

# Veterinary Science

Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant

Floron C. Faries, Jr., DVM, MS



**FAZD CENTER**

NATIONAL CENTER FOR FOREIGN ANIMAL  
AND ZOONOTIC DISEASE DEFENSE

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# Handling & Restraining Livestock

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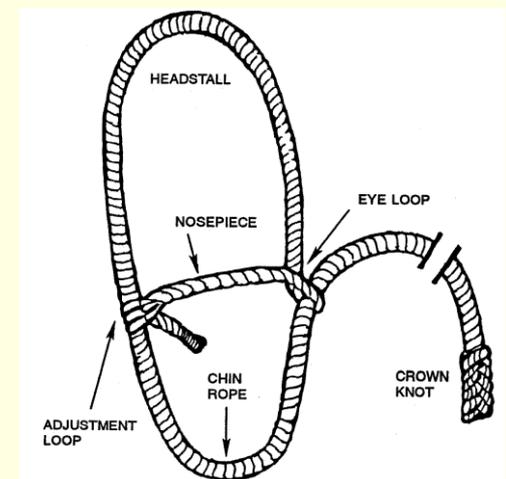
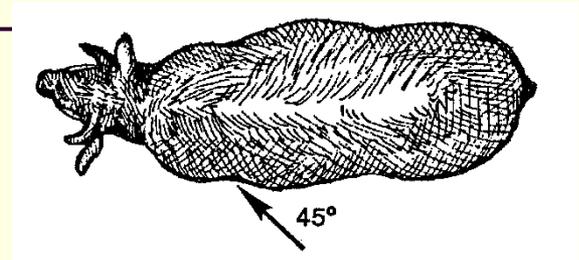
# Objectives

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- Discuss the different fear responses of livestock
- Describe the steps for catching livestock
- Describe the techniques for restraining livestock
- Describe special tools and procedures for restraining livestock.
- Describe the unique risks involved when handling and restraining livestock

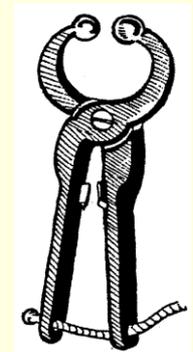
# Dairy Cattle

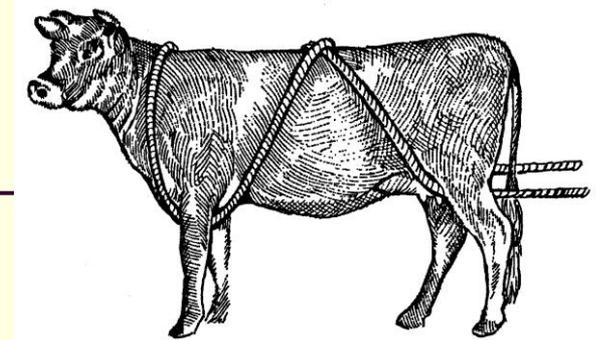
- Excessive restraint frightens.
- Halters – Haltering
  - Loosen chin rope.
    - Go over nose and under chin with left hand.
  - Tighten chin rope by pull of lead rope with left hand.
  - Place headstall with right hand over poll and behind ears.
- Stanchions
  - Milking parlor
  - Treatment pen



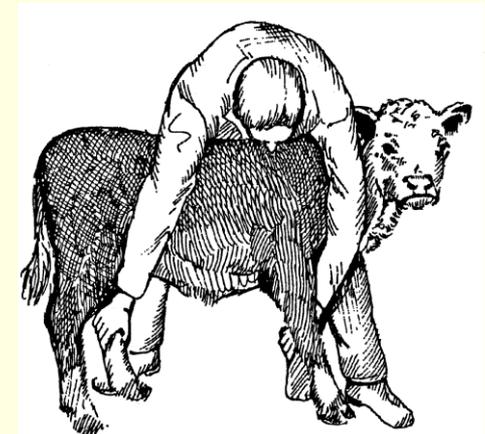
# Beef Cattle

- Squeeze chutes
  - Close head gate.
  - Close tail gate.
  - Close sides.
  - Apply nose bar or nose tong to work head.
  - Drop bottom side plank to work feet.
  - Drop side bars to work neck, body and legs.
  - Tilt calf chute (calf table) to work calves.
- Lane chute
  - Crowd multiple cattle.
  - Chock single animal with pole in front and rear.



