

## ANIMAL WELFARE OBLIGATIONS FOR PAINFUL HUSBANDRY PROCEDURES IN CATTLE

This factsheet is a summary of the Code of Welfare: Painful Husbandry Procedures published by MPI. (Link at the bottom of the page)

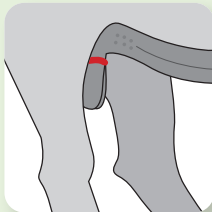
**⚠ From May 2021 these are the new MINIMUM STANDARDS**  
 (The section in white at the bottom of the page is recommended best practice)

**No painful procedures to be performed on animals under 12 hours old**

### CASTRATION



**Pain relief MUST be used if animals are over six months old**



**Use correct size of rubber ring**

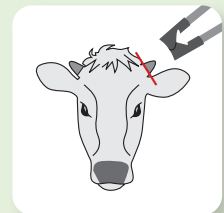
- Ring above testes and below teats
- If using high tension band then anaesthetic must be used (any age)

### DISBUDDING OR DEHORNING



**Disbudding**

Thermal cauterising or chemical techniques must not damage animal tissue beyond the bud



**Dehorning**

Method must minimise pain, distress and risk of infection

Local anaesthetic authorised by a vet **MUST** be used on animals of all ages when disbudding or dehorning.

### RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE



**Always use pain relief for any age**



**Work Hygienically**



**Seek veterinary advice on best methods**

### RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE



**Animals should be disbudded in preference to being dehorned**



**Use pain relief for any age when disbudding or dehorning**



**Use wound dressings to prevent blood loss when dehorning**



**Inspect animals during healing period after dehorning and treat infected wounds**

### GENERAL INFORMATION



**Apply rubber rings to neck of scrotum between 1-4 weeks of age**



**No rubber rings after four months of age**



**If in doubt, seek veterinary advice on best methods**