



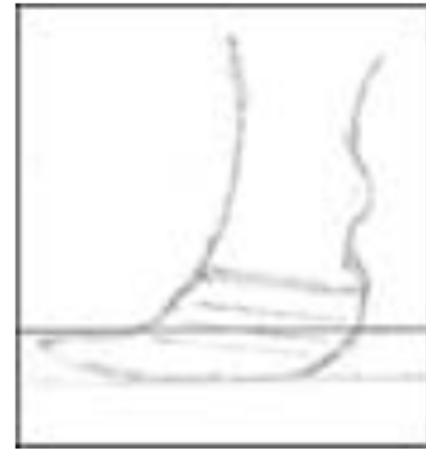
# **Genetic Improvement in Sheep and Goat Project Hoof Trimming**



# Why should we do hoof trimming?



- **Gait unstable :**  
hoof injuries, affect the structure of leg bones
- **Moving difficulties :**  
reduces feed intake, affect breeding
- **Collects dirt and feces :**  
bacteria might causes hoof disease (e.g. foot rot, etc.)





# Trimming frequency

- Begins at 6-month age, usually once every one or two month, but it depends on the length of the hooves
- When sheep are kept as grazing pattern in pasture, trimming should be done more frequently
- When sheep are kept on concrete ground, trimming can be done less frequently
- Shouldn't be done 2 months before parturition (stress, abortion)