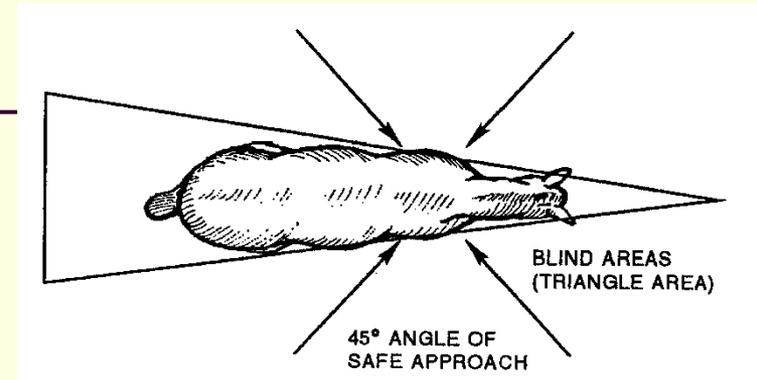


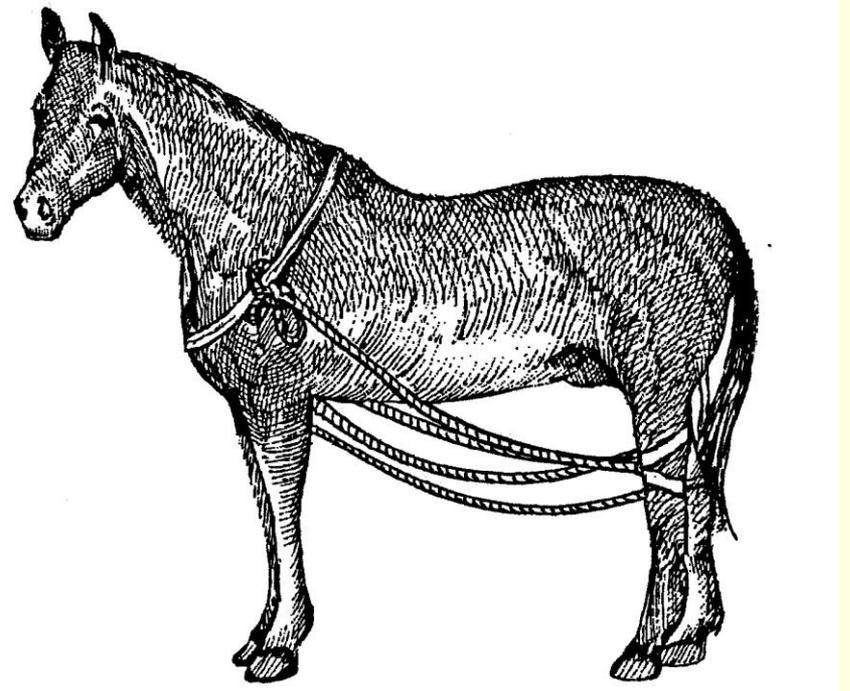
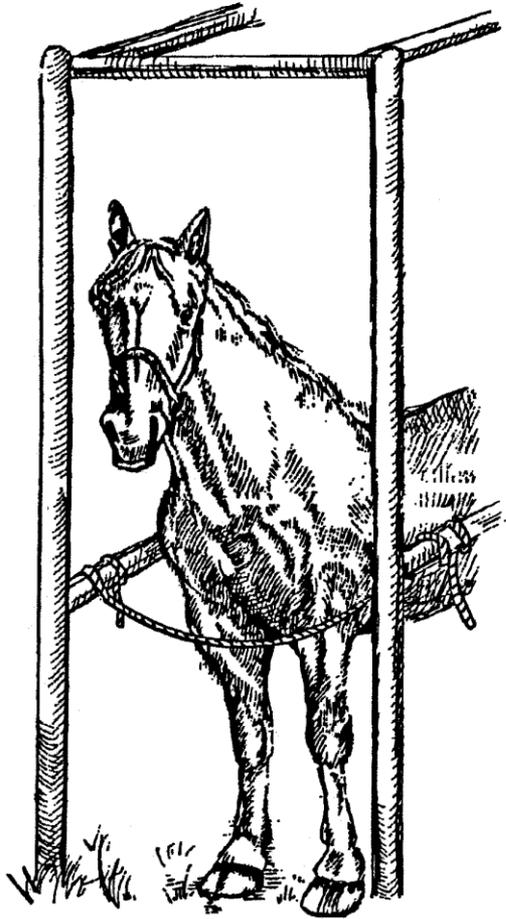
- Cast rope – Casting (Burley Method)
  - Halter tie head.
  - Pass rope over withers, ends through forelegs, cross over back and through hindlegs.
  - Pull both ends of rope from rear to fall cow.
- Flanking (Calves)
  - Reach over calf.
  - Reach down flank and grasp nearest hindleg with one hand.
  - Reach between forelegs and grasp nearest foreleg with other hand.
  - Lift and slide calf to ground.
  - Kneel on neck and thigh.
  - Lift bottom foreleg from ground.



