

Training Notes
For
Community Animal Health Workers

**Instruments
used for animals**

Small Scale Livestock and Livelihoods Program
PO Box 1604, Lilongwe Malawi



Instruments used for animals

Session 1: Some basic instruments for animal health

Session Objectives:

At the end of this training session, each participant should be able to:

1. Know what are the essential tools and instruments for basic animal health care
2. Know how to use the basic instruments

Important veterinary tools (instruments)

- There are a number of veterinary tools (instruments) which the community animal health worker will need in order to be able to carry out his or her work.

- Thermometer with carrying case

- The thermometer is an important tool and must be kept clean, carefully stored and carried so that it is not broken.
- Do not leave a thermometer in a hot place in the sun; it can get too hot and malfunction.



- Syringes and needles

- For use by the AVO or other technically qualified person
- Syringes are made of plastic and are used to inject drugs (medicines) or vaccines into the body. There are two types of needle fitments and you must make sure that the needle fits the syringe correctly before you use it.
- Different sizes of needles are needed for different injections. Thin needles are used to give intramuscular injections and shorter needles are used to give subcutaneous injections. Ask your veterinarian about the needles and syringes you will need to use in your work.



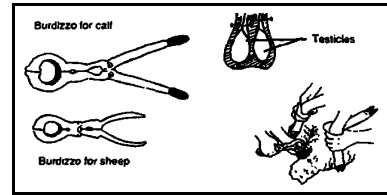
- Drench bottle

- Any long-necked bottle will do. If 20 cm of rubber hose is attached to the mouth of the bottle it will make it easier to put the medicine into the mouth.



- Castration instruments

- These are scalpel blades, razor blades, the Burdizzo, the emasculator and the elastrator with rubber rings.



- De-horning iron

- A de-horning iron is used to remove the horns of calves when they are a few days old. The procedure should only be done by someone with knowledge and experience.

- Nose pliers for restraint of cattle

- Pig snare for restraint of larger pigs

- Scalpels, blades or sharp knives

- These are necessary to cut and open wounds and abscesses and to use for castration and other simple operations. A clean, sharp, shaving razor can also be used.

- Trocar and cannula

- For use by the AVO or other technically qualified person
- Used to get rid of gas from the rumen of an animal with bloat.

- Ropes to restrain animals

- Ropes will be needed to tie up, and control animals

- Hoof cutters and clippers

- Hoof cutters are needed for hoof trimming and clippers are used for nails and teeth.

- Bottles for disinfectant, tincture of iodine and alcohol

- These and some cotton wool, bandages and pads, or clean cotton cloths are needed for wounds.

- A strong bag. A strong leather or canvas bag is needed to carry tools in, to protect them and to keep them clean and dry.

- Protective clothing, for example dust coat, boots.