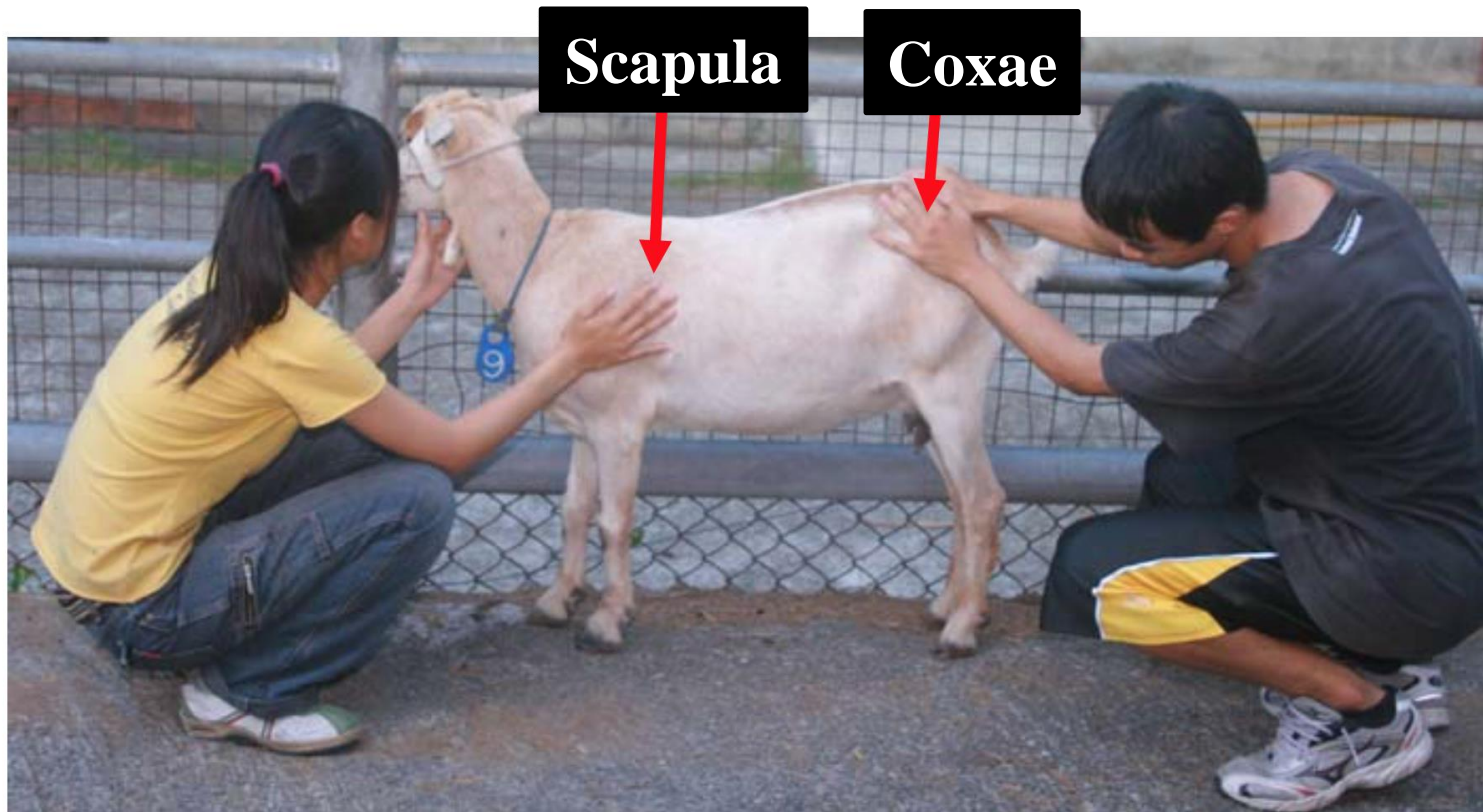
concreted ground



pasture

# Holding the sheep well

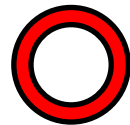
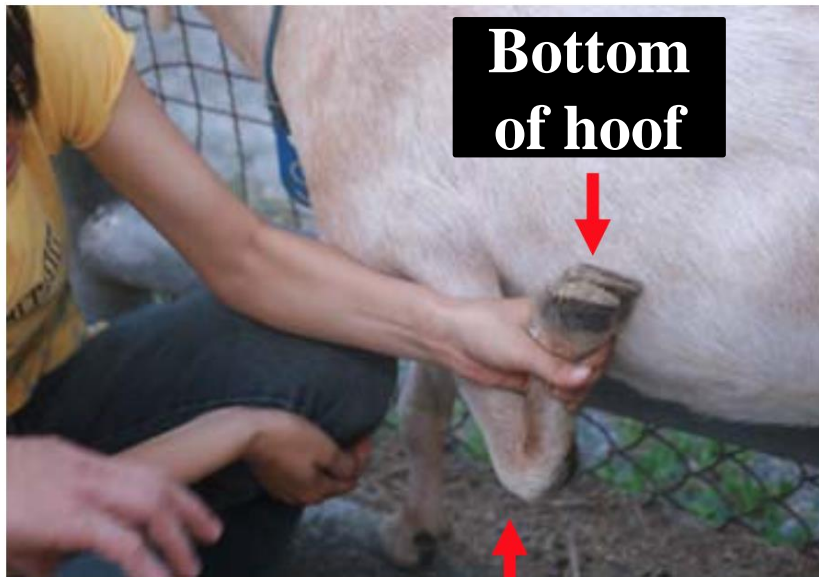
- Place it against a wall
- Stabilize the sheep's head against the wall with ropes
- Hold the scapula and the coxae



# How to hold the foot while trimming front foot hooves?

- Turn towards to caudal side of the sheep
- Stay close to the sheep's shoulder
- Bend the knee and lift the leg up and keep the bottom of the hoof up

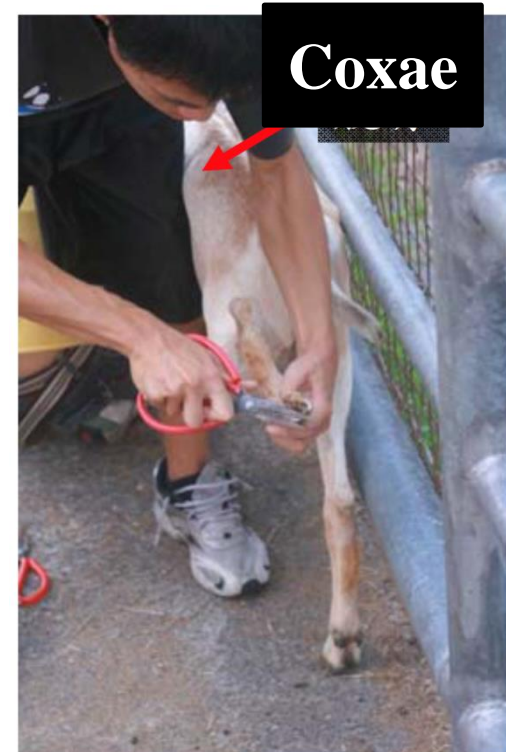
**(Do not pull the leg towards the lateral side!)**





