***Obstetrical Wire***

Obstetrical wire can be used when a cutting device will not work for really large horns occasionally found on cows and bulls and horn regrowth that curves into the head. As with other techniques, it is essential to include a 1.0 cm ring of haired skin with the horn when one makes the cut. Anaesthesia is recommended for cutting with an OB wire because the technique is relatively slow. A long piece of wire is attached to two handles, then moved back and forth rapidly to saw through the horn base plus a ½-inch circle of skin.

**Advantages:**

* Can be used to remove horns in older cattle.

**Disadvantages:**

* Greater risk of exposed sinus, infection and blood loss
* painful
* may lead to set-backs in overall health and performance, including weight loss
* requires follow-up care
* poses risk of injury to the animal and handler.