**Animal management**

**Aging of cattle**

**Lecturer Assist.proff.Moaed H.**

**The importance of estimating the ages of animal:**

Judging the production efficiency of the animal\*

Knowing the appropriate age for using males for mating and females for production\*

Coordinate records for animals on farms\*

Estimate the appropriate price for different animals.\*

**The age of the animal is estimated based on several factors:**

1-Dependence on the animal's appearance

2-Knowing the number of births in females, by knowing the duration of pregnancy, the period of estrus and the number of times of birth, the approximate age of the animal can be not estimated

3-The growth rings of the horns. The age of the animal can be estimated by knowing the number of rings that exist on the outer surface of the horns, but the age of the animal can be manipulated by reducing the number of rings in different ways.

4-Location of uterus in pelvic region

5-Dentition:-

By examining the teeth inside the mouth, knowing their type, dates of appearance and replacement, and changes that occur to them during the different life stages, the real age of the animal can be estimated.

**Teeth:** Teeth are bony bodies prominent in the mouth and are arranged in two opposite rows, upper and lower, and each tooth has an external and an internal structure.

**The external structure of the tooth**

Crown --- Neck ---Root or Fang.

**Inner structure of tooth**

Pulp cavity--- Dentine--- Enamel--- Cement

**Split teeth**

**Milky teeth or temporary are characterized as**

Small size#

White color softness to the touch#

Clear neck#

#Not good fixation in the gum

#There are trigonometric spaces between each of the adjacent teeth

**Permanent teeth**

Large in size#

#Yellowish in colour

#Rough to the touch

#Blurred neck

#Good oral fixation in gum

#There are no trigonometric distances between each of the adjacent teeth

Teeth are divided according to their position in the mouth and their functions:

**1-Incisors:**

Teeth found at the front of the mouth, and they are four pairs in the lower jaw and upper jaw no found but present dental pad, and the incisors are arranged in cattle from the middle of the jaw to the outside as follows:

Centrals,medials,laterals and corners

**2-Canines:**

**Its absent in cattle**

**3-Molars:**

They are found on both sides of the jaws behind the tusks, and they are six molars on each side of each jaw in cows. The first three of them are called the anterior molars and appear to be milky teeth , then they are replaced by permanent. The three posterior molars are called posterior molars and appear permanent only.

**Milky (temporary) dental formula**

**Incissors canine molars**

**L.J. 4 0 3**

**U.J. 0 0 3**

**permanent dental formula**

**Incissors canine molars**

**L.J. 4 0 3+3**

**U.J. 0 0 3+3**

The number of dental milky teeth formula are twenty teeth(20) while The number of dental permanent teeth formula are thirty two teeth(32)





1



3 4

