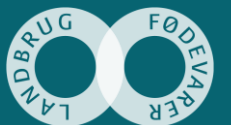


Calving management

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KVÆGKONGRES 2019



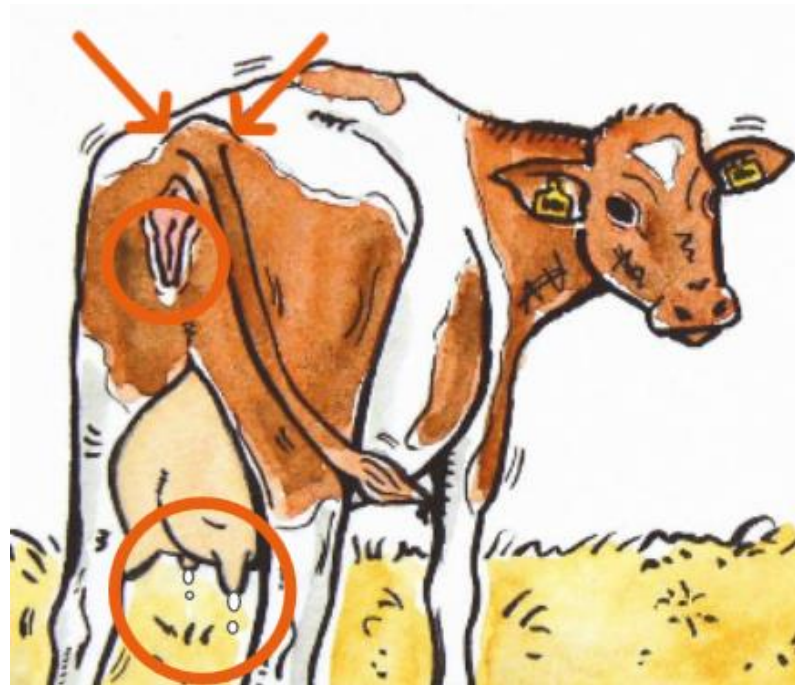
Why is it important?

- Stillbirth ↑
- Trauma of the cow ↑
- Uterine disorders ↑
- Milk production ↓
- Reproductive problems ↑



Close to calving

- Ligaments (soften)
- Vulva (swelling and mucus)
- Udder (swelling)



