

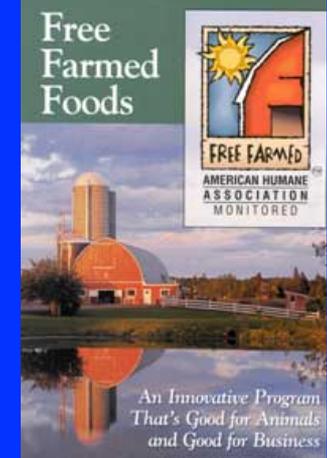
FSBI

Animal Handling and Well-being Guidelines

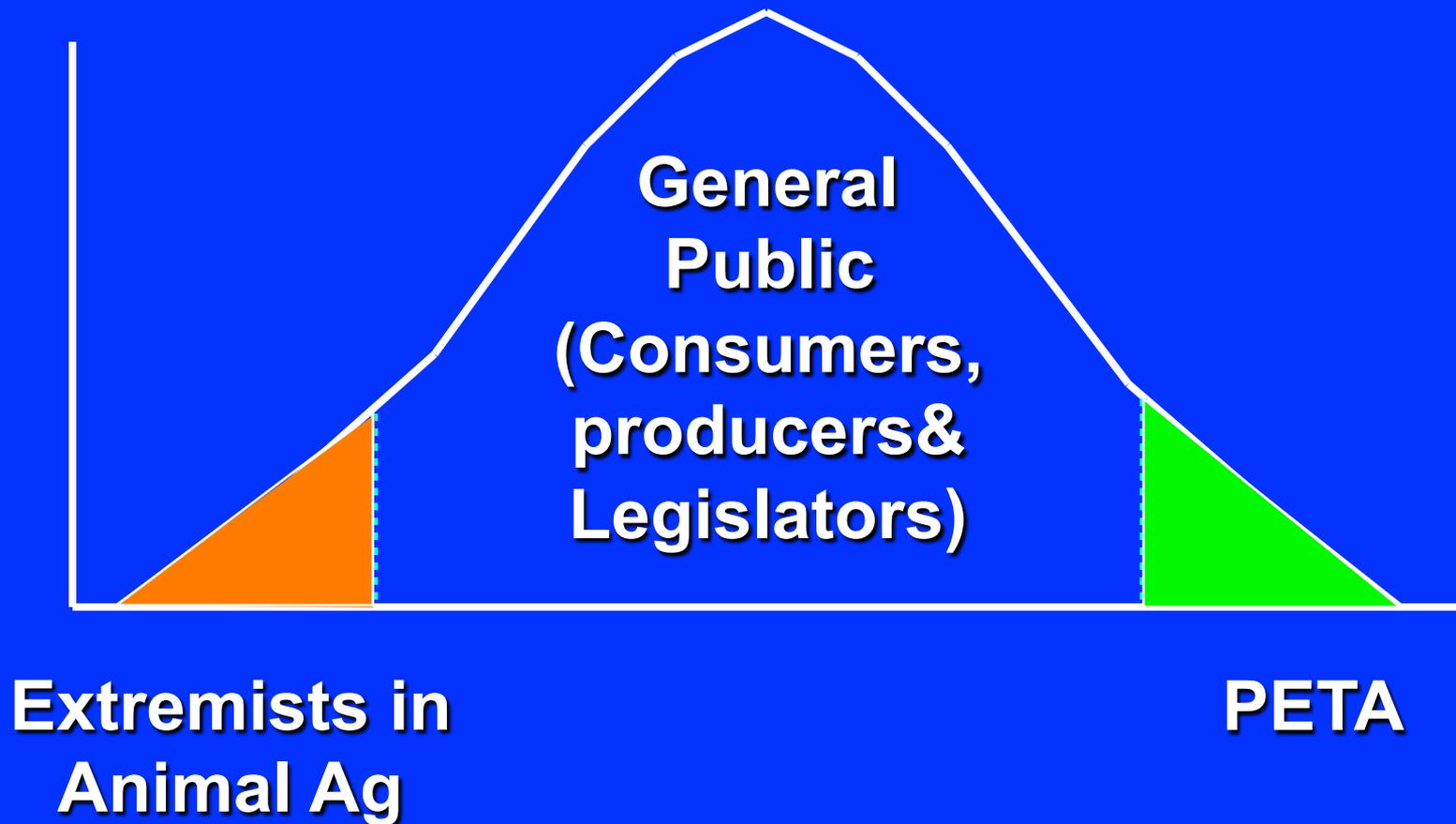


What is animal well-being

- An industry issue
- A consumer issue
- A retailer issue
- An animal issue



Animal welfare and Animal rights

