

At the time of disbudding, it would be possible to examine calves for umbilical issues, pink eye infections and the procedure of removing extra teat can also be carried out.



Umbilical hernia



Umbilical infection/ abscess



Supernumerary (extra) teats



Pinkeye