It's time to move
the cow to the
calving pen

Dilation phase

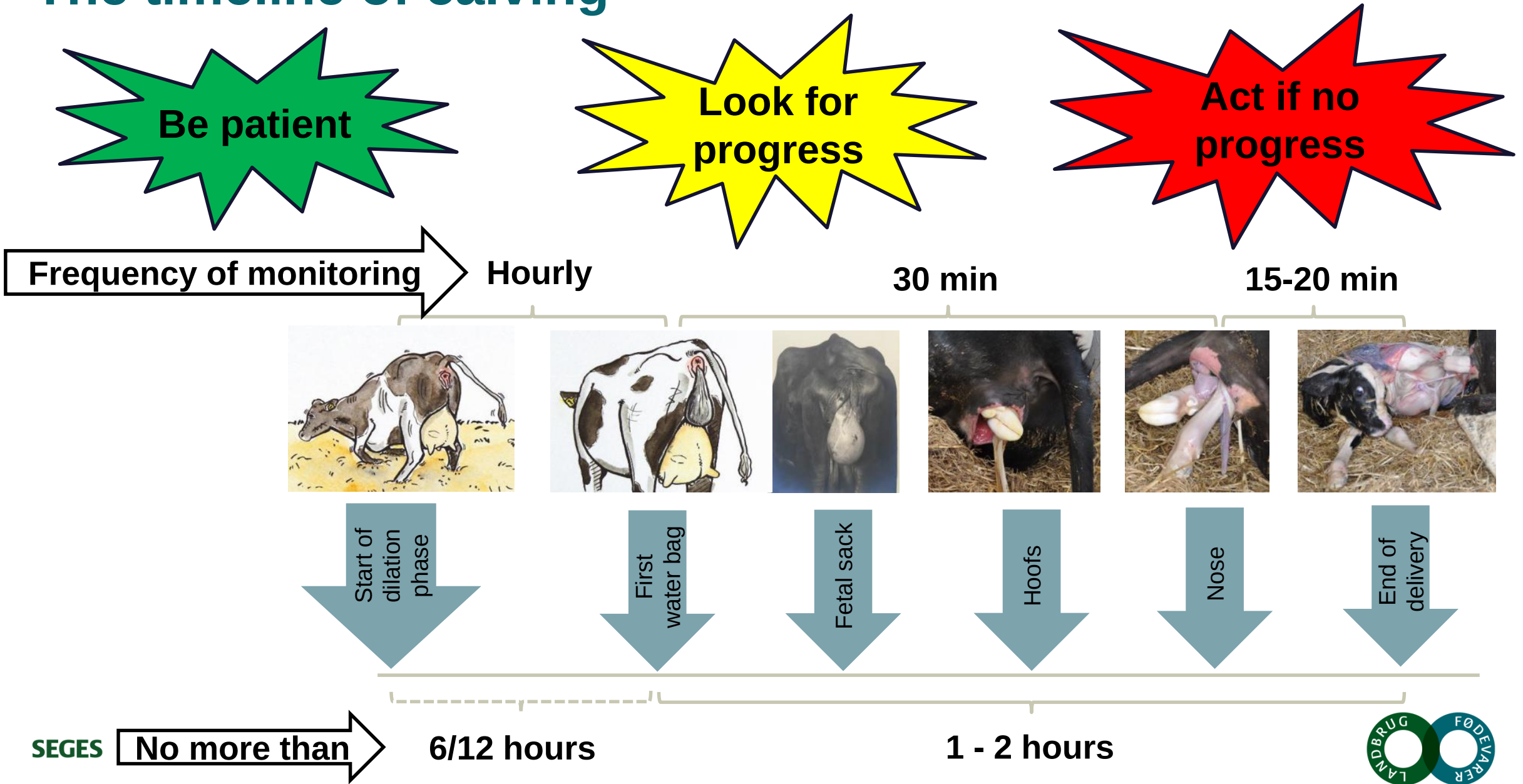
- Nest seeking
- Restless
- Tripping on hindlegs
- Frequent urinating and defecating
- Vocalizing



Don't move the cow during this phase

The dilation of the internal birth canal begins - it gets softer and open up

The timeline of calving

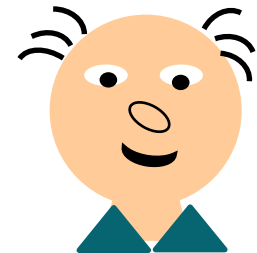


Possible reasons for delay of calving

- Insufficient opening of birth canal – stress?
- Subclinical milk fever
- Malposition of calf
- Uterus twisted
- Calf/cow size

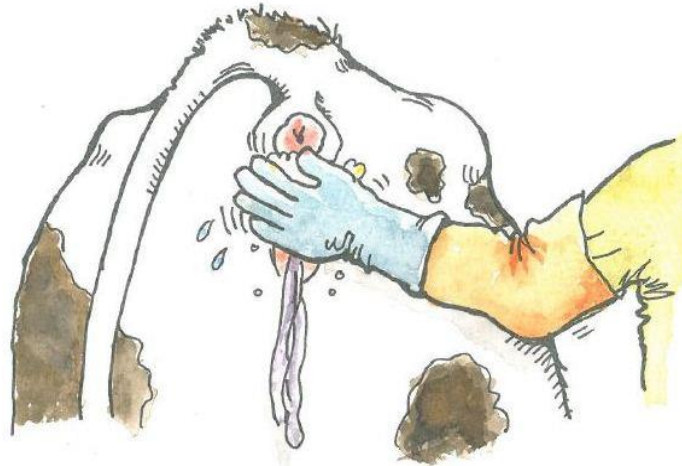


Nothing happens...
What's the reason?



