





INDICATIONS


The following are indications for amputation of the bovine digit:


 severe foot rot unresponsive to antibiotics and complicated by osteomyelitis; abscess formation with osteoarthritis of the distal interphalangeal joint, tenosynovitis, or infectious arthritis and sepsis of the proximal or distal interphalangeal joints

 severe phalangeal fractures; and dislocations of the phalangeal joints. This surgical procedure is indicated to relieve pain and to return the animal to soundness and production, as well as to prevent ascending infection of the limb

 sepsis of the DIP joint in particular is a common pathological condition of the bovine foot and frequently necessitates surgery

 penetrations of the interdigital cleft by a foreign object, termed an interdigital phlegmon, and extensions of sole diseases, such as ulcers, are common causes of septic arthritis

 the lateral digit bears more weight than the medial digit in the hind limb while the medial digit bears more weight in the forelimb

 unfortunately, in clinical studies, most cases requiring digit amputation occur in the lateral digit of the hind limb for reasons that are not fully understood

Hendrickson, D. and Baird, A. (2014). Turner and McIlwraith's techniques in large animal surgery. 4th ed. Ames, Iowa: John Wiley & Sons, pp.273