



Bien
Etre
Animal

A participative training program to improve pain relief during hot iron-disbudding of calves

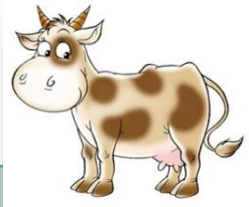
ACCEC PROJECT: CASDAR AAP2012 N° 1273

Béatrice MOUNAIX, Anne BRULE and Luc MIRABITO – Institut de l’Elevage
Marylise Le GUENIC, Guylaine TROU, Julien FRANÇOIS - Chambre d’Agriculture de Bretagne
Alice de BOYER des ROCHES, INRA – VetAgro Sup



A multi-partners project to support farmers for a better relief of animal pain during the disbudding of calves and the tail docking of piglets» (CASDAR AAP2012 n°1273)

Jan. 2013



Disbudding

Experimental WP:
Pain alleviation
Pain indicators



Guidelines
Training

Multi-stakeholder approach

Farmers federations
Farm vets Federations
Competent authorities: animal protection and
veterinary medicinal offices
NGO

3 Exchange
Committees

2x2 Focus
groups

Key elements to be addressed*:
Attitudes towards pain
Gaps of knowledge
Challenges of changing working routine
Social environment

Interviews



Tail docking

Experimental WP:
Pain alleviation
Pain indicators



Guidelines

Dec. 2015

*Kling-Eveillard et al, 2014 - EAAP

« How to disbud calves efficiently, easily and without pain » *(with support from)*

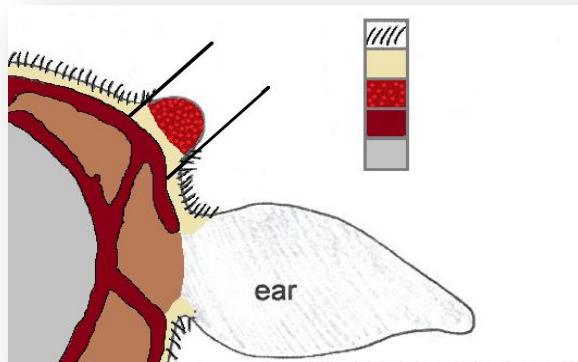


One-day training: theoretical, practical and participative sessions to instigate individual reflection on the issue of pain, into the farm routine ... for long term broad improvement.

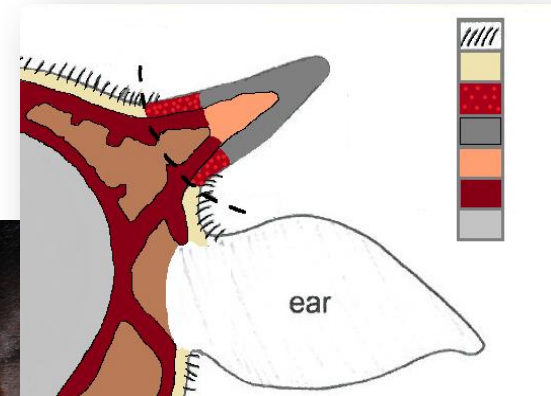
- ❑ Training duo: a technician and a veterinarian: *demonstration, technical information, equipment, good practices, pain treatment, ...*
- ❑ Several structured collective discussions: *“sharing” to facilitate new knowledge appropriation, to initiate changes in attitudes and, later, in practices.*
- ❑ 7 training objectives: *“be able to explain” and “be able to do”*

Short term impacts of the training on 40 farmers (30 dairy and 10 suckling) : face-to-face interviews and observations before training then 3 months after.

