

# Unit C

## Animal Health

Identifying Equipment Used to  
Maintain Good Animal Health

# Terms

- Currycomb
- Detergent
- Grooming
- Phenol
- Phenol coefficient



# What basic equipment will I need to keep animals healthy?

- I. Diseases and parasites can be very costly to an animal business.
  - Losses can include abortions, reduction in growth, unnecessary medicines, and having to buy feed additives.
  - Here are some things you need to have to prevent sick animals and treat them if they do get infected.

# What basic equipment will I need to keep animals healthy?

- A. Water and watering tanks are important because animals can't live without water.



# What basic equipment will I need to keep animals healthy?

- Keep water tanks full and free from debris.
- Clean the water tank if some animals get sick so the disease cannot spread through the sharing of water.
- Be careful to check your animals if they are watered from a pond, river, or other flowing water.

# What basic equipment will I need to keep animals healthy?

- Feed should be kept from spoiling or rotting. Moldy feed can be very dangerous and animals are less likely to eat enough if the feed is rotten.
- Make sure all animals are receiving proper amounts of protein, fat, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals.
- You may want to make feeders, pails, or other feeding equipment so that you don't have to put the feed on the ground.
- Some diseases live in the soil and you are more likely to have your animals consuming foreign objects off the ground.



# What basic equipment will I need to keep animals healthy?

- C. Space is necessary for animals to do well.
- Do not overcrowd animals because contagious diseases will spread faster and it will be more difficult to watch all animals closely.



# What basic equipment will I need to keep animals healthy?

- Since different animals have different space requirements, check to see what your animal needs.
- You may need fences, cages, buildings, and other materials to help you create enough space for your animals.





# **BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR GOOD ANIMAL HEALTH**

- **Feed that is nutritious and clean**
- **Water that is not contaminated**
- **Enough space for all animals to be comfortable**

# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

II. In order to maintain animal health, proper grooming must be done to all animals.



# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

- If given the opportunity, all animals would prefer a clean environment.
- In nature, animals are able to clean themselves with rain, rolling around in dirt, and other means.



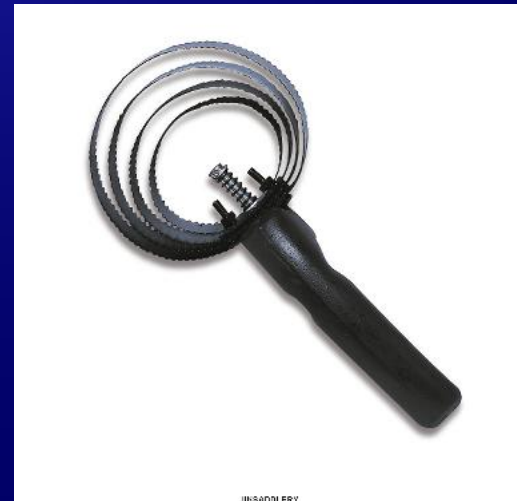
# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

- In captivity animals don't always have access to these amenities.
- They rely on their owner to keep them groomed.
- *Grooming* entails caring for skin and hair, feet and hooves, and other areas of the animals.



# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

- A. If kept clean, an animals skin and coat is less likely to be invaded by parasitic diseases.
- In most cases, a currycomb or brush is a necessary tool.



# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

- A *currycomb* is a rubber or metal brush with teeth for cleaning debris off of animals.
- Never bathe any animal too often as it will take away natural oils.
- Keep hair trimmed to avoid buildup of feces on some animals.



# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

- B. To tend to animals feet or hooves, a hoof pick will be needed.
- You will also need to trim hooves of some animals and clip nails of others.



# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

- Debris and feces can accumulate on the feet and can be dangerous to the animals health.





# What equipment will I need to keep animals groomed?

C. Other areas that need to be kept clean include ears and genitals of animals.



# TRIMMING AND CARING FOR FEET OF BEEF CATTLE

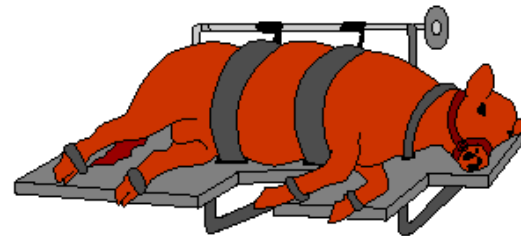
**Why:** The feet should be trimmed regularly so that the animal will stand squarely and walk properly. Besides, long toes or unevenly worn hoofs are unsightly in appearance.

**How:** Where available, the animal should be secured in either a tip-over type trimming table or chute, or a tip-over hydraulic chute. Where tip-over equipment is not available, stocks may be used or the animal may be thrown. Use a foot nipper to cut the feet back, then use an electric sander to shape them. Some experienced fitters also use a chisel, farmer's knife, and rasp. Trimming should be done, or supervised, by a person with experience. In some areas, professional trimmers are available for hire.

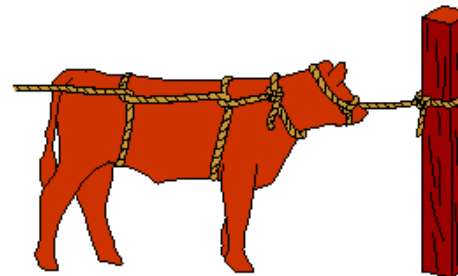
The feet of some animals should be trimmed regularly as often as every 2 months. Too much trimming at any one time, however, may result in lameness. For this reason, it is not advisable to work on the feet immediately before an animal is shown.

**Pointers on general trimming:**

- Trim the inside toe and heel before trimming the outside toe and heel, because it generally grows faster and longer. Trim the toe before the heel to ensure that the animal will walk up on its toes.



Animal restrained on tilting hoof trimming table.



A simple method of throwing an animal is illustrated here using a rope halter and a rope about 40 feet long. With the animal haltered, tie the halter shank or lead to a stout post, tree, etc. Then, with one end of the rope around the neck, tie a bowline (frontal) knot. Next, circle the animal's body just behind the shoulder and a half hitch at the withers; continue the rope back to the horn and make a second half hitch and circle the rope around the body at the flanks. Make sure the second half hitch is just in front of the hooks. A strong backward pull on the rope will cause the animal to sink, and a shift in the pull to the side on which the animal is to fall will result in an easy, soft fall to the ground. Maintaining the strong pull on the rope will keep the animal lying on the ground, making it possible to do minor doctoring, foot trimming, etc.

# *Review / Summary*

- Diseases and parasites can be very costly to an animal business.
- Losses can include abortions, reduction in growth, unnecessary medicines, and having to buy feed additives.
- In order to maintain animal health, proper grooming must be done to all animals.