# Horses

- Excessive restraint frightens.
- Halters – Haltering
- Stocks
  - Place on halter and lead in stock.
  - Tie rope to stock in front and rear of horse.
    - Double clove hitch ties
    - Kick gate
- Hobbles – Hobbling
  - To prevent kicking
  - Pass rope over neck (ring), ends through front legs, through hock hobbles (inside to outside) on back legs and through neck ring.





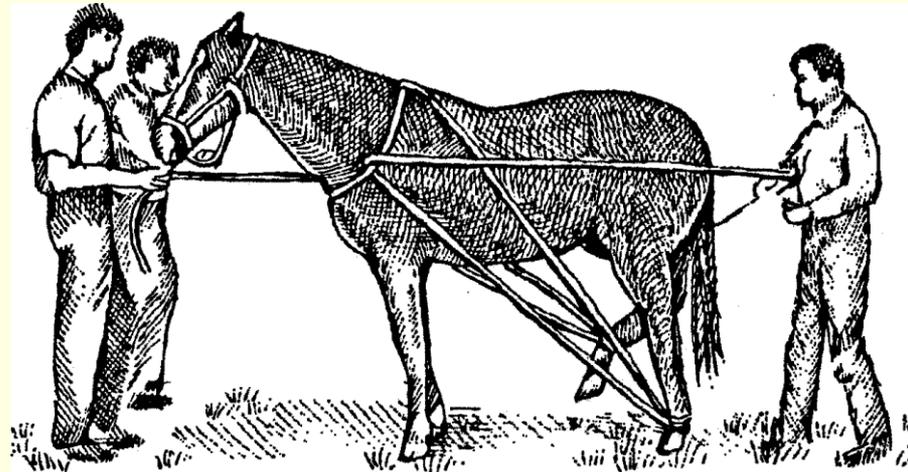
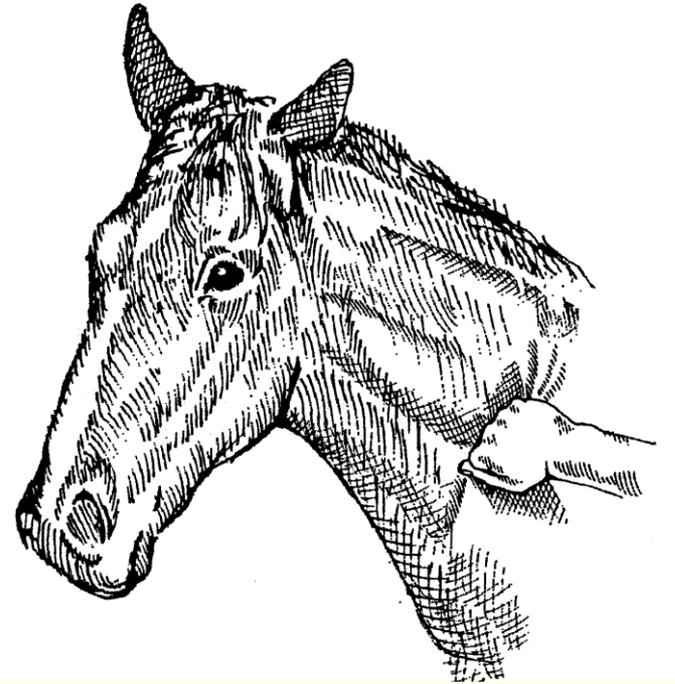
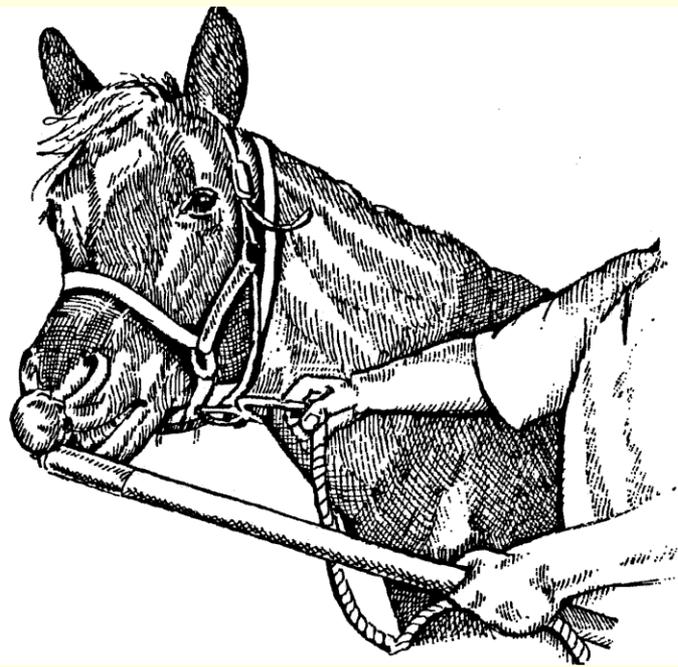
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## ■ Twitches