Dehorning: you'd better know what you do



French: Ébourgeonner
Disbudding



French: Écorner
Dehorning

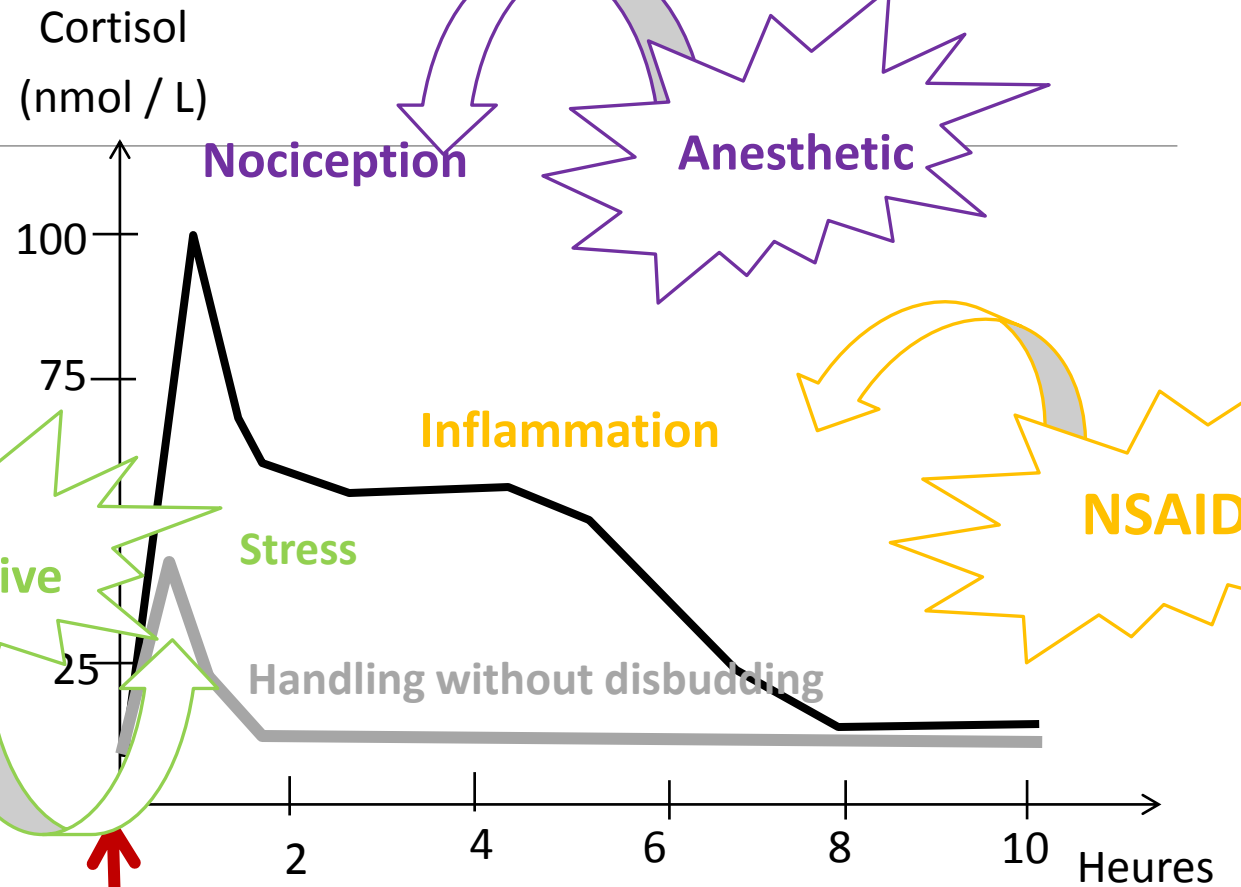
AccEC Training: some insights

Theoretical parts

Pain isn't short



I can feel pain...