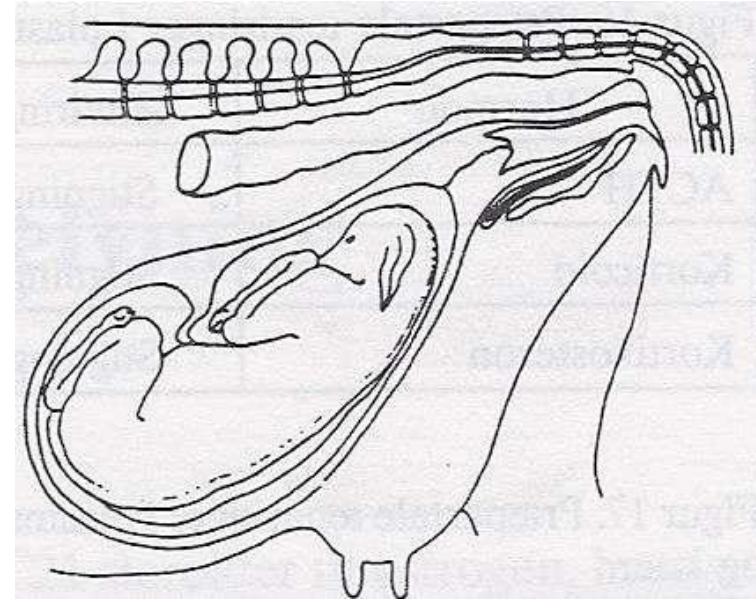
Hygiene practices during the assistance procedure

- Clean the cow
- Clean yourself
- Lubricate (gel)

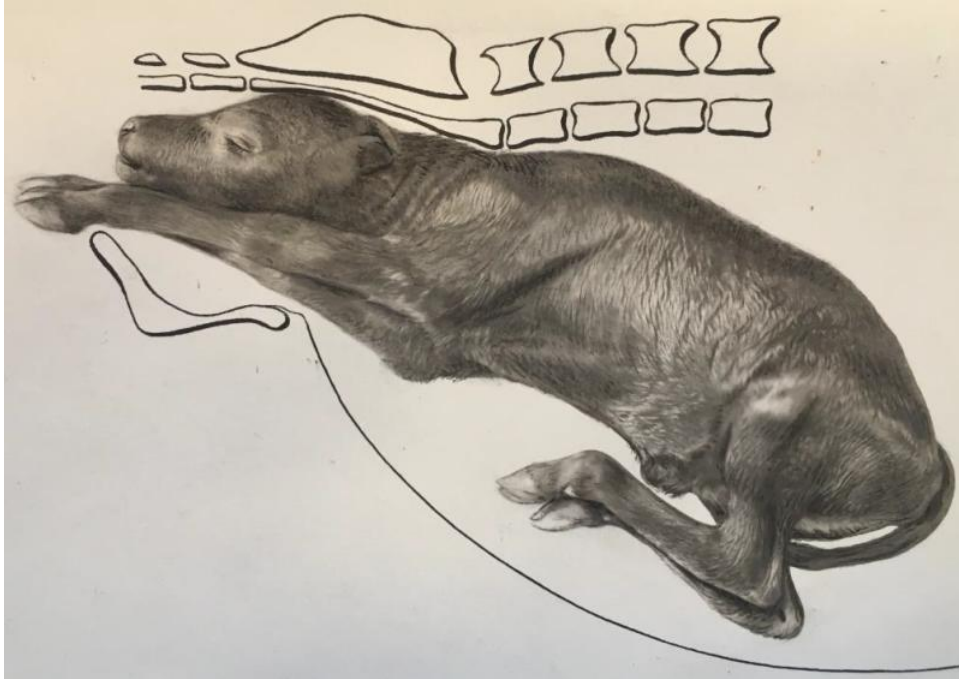


What do you feel?

