

BOS

BOVINE ORTHOPAEDIC SPLINT

The BOS splint is quick and easy to apply and can give immediate mobility to a disabled cow.

Models for calves and cows

BOS Splints for Cows -
available Small (blue), Large (Orange), X-Large (Lilac)



- Treatment of calving paralysis with a splint will ensure that the cow is quickly mobile. It will also reduce the chances of her falling and further damaging her leg.
- Surveys have shown an 80% success rate treating cases of calving paralysis with BOS splints.
- Early treatment of a severed extensor tendon with a BOS splint will give a good chance of full recovery.

BOS Splints for Calves -
available for front leg (yellow) and hind leg (green)



- Fracture repair
- Contracted tendons
- Bone deviations (under vet supervision)

N.B. Check regularly for swelling, abrasion or discomfort, and replace bandaging if required. Splint is generally removed after 7 or 8 days.

FACT SHEET

What is calving paralysis?

Calving paralysis is damage to the nerves supplying the muscles of the hind limb. It can be caused by a large calf or a prolonged or difficult delivery.

Most commonly only one leg is affected, but in some cases both hind legs can be paralysed. The symptoms range from slight knuckling of the fetlock joint to complete paralysis of both hind limbs and the cow unable to rise.

Research has shown that 25% of all cases of cows with calving paralysis, fall and break a leg or rupture ligaments when they try to walk.

What can be done once a cow has paralysis?

- 1) Ensure the cow has shelter, food and water.
- 2) Anti-inflammatory drugs given early under veterinary supervision can be beneficial.
- 3) The use of a BOS splint will assist the cow with paralysis in one leg, enabling her to walk and prevent falling.

(If an animal has paralysis in both back legs the prognosis is poor, although supporting in a comfortable sling, such as the Shoof Daisy Lifter for some days, can often assist recovery.)

What is the BOS splint and how can it be used on cows with paralysis?

The BOS splint is moulded from ABS plastic to conform to the shape of a cow's leg. It is lined with closed-cell foam for comfort, and is applied to the back of the hind leg, using the elastic adhesive bandage supplied.

The BOS splint is best suited to treating cows with paralysis in one hind leg. It can also be used to treat a cow with a severed extensor tendon. It assists a cow to walk without falling, enabling faster recovery. The cow can generally rejoin the herd immediately.

The BOS splint is available in three sizes for cows and two models for calves. For cows the 'Small' splint is suitable for jerseys, the 'Large' for Friesians, and 'Extra-Large' for very large holstein and other generally-northern hemisphere breeds.

The Bovine Orthopaedic Splint is easy to apply and simple to use.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The splint is applied to the back of the hind leg. In most cases of paralysis the cow should be rolled onto her side, with the affected leg uppermost, and the leg will then be naturally held in extension.

The splint should be held against the back of the leg with the bottom of the splint to be level with the ground. The bandage is then wrapped continuously around the leg and the splint, starting at the hoof and finishing at the hock.



1 The BOS splint is used on those cows with calving paralysis in one hind leg.



2 Lie cow down on side with affected leg up, and apply splint to back of affected leg.



3 Ensure splint is level with the sole of the hoof. Use a size which extends from the hoof sole to the hock.



4 Wrap bandage firmly around leg and splint, starting at the hoof. Tear end of bandage and knot, securely or apply duct tape.



5 Allow animal to rise. She should walk normally. Take the BOS splint off in 4-5 days.

The BOS splint can be re-used with a new heavy-duty elastic adhesive bandage.