Hot disbudding

Pain: 7-9 h after disbudding

From Stafford and Mellor, 2005

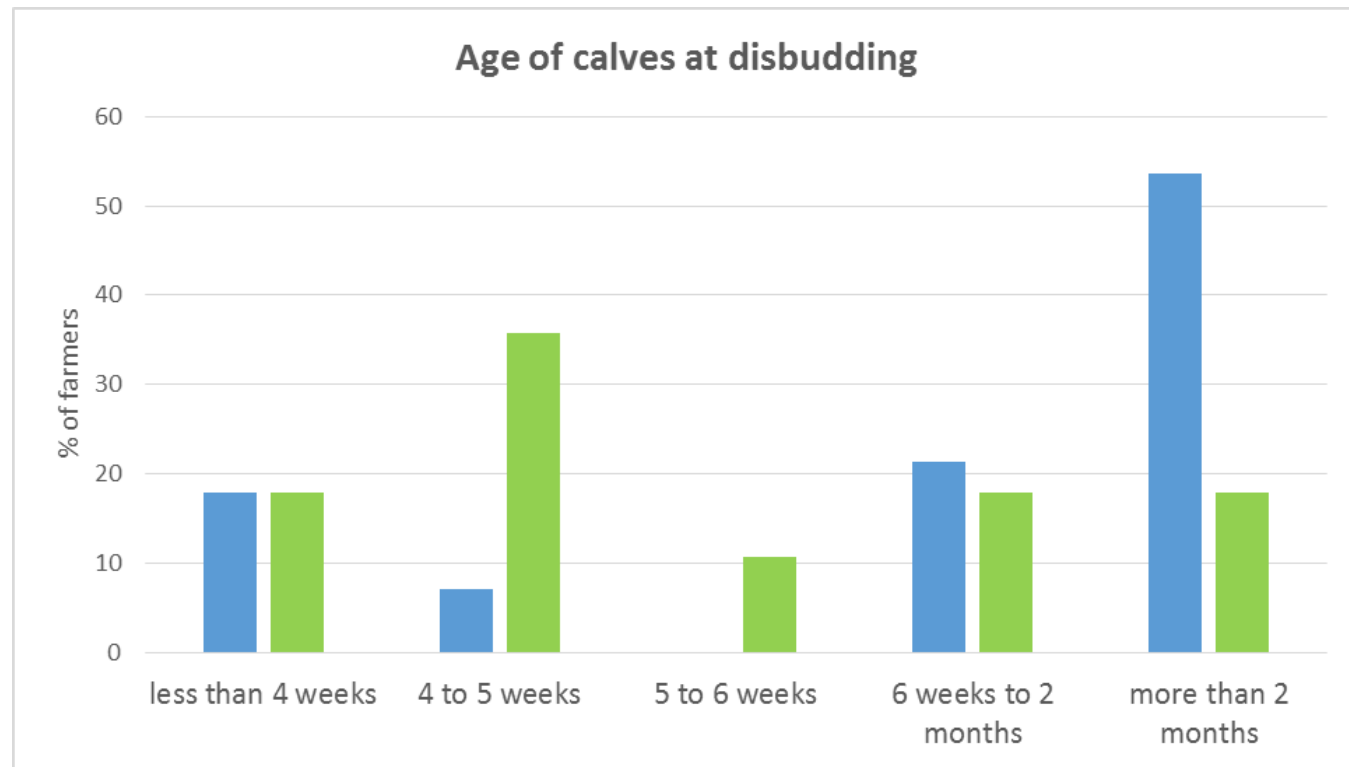
Yes, you can!



After training:

“I should disbud younger”

- ❑ all were **very satisfied**
- ❑ **new knowledge:** horn anatomy and growing, disbudding equipment, handling facilities
- ❑ induced **a change in** working organization (dairy calves)
- ❑ **20% still disbud late:** couldn't change working routine ... fear to fail disbudding?



After training:

“I can improve my gesture”