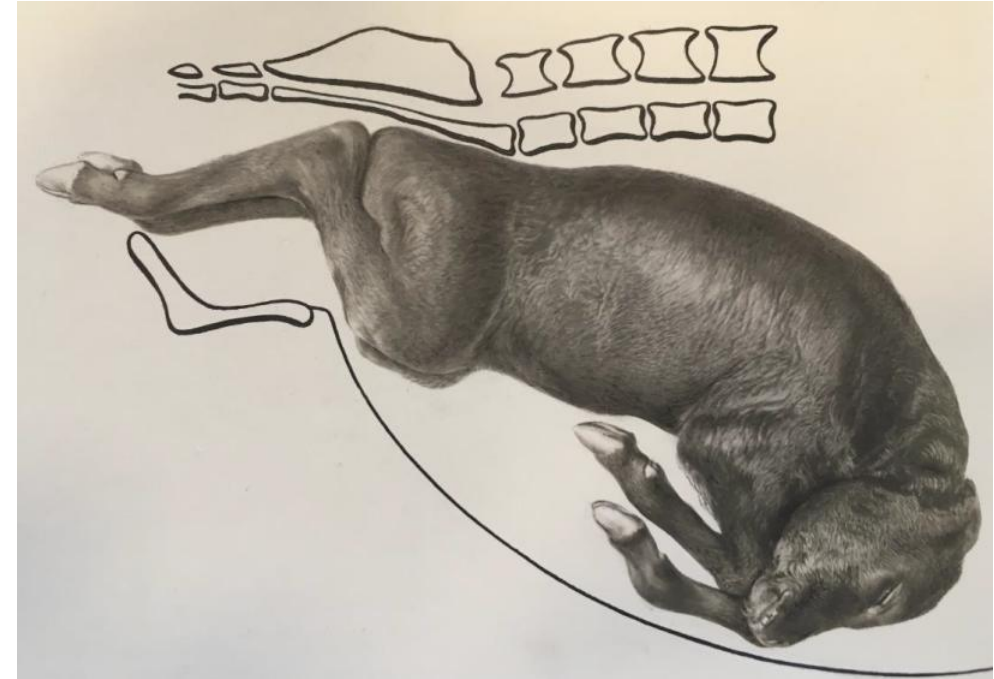
- Is the cervix open? How much?
- Can you feel the calf directly or through the water bag?
- Is the birth canal straight or twisted?
- Position of the calf



Normal delivery

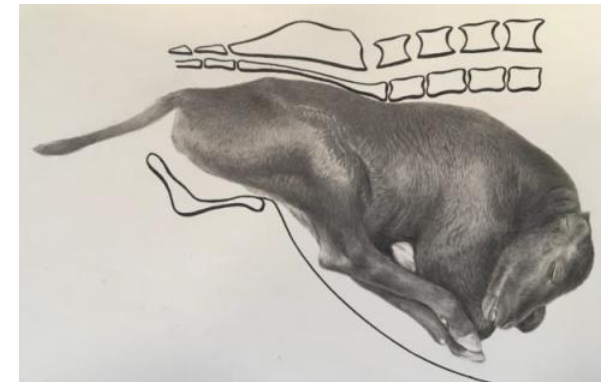
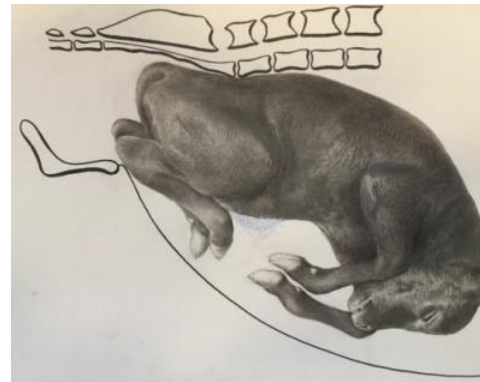
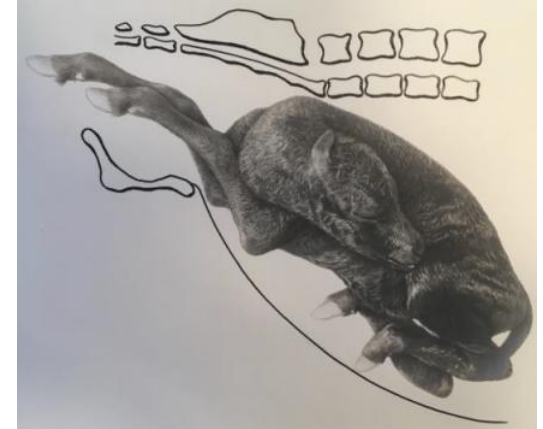
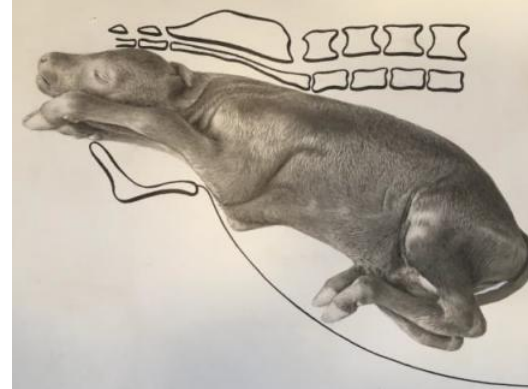
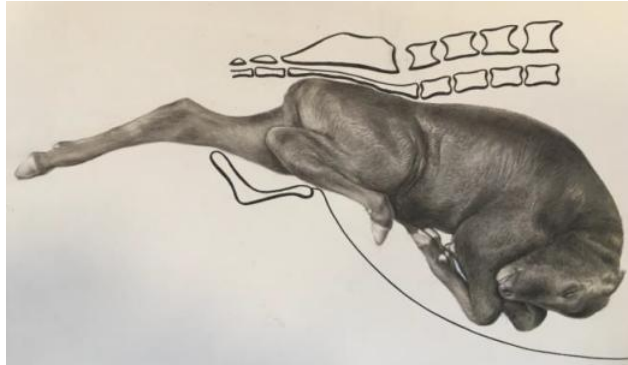