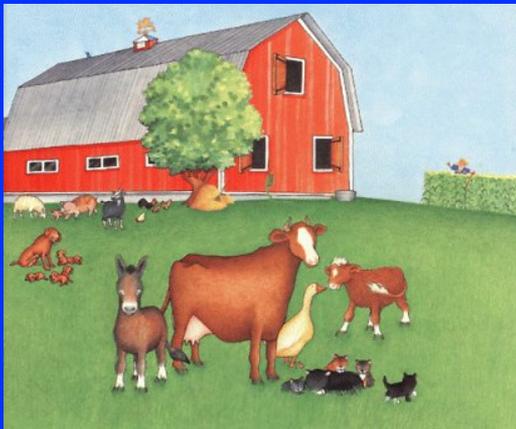
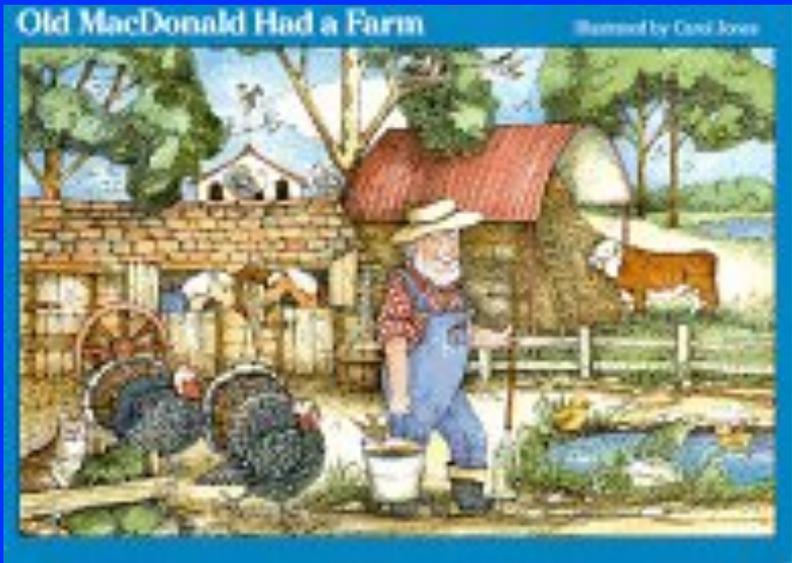


Challenge

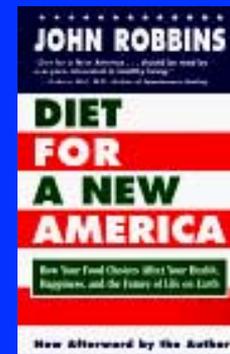
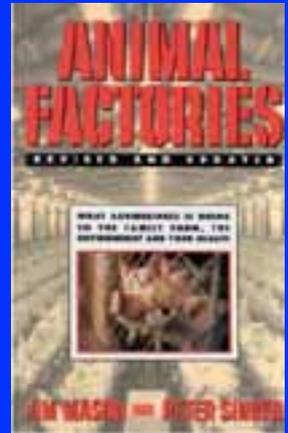
- **Public's perception and understanding**
 - **Where do they get their information?**
 - **Knowledge about agriculture?**

