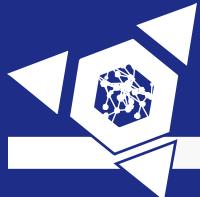


Examination of the Gastrointestinal System

A small logo in the bottom left corner features a stylized plant or tree inside a square frame, with the text "BIOSECURITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM" below it.

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SAND #



Examination from Afar: Gastrointestinal System

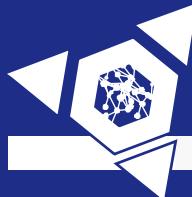
- **Information collected during an examination from a distance related to the gastrointestinal system**
 - General body condition
 - Abdominal shape
 - Normal
 - Right and left sided distention
 - Left sided distention
 - Right sided distention
 - Cranial abdominal pain
 - Abdominal pain
 - Shifting weight
 - Laying down
 - Rolling
 - Kicking at abdomen
 - Chewing cud
 - Excessive salivation
 - Consistency of feces





Collecting a Meaningful History: Respiratory System

- **Historical information related to the evaluation of the gastrointestinal system**
 - Duration of illness
 - Food and water consumption
 - Chewing cud
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - Production and consistency of feces
 - Vaccinations
 - Previous treatments: anthelmintics, magnet, electrolytes
 - History of parturition
- **Historical information related to the herd**
 - Other animals affected
 - Duration of signs
 - Similarity of signs
 - Deaths associated with the illness
 - Changes in food and/or water
 - New additions to the herd



Examination: Oral cavity and pharyngeal region

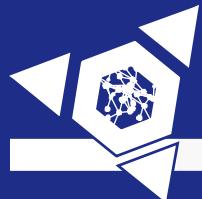
- **Oral cavity**

- Excessive salivation
- Chewing cud
- Mucous membranes: color, dryness, erosions
- Buccal papilla
- Tongue surface
- Breath odor
- Ability to swallow
- Teeth



- **Pharyngeal region**

- Swelling
- Pain



Examination: Lower Gastrointestinal Tract

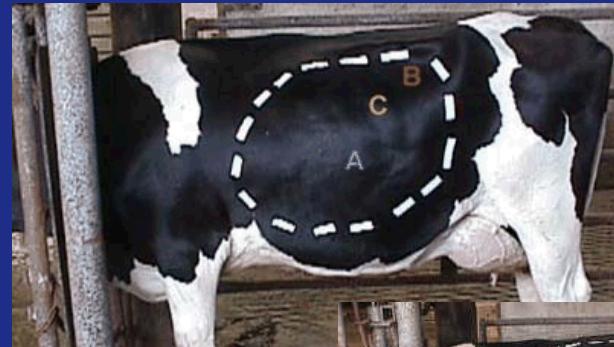
- **Auscultation of the abdomen**

- Left side:

- Rumen

- Normal contraction rate:
 - 1 – 2 primary contractions per minute
 - There should be strong and possibly visible contractions in the left paralumbar fossa

- **Simultaneous auscultation and percussion to elicit “pings”**





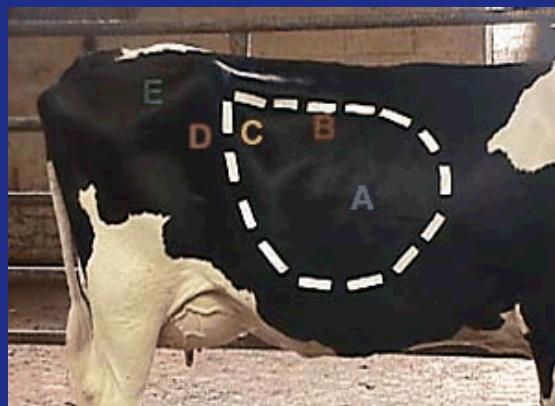
Examination: Lower Gastrointestinal Tract

- **Auscultation of the abdomen**

- Right side:

- **Spiral colon**
- **Small intestine**
- **Cecum**
- **Simultaneous auscultation and percussion to elicit “pings”**

- What are seven sources of tympanic sounds “pings”?





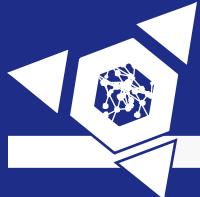
Examination: Cranial Abdominal Pain

- **Withers pinch test**



- **Grunt test**





Examination: Rectal Palpation

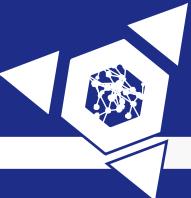
- **Adequate protection personal protection – a sleeve**
- **Adequate lubrication is required to prevent tears**
- **Keep your mouth closed while performing the exam – why?**
- **What structures can be palpated rectally?**
- **What assessment should we always make performing a rectal exam?**





Interpretation of Results: Gastrointestinal System

- **Abnormal findings: upper gastrointestinal tract**
- **Abnormal findings: lower gastrointestinal tract**
- **Abnormal findings: rectal examination**



Ancillary Tests: Respiratory System

- **Pharyngeal examination**
 - The pharynx of adult cattle can be observed using a Frick speculum and pen light and can be palpated with care
- **Ultrasound examination**
- **Radiography**
- **Microbiology**
- **Hematology**