Don't pull if everything is going all right



Don't pull before dilation is completed and the fetlocks are visible

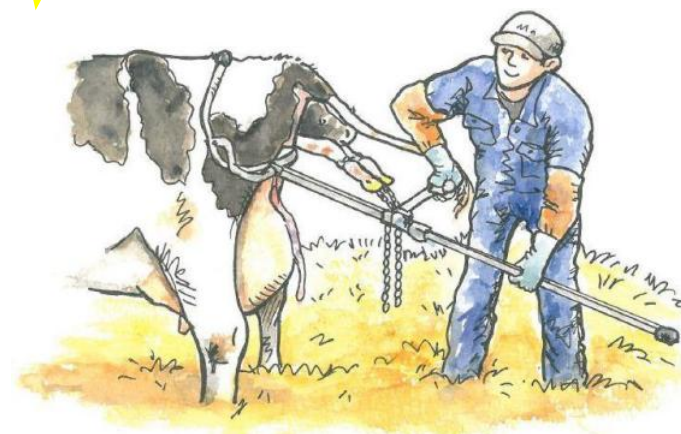
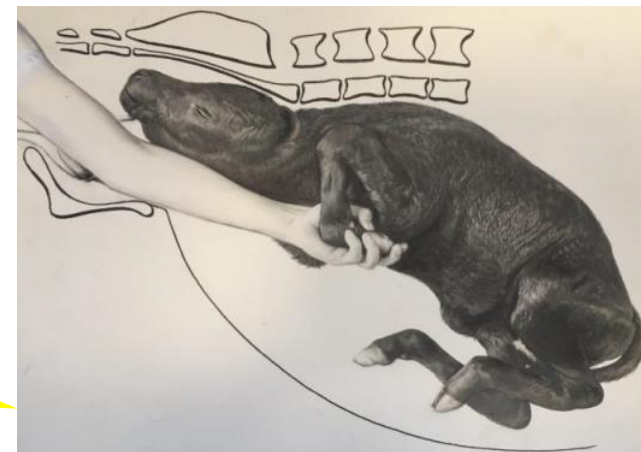
Malposition of the calf