Perception of animal agriculture

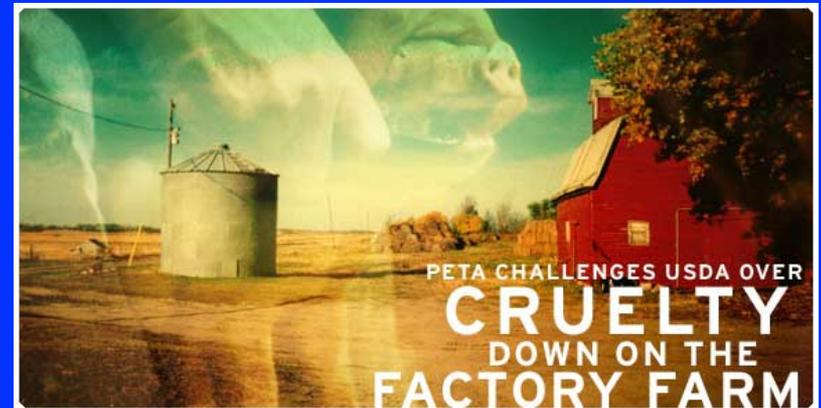
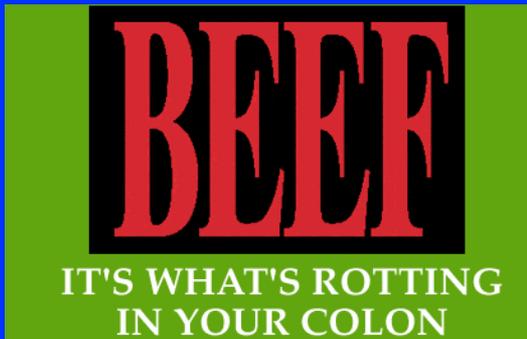
- Perception is reality