# How to hold the foot while trimming rear foot hooves?

- Turn towards to caudal side of the sheep
  - Stay close to the sheep's coxae and press hard against the wall
  - Lift up the leg and keep the bottom of the hoof up
- (Do not pull the leg towards the lateral side!)**



# Trimming tools you need



**garden shears**



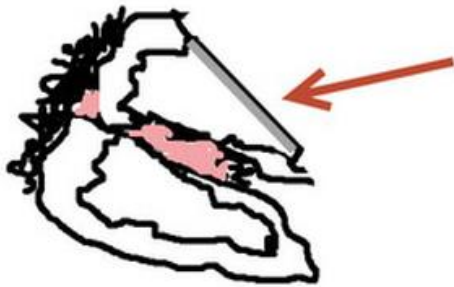
**dehorner**



**iodine**

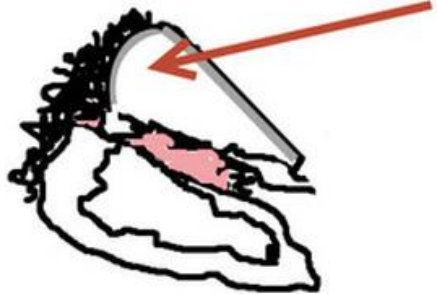
# Trimming steps

- Clean up the dirt that is wrapped in the hoof first



## STEP ONE

Begin by trimming excess growth off the outside of the hoof. Stop when you begin to hit lighter coloration and when the hoof is flush with the pad.



## STEP TWO

Take the same approach along the back of the hoof - trim the excess growth off so that the edge of the hoof is smooth and flush with the bottom of the hoof.



## STEP THREE

Next, carefully clean off the inside of the hoof. Be careful to trim any small pockets of growth so bacteria don't have a place to take hold in the hoof.



## STEP FOUR

Carefully trim the tip of the hoof so that it is smooth and flush. Be careful not to trim too far or the hoof may bleed. Stop when there is no excess growth and when lighter colored hoof appears.

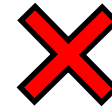
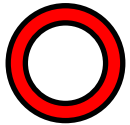
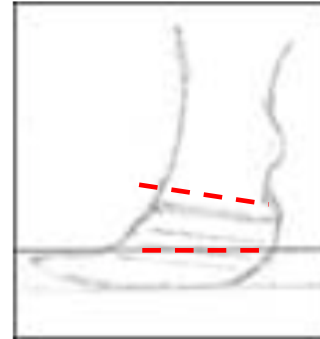
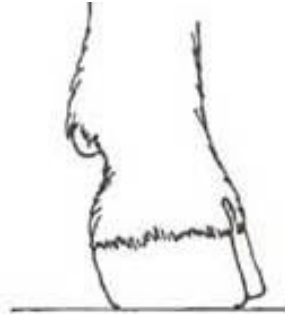
## FINAL STEP

Repeat this process on the other side of the hoof so that both sides are clean, well-trimmed and even with no remaining weak pockets where bacteria could take hold.

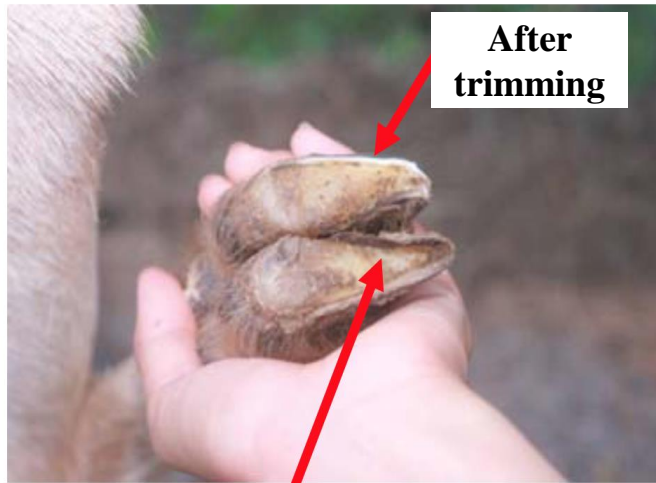
# Which line is in better trimming level?



parallel



The toes of the hoof grow faster than the heel. Because of this, many people tend to trim at the wrong angle. This will cause the foot to roll backwards, forcing the pasterns to break down.



After trimming



pink

Before trimming

coronet



parallel





## *Trimming Sheep & Goat Hooves*



