Callicrate Banding

Advantages and Disadvantages:

* bloodless, easy to perform
* large lesions may form above the band site and persist for long times, making latex bands inappropriate for yearling cattle
* wounds heal more slowly than those from surgical castration
* newest versions of banders for older calves adjust the latex bands to correct tension
* potential for missed testicles
* band may break or band may not disrupt all circulation to the testicles
* preferred for castrating at a wet, muddy feedlot
* infections, including tetanus and blackleg, may warrant vaccination prior to banding
* public concern about pain and animal welfare associated with banding older calves
* lower weight gains following latex-band castration compared to surgical castration
* EZE and Callicrate methods without anaesthesia for older bulls deemed inhumane and unethical