New Perception of Agriculture



- Popular literature, media creating new perception of animal agriculture



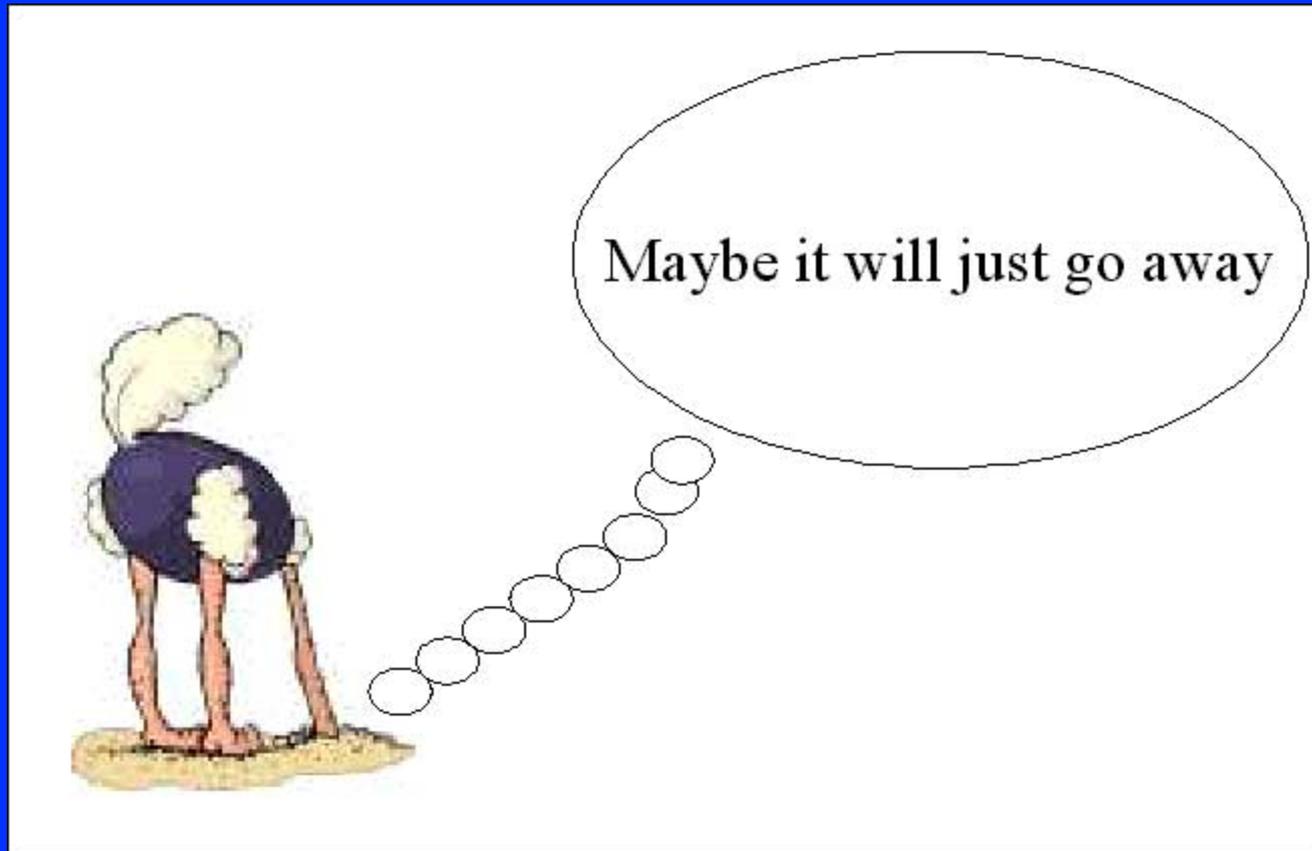
Growing Perception

- **Exploit animals**
- **Corporate control**
- **Driven by profit**
- **Food scarcity**
- **Contributes to illness**
- **Environmentally negative**

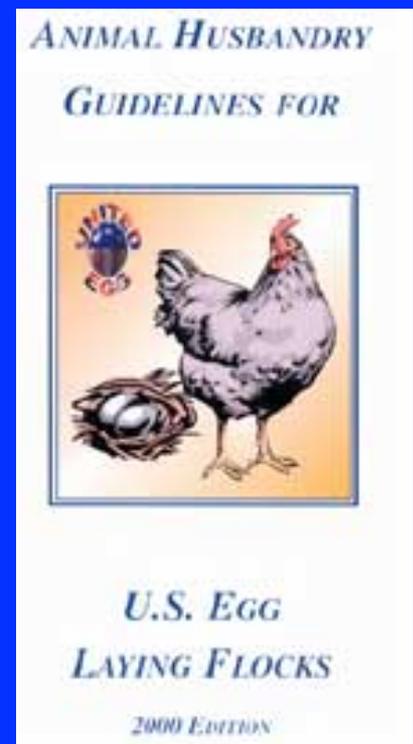
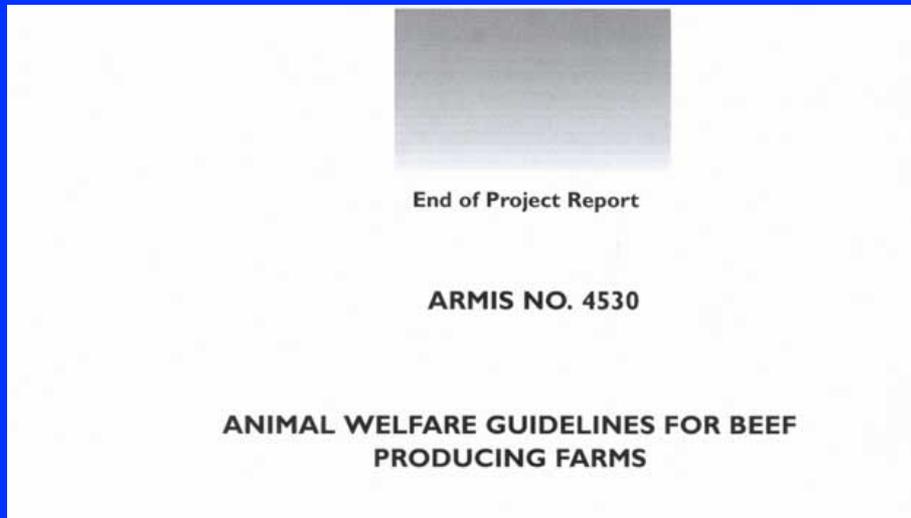
Development of guidelines, audits and certification

- UEP – United Egg producers
- McDonald' s
 - Slaughter plant
 - On farm, (UEP)
- Burger King, Wendy' s,
- Grocery chains – on radar screen
- Pizza Hut, Applebee' s

What to do?



- **Guidelines, Certification, Audits**
- **The way of the future**
- **Consumers, Retailers are going to expect it**
- **Early adopters should benefit financially**
- **The future is now!!!**



What's In It For Me?

