

# **GYN** -stick®

Geburtshilfe für Rind und Pferd nach Dr. Schlederer

GYNstick - A new tool for bovine obstetrics: A modern and safe torsion fork with additional function as an obstetrical crutch.

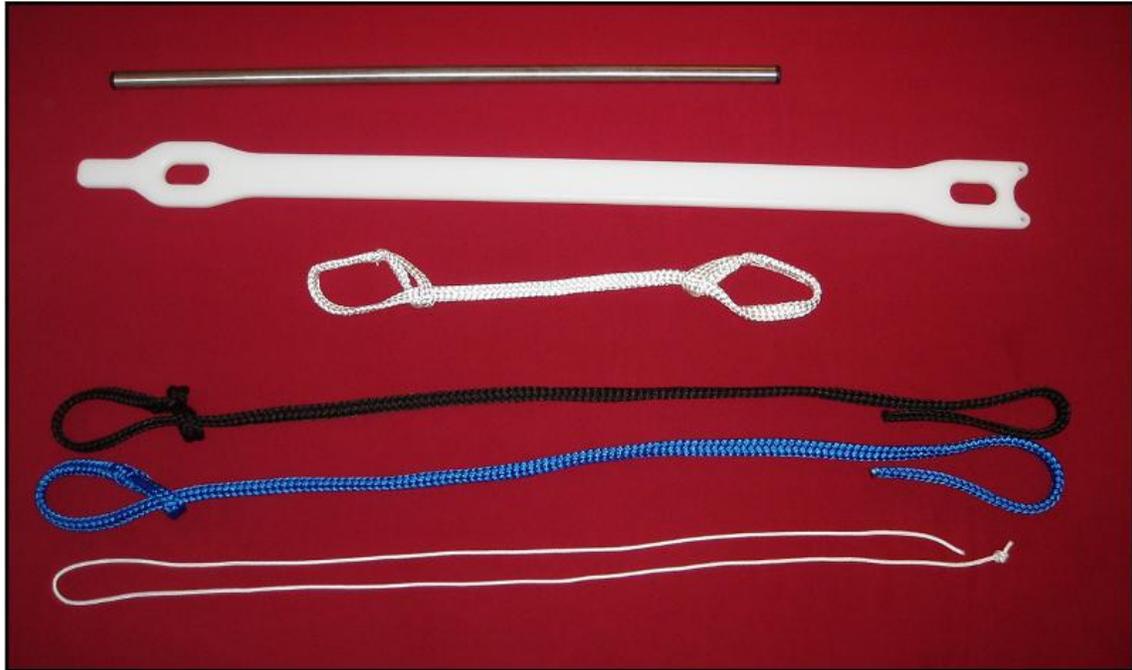
Uterine torsion is a common cause of bovine dystocia. The classical and primary choice of treatment is the manual rotation of the fetus per vaginam, which has its physical limitations. When the calf is in an anterior position the head or shoulders need to be within good reach, in a posterior position it is difficult to find a suitable location for applying sufficient rotational force. In addition, the manual method is physically demanding and can put exceptional pressure onto the shoulders and back of the bovine practitioner over the years. Sometimes, the Caemmerer's torsion fork is used to instrumentally support the manual/vaginal method. However, this method is quite controversial due to the risk of fracturing the calf's leg.

The GYNstick is a new, safe and simple instrument which minimises the risk of complications. Using the GYNstick as a torsion fork, it has a closed aperture at the anterior end for fixating the calf's legs. After applying calving ropes to the calf's legs, the ropes are threaded crosswise through the anterior aperture. Then, the ropes are tightly tied to the aperture at the posterior end of the stick, which is also used for the torque rod. Now the assistant can apply force to the torque rod and generate a torsional moment.

Several improvements are apparent when compared with the Caemmer's fork. The complicated cuff system is replaced by two calving ropes. The risk of a cuff slipping off is eliminated and it is easy to keep an overview during the process of rotation. The optimal length of the GYNstick also affords the veterinary practitioner enough space for manual assistance during rotation of the calf. Even under severe structural strain, the plastic GYNstick is stable but also displays good flexibility. These features allow accurate control of the rotational force applied, preventing fracturing of the calf's legs. The author tested the GYNstick in practice over one year and used it in at least 10 cases successfully and without any complications.

To provide a versatile tool, the posterior end of the GYNstick is modified based on the principles of the Kühn's obstetrical crutch. It is formed into two rounded arms with eyelets for the string, which are wider than the ones of the original Kühn's obstetrical crutch. The danger of injuring the cow is therefore substantially reduced.

Additional new application possibilities include correction of bilateral hip flexion and the bilateral shoulder flexion posture.



**Abbildung 1: Complete equipment of the GYNstick set**



**Abbildung 2: Detorsion in action; Note the remarkable space in between the cow's end and the "turning" person; enough space for the vet to monitor "intravaginally" the process**

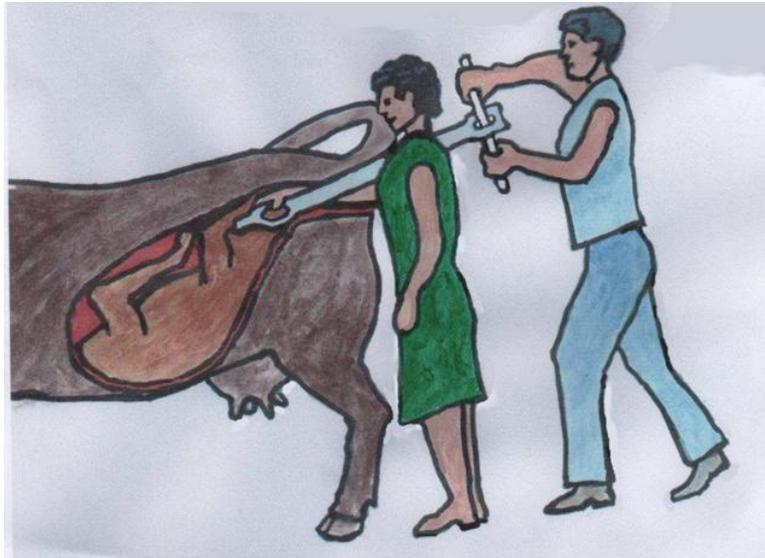


Abbildung 3: Graphic of detorsion with the GYNstick as a real and successful teamwork