

# *Tail Docking*



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# Topics to be covered



- ❧ Anatomy of the tail( bovines and canines)
- ❧ Their affections
- ❧ Position and anesthesia
- ❧ Surgical management
- ❧ Care after procedure

# Anatomy of tail



❧ Tail consist of coccygeal vertebrae Their number varies from spp to spp

❧ Like:

❧ Cattle 18-20

❧ Dogs 20

❧ Horses 15-21

# Muscles

Cross-section of tail reveals muscles;

1. Sacrococcygeus dorsalis,
2. Sacrococcygeus lateralis,
3. Intertransverse tails,
4. Sacrococcygeus ventralis and
5. Compressor coccygeus.

❖ **Vessels:** Middle and 2 lateral coccygeal.



# In dog



- **Affection:**
  - ❧ Traumatic lesion
  - ❧ Infection
  - ❧ Neoplasia
  - ❧ Perinial fistula
  - ❧ Cosmetic purpose in puppies.
- **Amputation near the base**
  - ❧ Avulsed tail
  - ❧ Tail fold pyoderma

# Affections in bovines:



## 1. Conginetal

In bovines the many cases reported are:

- Anury
- Brachyury
- Wry tail
- Tail luxation

## 2. Acquired

- Tail necrosis
- Wounds
- Tail fractures
- Acquired short tail
- Abscesses
- Tumor
- Fused coccygeal vertebrae

# Position and anesthesia



## **In bovines:**

Mostly in standing position

Also done in recumbent position as well

In camels at sternal recumbancy

## **Anesthesia:**

Local or epidural



# In dogs



## **In puppies:**

3-5 days of age

Does not require any anesthesia Healing is uncomplicated

## **In adults:**

older than 1 week needs epidural anesthesia or GA

# Preparation



Proper restraining

Clipping the hairs

Maintain them in position

Aseptically prepare the site

# Procedure



Clip and aseptically prepare tail.



Retract skin proximally and clamp tail



# Cont...



- Immobilise the tail

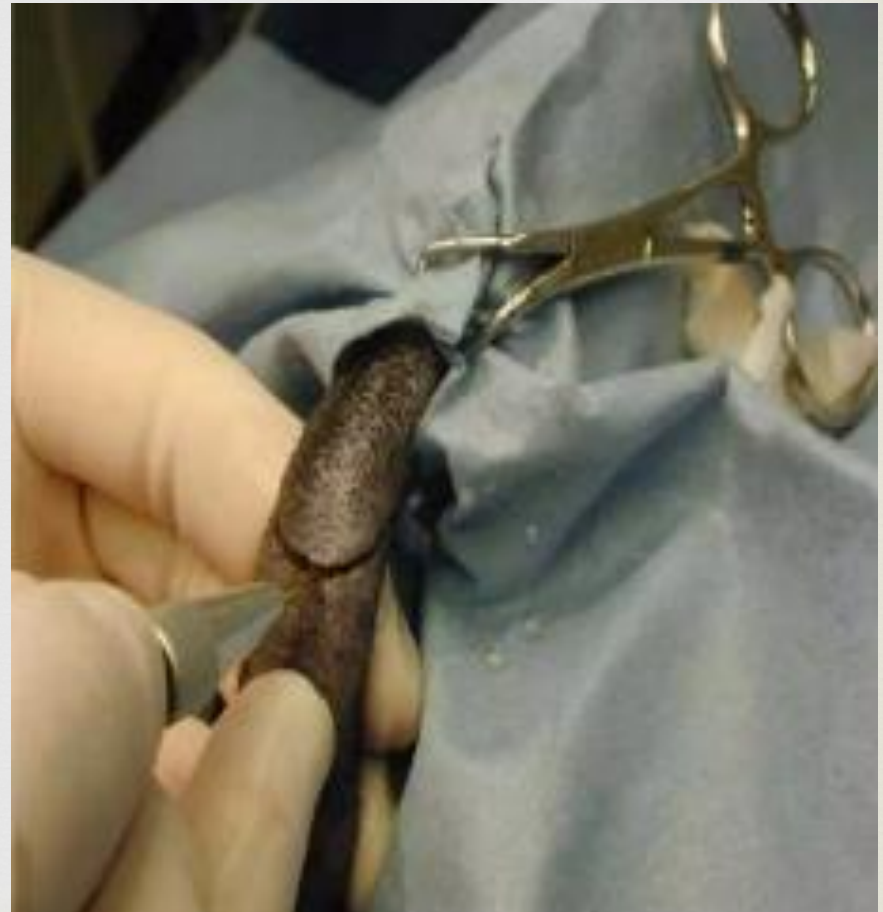


- Palpate the desired transection site.
- Transect the tail between adjacent caudal vertebrae