- **Restore trust**
- **Set yourself apart**
- **Marketing tool for retailers**
- **Marketing tool for producers**

FSBI

Animal Handling and Well-being “Guidelines”



Adopted NCBA Statement of Principles

- 1. I believe in the humane treatment of farm animals and in continued stewardship of all natural resources.**
- 2. I believe my cattle will be healthier and more productive when good husbandry practices are used.**

Adopted NCBA Statement of Principles

- 3. I believe that my and future generations will benefit from my ability to sustain and conserve natural resources.**
- 4. I will support research efforts directed toward production systems that are more efficient and promote animal well-being.**

Adopted NCBA Statement of Principles

- 5. I believe it is my responsibility to produce a safe and wholesome product.**
- 6. I believe humans have the right to use agricultural animals and that humans have a responsibility to care for animals in their charge.**

Guideline Headings in FSBI Resource Manual

- **Facilities and environment**
- **Handling facilities**
- **Food and water**
- **Management**
- **Handling**
- **Health, behavior and physical alterations**

Environment

- Facilities should not cause injury or distress
- Opportunity for behavioral temperature regulation
 - roofed shelter, sunshade, windbreaks, mounds
- Means of cooling during extreme heat
 - Proper ventilation
 - Emergency plan



- **Good drainage and maintenance of pens**
- **Dust control**



- **Sufficient space to groom themselves without difficulty, room to lie down, stretch limbs and rise**
- **Close confinement for the shortest time necessary**
- **Special holding areas during the calving season should be considered**



- Floors should be maintained to reduce risk of slipping



- Smooth floors should be grooved or treated with non-slip coating



Handling Facilities

- Minimize noise
- Solid sides in races, chutes, crowding pens and loading ramps
- No more than 20% incline on loading ramps
- See Manual for specific recommendations



Food & Water

- **Cattle should be fed a diet that meets NRC Nutrient Requirements**
- **Minimize contamination by urine, feces and other materials**
- **Monitor feed bunks daily and remove stale feed and contaminants**



- **Producers should have records of concentrates and supplements fed**
- **No feedstuffs containing prohibited ruminant derived protein sources are permitted**
- **If limit feeding is practiced, ensure adequate bunk space and uniform feed distribution**



- **Abrupt changes in diets should be avoided**
- **Feeding programs should allow animals to maintain or gain weight**
- **Cattle should be provided ad lib access to clean drinking water**



Management

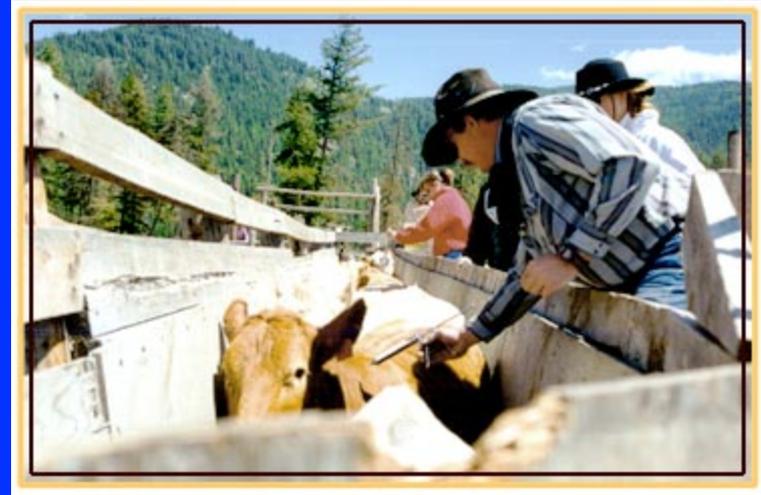
- **Develop training for stockperson, in the humane care and treatment of animals**
- **Emergency action plan**
- **Ensure health plan is implemented and data is recorded**
- **Maintain records of quarantine and medication use**
- **Comply with local, state and federal regulations.**

Handling

- Use of electric prods are highly discouraged
- Never apply prods to head, nose, eyes, ears, genitals, udders, or anus
- Holding pens should be designed to hold the maximum number of cattle to be worked at one time.

