

**Arnica Trial 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005.**  
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Very briefly, I was asked by a local farmer if I would like to use his calves to demonstrate and teach castration using burdizzo. As we get little castration now, it was a good chance to show my NDA students how to do the job.

There were three calves. Calves 1 and 2 were of similar ages, about 3 months old. The third calf was only a couple of weeks old.

I asked if I could try treating one of them with Arnica and this was agreed to. As two of the calves were older I decided that I would inject the cords with lignocaine before castration. This was done after measuring the scrotal circumference. The anaesthetic explains why I did not comment on the pain upon handling until the afternoon following castration.

You can see the results for yourself. (see table below)

The Arnica treated calf, Calf 1, had a percentage increase in size of 36.6%.

Calf 2 had a percentage increase in size of 47%

Calf 3 the youngest one had the largest increase in size of 73%, though why this should be so great I don't know.

With regard to the pain Calf 1, on palpation, showed very little pain or discomfort. No kicking or flinching

Both of the other two calves, 2 and 3, kicked out on palpation and had to be held firmly to allow measurement.

I haven't really looked at the photos but as the lighting was not very good, typical farmer's calf house, they probably won't add anything to the story.

If I get the chance, I will repeat the trial and see if we can get similar results.

Give me a shout if you want to ask anything about it.

Arnica used was 200c spray.

**Arnica Trial 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005 - Results Table**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Calf 1 No 601109</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Calf 2 No 701117</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Calf 3 No 501164</b>	
9.28	Aconite		9.28	Aconite		9.28	Aconite	
9.30	Measure	15cm	9.30	Measure	17cm	9.30	Measure	9.5cm
9.35	Arnica		9.45	Photo		9.50	Photo	
9.40	Photo		9.46	Castrate		9.52	Castrate	
9.41	Castrate		10.05	Measure	19cm	9.55	Measure	11cm
9.42	Arnica		10.05	Photo		9.55	Photo	
9.43	Measure	15cm						
	Photo							
9.47	Arnica							
11.40	Measure	15cm	11.40	Measure	20cm	11.42	Measure	15cm
11.41	Photo		11.40	Photo		11.42	Photo	
11.47	Arnica		1.40	Measure	22cm	1.45	Measure	16cm
1.45	Measure	17cm	1.40	Photo	Painful	1.45	Photo	painful
1.46	Photo	little pain	3.30	Measure	25cm	3.30	Measure	16.5cm
1.46	Arnica		3.30	Photo	Painful	3.30	Photo	Painful
3.30	Measure	19cm						
3.30	Photo	little pain						
Next Day			Next Day			Next Day		
10.10	Measure	20.5cm	10.10	Measure	25cm	10.10	Measure	16.5cm
10.10	Photo	little pain	10.10	Photo	painful	10.10	Photo	Painful