POST-OP CARE- case 3

Farmer/client communications:

Avoid dirty, wet and rough ground conditions. Keep concrete yards free of sharp gravel especially for cattle with soles worn thin. At sea, provide soft, dry, non-slip flooring by distributing plenty of dry absorbent sawdust in pens and preventing water leaks.

Use low stress animal handling methods. Cattle worked on concrete yards over many days must be prevented from overwearing the soles of the feet by being allowed to walk and turn slowly and place feet carefully. Bullers should be removed from pens as soon as possible.

Make sure the farmer knows about the signs of lameness and how to diagnostic it as early as possible as diagnosis is helpful in the treatment and severity of the disease.

Complications

There could be deep digital sepsis – treatment would be to do a digital amputation

Swelling around the coronary band with pus- treatment would be systemic antibiotics such as Amoxicillin. Should be treated as an emergency.

Secondary infections occurring- treatment topical antibacterial products, keep animal in a dry, clean area away from other cows for healing to take place.

The hoof could be cut improperly, so the addition of a block could be used help keep the weight off the injured claw.

Prevention- Keep the claws properly trimmed to prevent unwanted infection.

Provide some soft matting when the animals are in their stalls.

Groove smooth surfaces where the animals walk to prevent any slipping or sliding.

Cows should be watched for signs of lameness or pain.