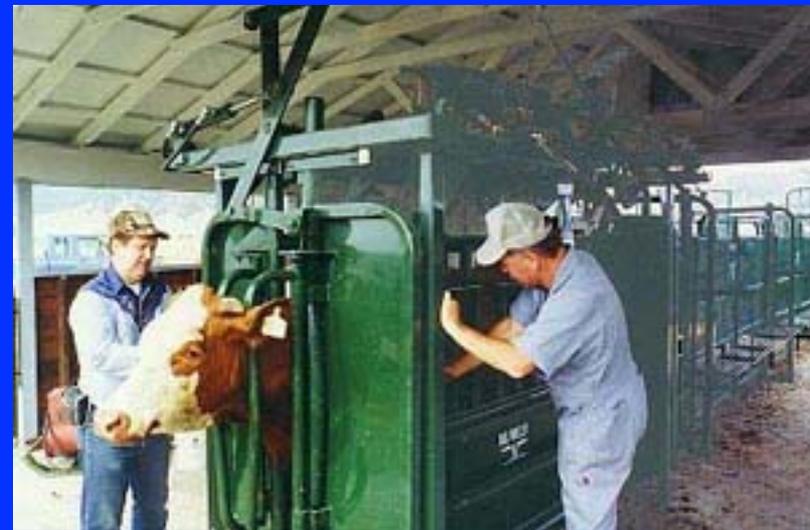


- Working chute should be narrow enough, or be sloped at the base, to reduce the animal's ability to turn around.



- Headgate and/or squeeze chute should be designed to securely restrain the animal.

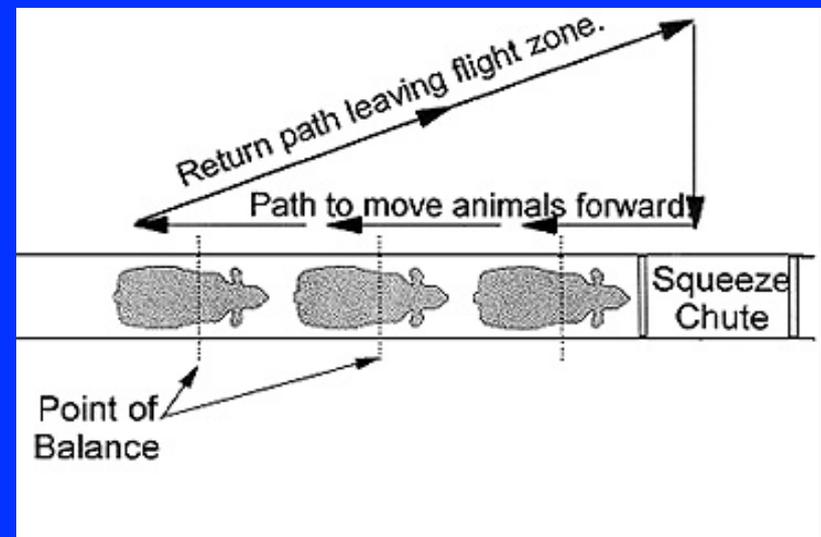
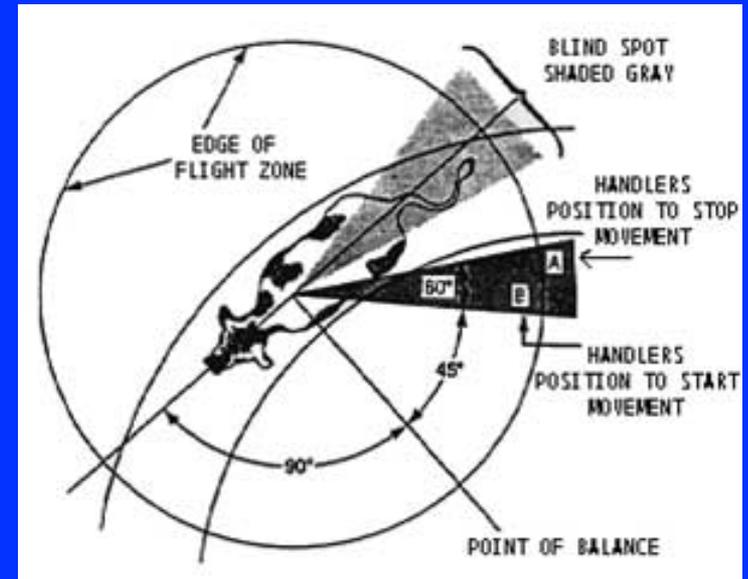
- Avoid sharp edges and protruding objects that may cause bruising.