- Place nose twitch (rope or chain loop on upper lip).
- Place nose clamp on upper lip.
- Place skin twitch by hand grasp and roll of skin on neck or shoulder.

## ■ Cast ropes – Casting

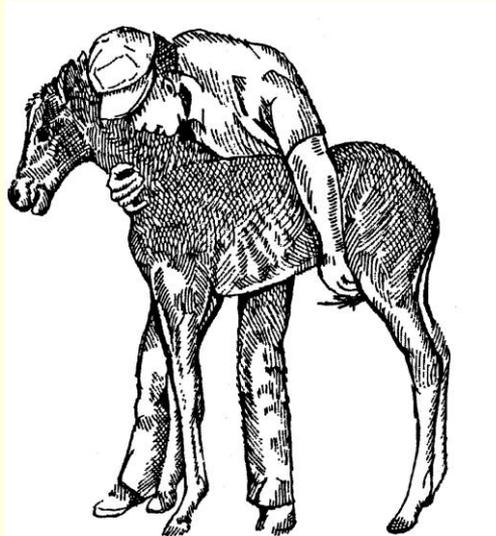
- Place on halter
- Pass rope ring over neck, ends from withers through pastern hobbles (inside to outside) on back legs and through neck ring.
- Pull opposite side rope end around rump to assist fall.
- Pull fall side rope end from front to fall horse to off side.
- Pull halter lead rope to near side and kneel on neck.
- Tie pasterns with rope ends with double clove slip hitch.



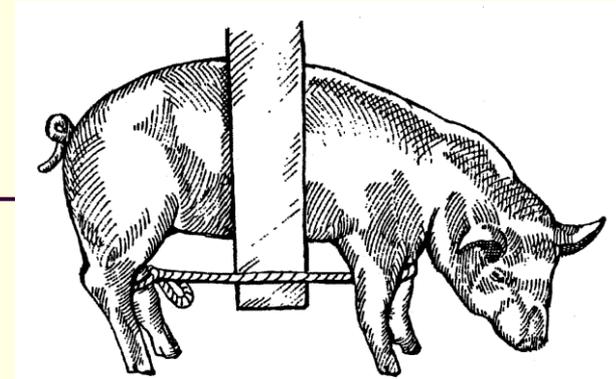
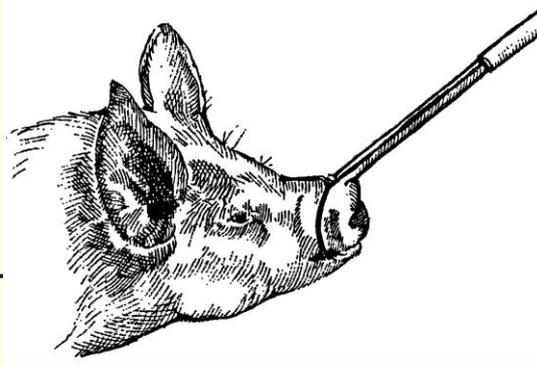
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- Hand cast – Casting foal

