

## **Bovine disarticulation between P1 & P2**

1. Make an initial incision precisely between the claws to a depth of approximately 2.5cm (1”).
2. Incise skin to the level of the PIP joint or the very distal aspect of the proximal phalanx axially if leaving skin to close.
3. Undermine and reflect the skin.
4. Dissect into the joint with the scalpel blade or knife until it is completely disarticulated.
6. Remove the interdigital fat and all remaining necrotic tissues. Ligature the digital vessels with absorbable suture.
7. Examine the exposed stump for the presence of residual necrotic or infected tissue and this should be excised if present.
8. A DDFT desmotomy should be performed if the tendon is infected. Make an incision on approximately 2-3 inches up & on the midline of the claw on the palmar/plantar aspect.
9. Dissect until the DDFT is exposed.
10. Insert the Buhner’s needle under the tendon. Transect the infected tendon.
11. Using the Buhner’s needle pass your selected drainage material through the tendon sheath distally. Secure the material with several surgeon’s knots.
12. Lavage the wound. Close with a horizontal mattress suture if it is not infected and a decision has been made not to leave it open.
13. Apply a semi-occlusive layer on the distal portion using multiple layers of gauze and then wrapped it with adhesive bandage.
14. Lavage and change the bandage 24 hours after the surgery and then change again every 4 to 5 days, as needed. Change the bandage until total epithelialization of the wound.
15. Administer a broad spectrum systemic antibiotic for 5 to 10 days after the surgery.

When a DDFT desmotomy is done cows walk with a dorsal rotation of the toe.