- **Handling and restraining devices should be used humanely**
- **Minimize sudden movement or actions**
- **Minimize shadows which may cause the animal to balk**

- Understand flight zone
- Concept of applying pressure and release
- Understand point of balance

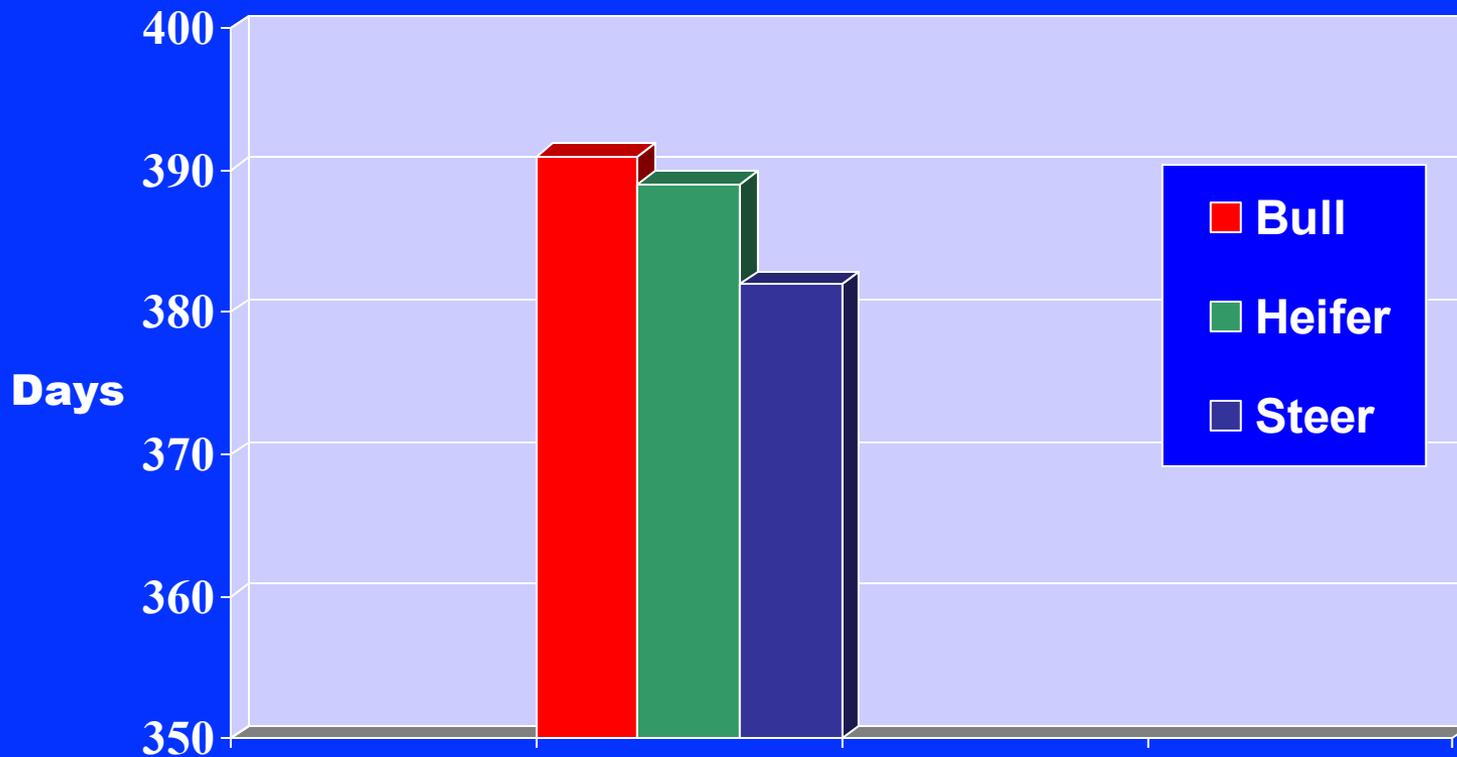


Castration

- Castrate at the earliest possible age
- **KNIFE METHOD
REQUIRED AFTER 4
MONTHS OF AGE**

