**Gigli Wire**

This was performed using 20mls Lidocaine(2%), 10mls at each site to block the Cornual nerve.

**Procedure:**

* Ensure that the cornual nerve has been properly blocked by pricking the skin around the horn to observe for any reaction to the stimulus.
* Place the Gigli wire at the base of the horn ensuring that some skin will be taking off with removal of the horn.
* Start with slow sawing motions to ensure that the wire doesn’t slip up the horn before a notch has been created.
* Once a notch has been created, increase the speed of the sawing motion.

(A good indication that the procedure is done properly is that there will be smoke produced.)

* Once the horn has been removed, inspect the area for any bleeding arteries. (if present cauterize the area to stop the bleeding)
* Pack the sinus with sterile gauze and spray the area with antibiotic and screw worm spray.

**Precautions:**

* Ensure that the Gigli wire will take off some skin with the horn.
* Ensure that proper hand wear is worn when using the Gigli wire.

**Complications:**

* Flystrike
* Infection/sinusitis
* Hemorrhage
* Tetanus
* Potential decreased weight gain following dehorning of older calves due to pain and stress
* Gigli wire may slip up the horn, resulting in improper dehorning (regrowth of horn)

 **Advantages:**

* Fast
* Useful after the horn bud attaches to the skull
* Hemostasis may not be required as the heat generated by the wire cauterizes the wound.

**Disadvantages:**

* Risk of infection because of open wounds
* Opens the frontal sinus in older calves
* Avoid use during fly season
* Requires expertise - anaesthesia, sedation, analgesia and technique
* May require control of bleeding - pulling arteries or cautery