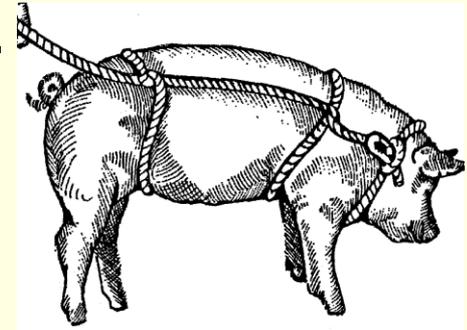
- Place one hand under neck.
- Reach over and pull tail between hindlegs with other hand to slump foal to ground.
- Kneel on neck and maintain tail hold.

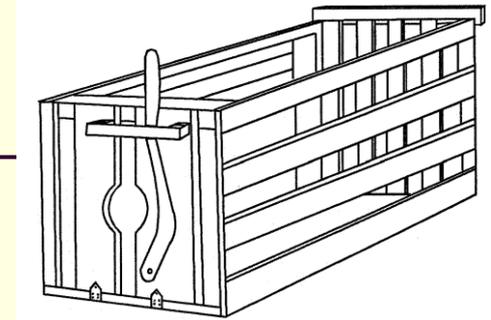
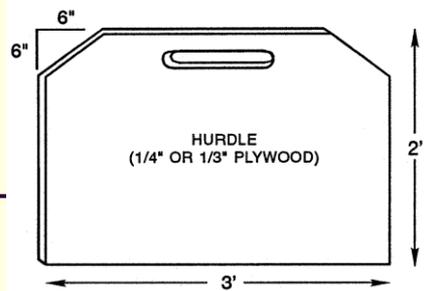


# Swine



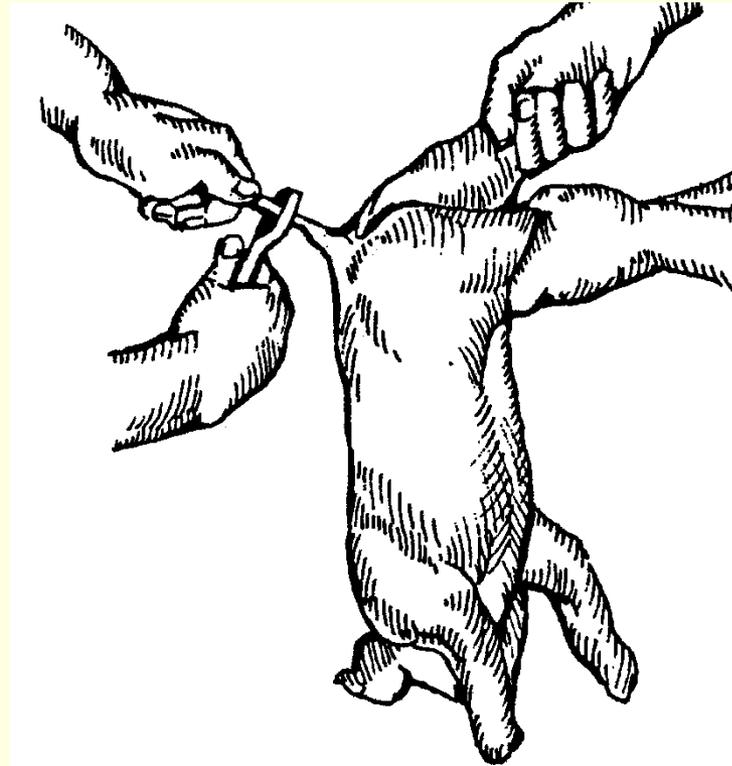
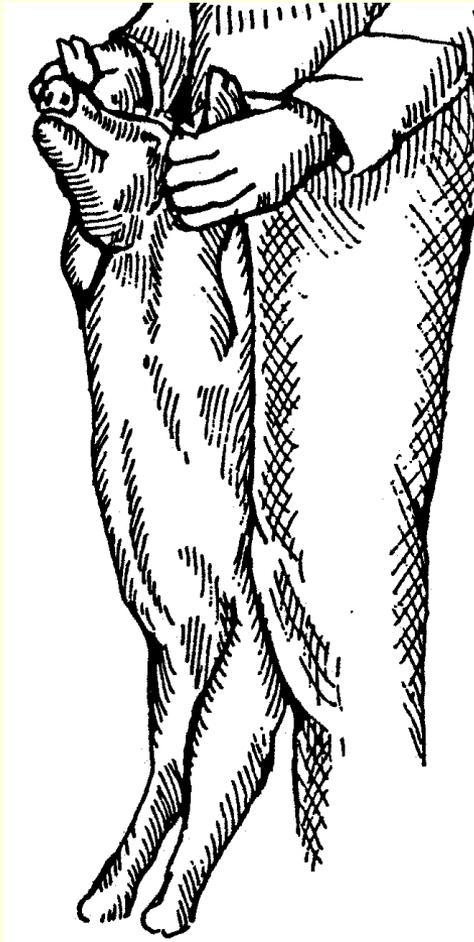
- Nose snare
  - Cable or rope loop
  - Place loop over snout behind canine teeth.
- Rope-board cast
  - Rope tie foreleg and hindleg together.
  - Cast with vertical board.
  - Apply pressure with board against body to ground.
- Rope cast
  - Place rope ring on neck and run rope end along body with half hitches behind forelegs and front of hindlegs.
  - Pull rope end from rear to fall hog.