# Cont...





# Cont...



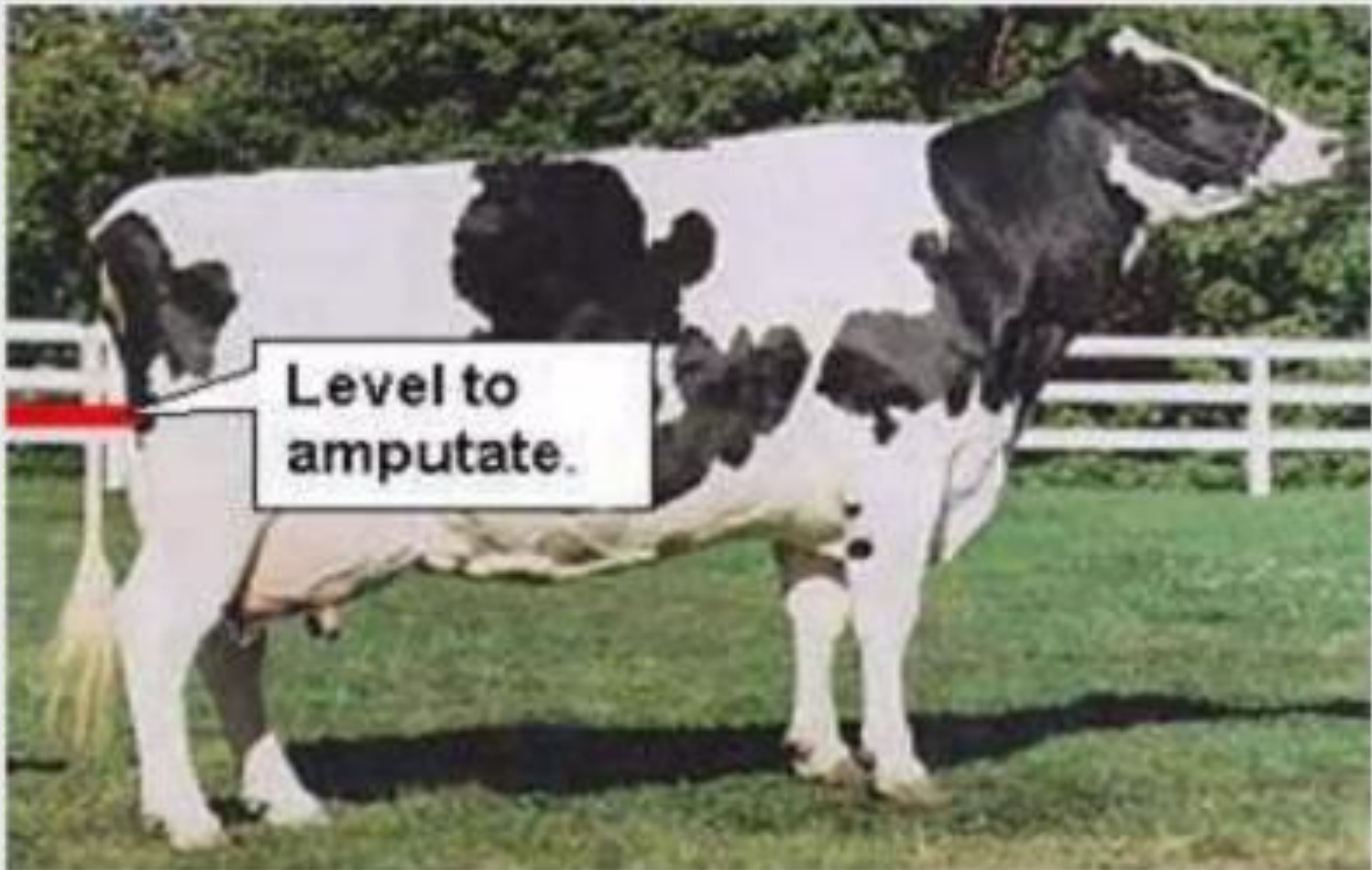
# Bovine



- In standing position under epidural anesthesia.
- In camel sternal recumbency is mandatory.
- Tourniquete is applied at base of the tail.
- Clip and aseptically prepare the site.
- Semicircular incision through skin and muscle on dorsal and ventral surface.

# Cont...

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# Cont...



- Incision is placed distal to the coccygeal joint to be disarticulated.
- In case of necrosed tail incision is done in healthy zone proximal to necrosed area.
- Major blood vessels are ligated,
- Disarticulate the tail through intervertebral disc by sharp scalpel.

# Post Op. Care



- ❧ Monitor the surgery site to reduce chances of infection.
- ❧ Be aware of abnormal behavior of animal.
- ❧ Cut off the bandages and tape using safety scissors.
- ❧ Place a plastic pet cone around your dog nick to protect the wound.
- ❧ Bring your animal to the vet to remove the stitches.
- ❧ Keep the dog spotlessly clean.





**Thanks To Listen**