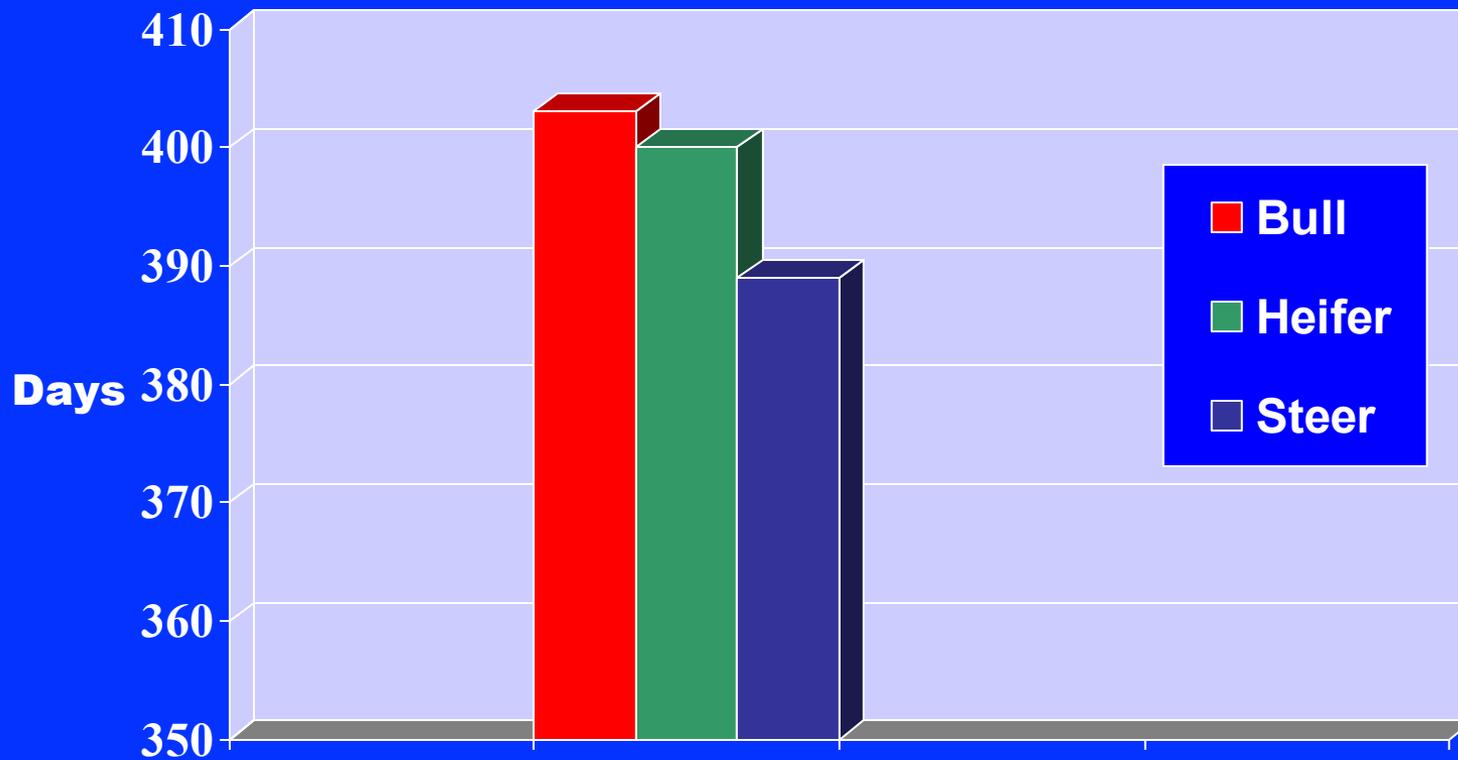


Average first/second calving interval by sex of first weaned calf*



*All differences significant ($P < .001$)

Average second/third calving interval by sex of second weaned calf*



*All differences significant ($P < .001$)

Downer animals

- No live animal should leave the farm without walking unassisted
- Avoid hoisting by chains, dragging, lifting without complete body support



Euthanasia

- **Provisions for humane euthanasia**
- **If any doubt exists, call the veterinarian**
- **If an animal is in severe uncontrollable pain, the animal should be promptly and humanely euthanized**
- **Disposal of the deceased animal must meet local and/or state requirements and regulations**