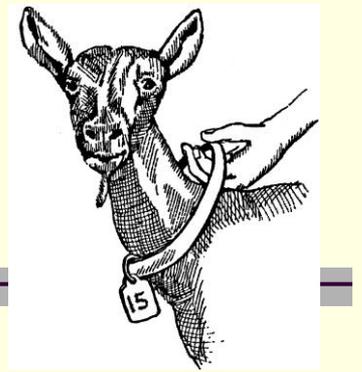
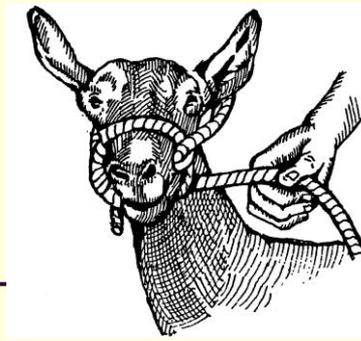


- Hurdle board
- Headgate crate
- Vertical hold legs with hands (head up, belly out)
  - Additional restraint between knees
- Vertical hold legs with hands (head down, belly out)
  - Additional restraint between knees
- Horizontal hold on side with knee on shoulder and with hands hold on top legs
- Horizontal hold on back in V-board trough with hindlegs pulled forward

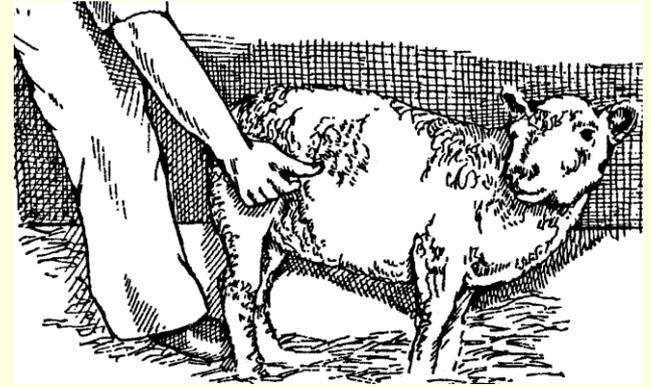




# Sheep and Goats



- Halter
- Collar
- Flank hold
- Jaw restraint
- Rumping
  - Pull jaw and push flank to roll back on rump.
  - Grasp front legs.
- Saddle restraint
  - Straddle and grasp body with knees.





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- Vertical hold with hands (head up, belly out)
    - Additional restraint between knees
  - Horizontal hold on side with knee on shoulder and with hands hold on top legs