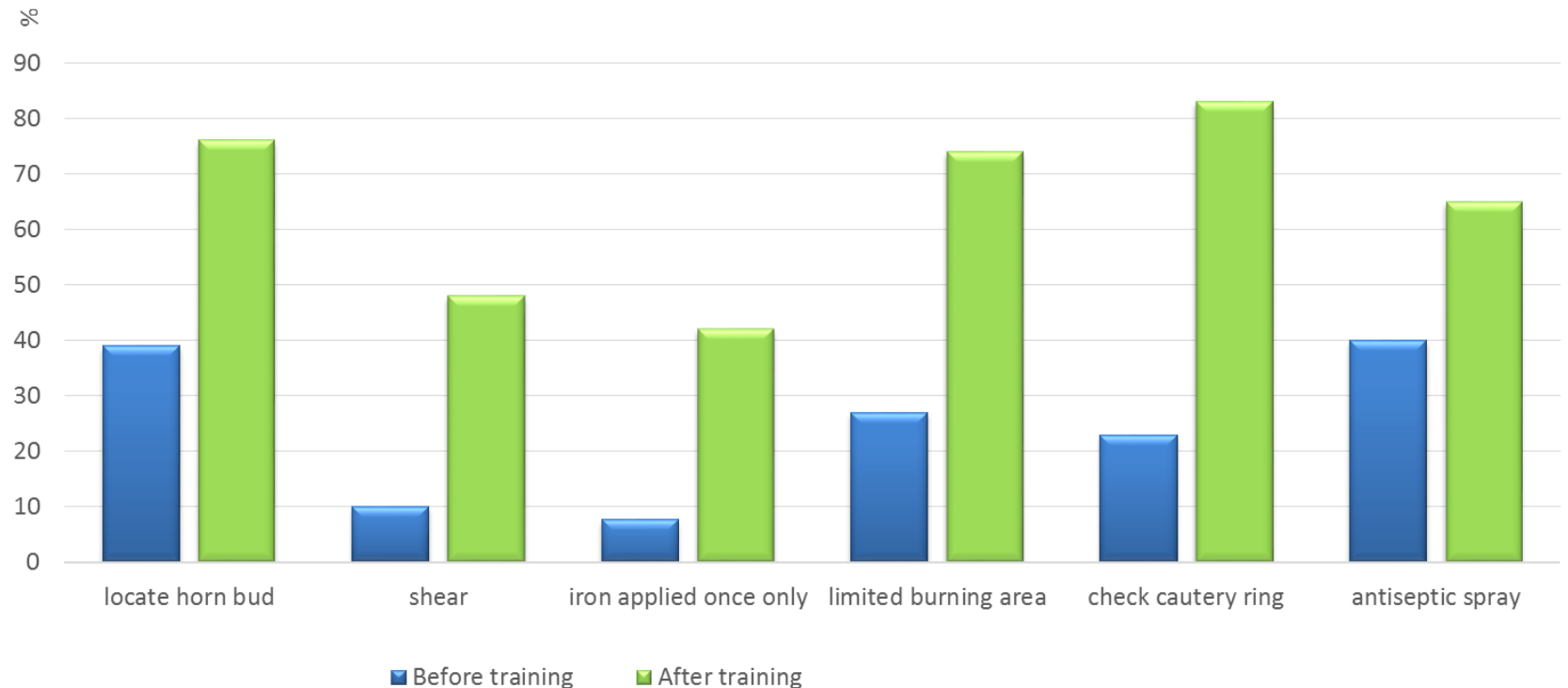
Practical hits:

shearing to better locate, no need to tear off the bud, cool with spray...

20% have room for improvement:

keep the iron too long: fear to fail the procedure...

