Pig castration

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PIG CASTRATION...

The piglets are easy to catch. Placing all the litter in a box and operating away from the sow reduces disturbance.

CASTRATION the hard way
—at weaning

CASTRATION the easy way
—at 3 days of age

Advantages of early castration

- Piglets easily caught.
- Piglets easy to hold—may use helper or do it yourself.
- The skin of the scrotum is clean.
- Small cuts. • Minimal bleeding.
- Rapid healing.
- The job is done with little setback to the piglet.
- Other operations can be performed.
- Iron administration. • Tooth clipping.
- Identification.

The piglet held by an assistant. Note the thumbs pushing the testes up into the scrotum.

Alternative method of holding the piglet when no help is available. The first finger is used to push the testicles into the scrotum.
Both testicles removed. Note the clean incisions and minimal bleeding.

The incision is made through the scrotum onto the testicle using a sharp, clean scalpel.

The testicle is firmly grasped between the thumb and forefinger and pulled sharply to snap the cord.

Piglet 3 days after castration. Healing almost completed.

Both testicles removed. Note the clean incisions and minimal bleeding.

Iron injection can be conveniently given immediately before or after castration.

by F. C. Wilkinson, Veterinary Surgeon