In young calves up to about two months of age, the horn bud is free-floating in the skin layer above the skull. As the calf grows older, the horn bud attaches to the skull and a small horn starts to grow.

Dehorning should be performed before this attachment to the skull occurs. It then becomes a much simpler exercise, and results in far less bleeding. **Hence, farmers should always be advised to choose disbudding at an earlier age than dehorning which causes excessive pain and risk of complications, reduced productivity etc.**