Correcting malpositions

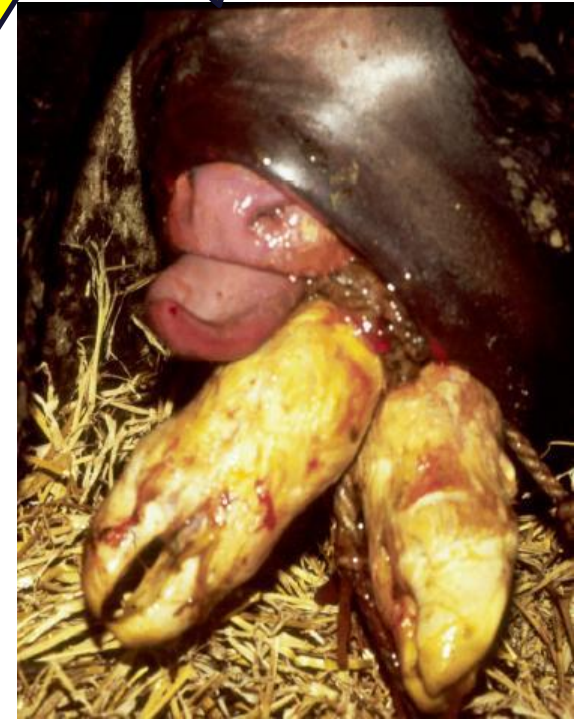
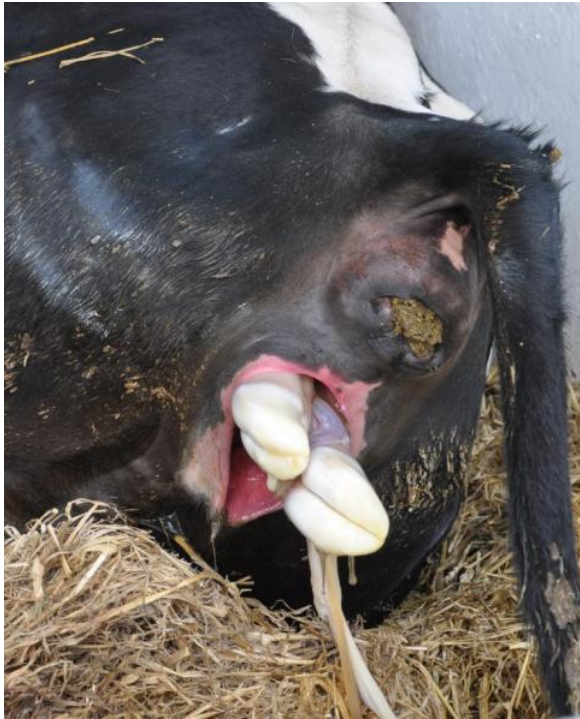
- Clean
- Use lots of lubricant (gel)
- Be gentle
- If possible – let the cow stand up
- Push the calf back into the uterus
- Bring the calf in the right position
- Robes or chains should be placed above the fetlocks before pulling

Protect the birth canal from hooves and teeth

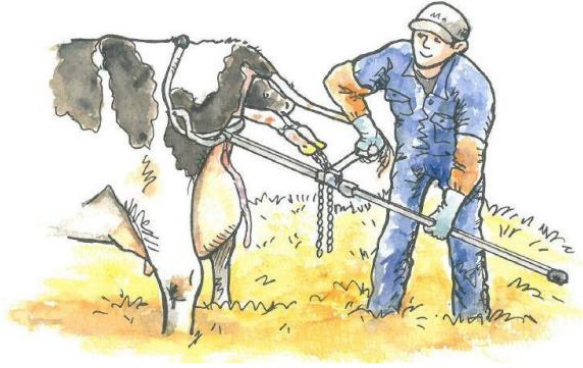


What should you do when...

**Brown coloured
Swollen or blue tongue
Cold legs**



Know your own limitations



Max. 30 minutes



STOP



Call your vet

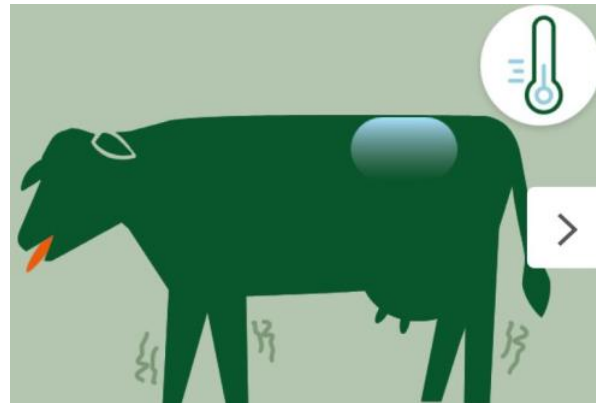
Newborn calf care

- Breathing
- Dry
- Navel
- Sucking
- Colostrum



Cow care after parturition

- Birth canal (lesions, remaining calf, afterbirth)
- Milkfever
- Water
- Udder check and colostrum harvesting



A black and white cow with a yellow tag on its ear is looking down at a newborn calf lying on a bed of straw. The calf is black and white with some pinkish-red marks on its body. A white fence is visible in the background.

**Thanks for
listening**