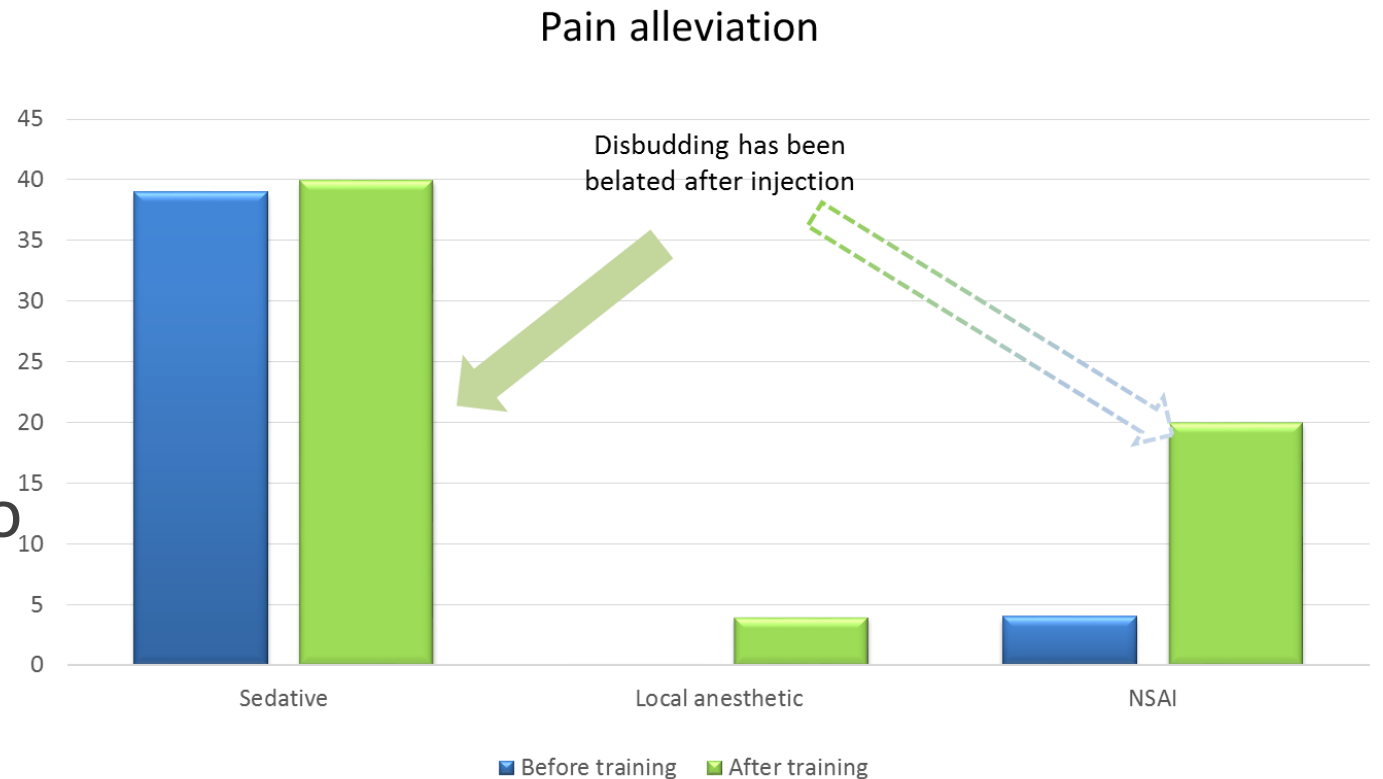
Disbudding procedure



After training:

“Sorry, but I can’t improve pain relief...”

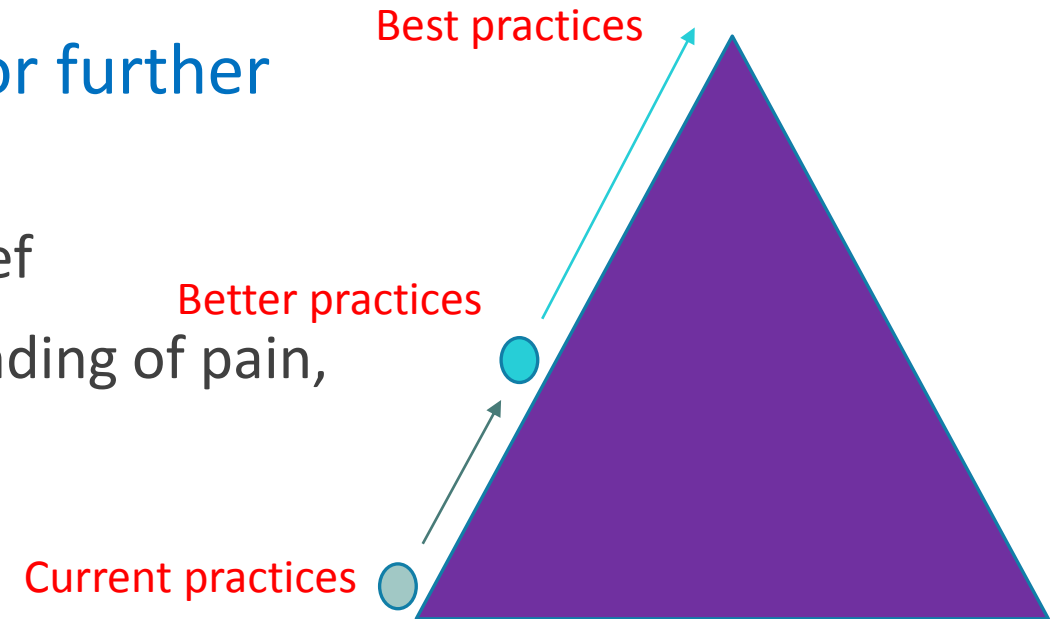
- ❑ 40% find it **difficult to implement**, but **50% felt more sensitive** to animal pain: further improvements to expect...
- ❑ but actually **they did improve!**
- ❑ **Anesthetic?** delayed drug action is a **bottleneck**... and a shot close to the eye!
- ❑ *Too much novelty at once?*



Any optimistic perspectives? **Yes, we have !**

❑ Progress has been instigated: **evolution for further revolution...**

- Technical improvement contributes to pain relief
- Awareness to animal pain and better understanding of pain, induced a better use of Sedative
- Best practices: a matter of time....



❑ Need for further research on **medicinal treatment of pain**: easier, quicker...

❑ Need the **implication of all stakeholders**: farmers, veterinarians, technicians, to encourage progress, to include pain relief into routine discussion



Thank you for your attention.

Thanks to all contributors, partners and supporters of AccEC project.

Thanks to the farmers who contributed to the tests of the training.

We look forward to seeing you in 2016 for the final public meeting of the project.

