A DEVICE FOR PREVENTING HEIFERS AND COWS FROM SUCKING.

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There is probably no greater nuisance on a dairy farm than a cow or heifer addicted to the pernicious habit of sucking herself and other animals in the herd. It is not only the loss of the milk that is sustained, but it would seem that one such animal may induce others to contract the habit. The University dairy herd has had an almost unprecedented number of "suckers" among its members during the past three years. The fact of our having trouble in this respect has perhaps been "for the best," since in endeavoring to cope with it

RINGS TO BE USED AND THE TROCAR AND CANULA OR "BULL PUNCH" FOR MAKING THE INCISION IN THE NOSE.

we have finally been enabled to devise a means of breaking the habit in every instance. We first experimented with a number of the devices on the market, but none of them were entirely satisfactory. In considering ways and means of solving the problem the writer recalled the fact that on one or two occasions the insertion of a ring in a bull calf's nose had prevented him from sucking his dam. Ordinary bull rings were inserted in a number of the offending heifers' noses and in several instances answered the purpose. Some of the veterans at the practice were, however, stopped only for a time, for they soon contrived to elevate the ring out of the way when sucking. Observing this performance led to the thought that by adding one or more loose rings to the one already in the nose, the animal could in no way prevent these from dropping
Showing the method of inserting the ring in the nose by means of the canula.

A photo of the device when attached to the animal's nose.
into the mouth when it attempted to suck. By adding another ring we have
been successful in every instance in breaking up the habit. We may not be
able to establish our claim of priority of discovery in this device, as it may
have been made use of years ago, but so far as the writer is aware it has never
before been given to the public. We submit the accompanying cuts made from
photos that were taken to more clearly illustrate the device and also demon-
strate the proper manner of inserting the bull ring and attaching the extra ring
or rings. Brass bull rings can be purchased at almost any hardware store for
20 cents each, and the common iron harness rings cost but a few cents per
dozen. The "Trocar and Canula" or "bull punch," made use of in inserting the

![Photo of the Trocar and Canula as Inserted through the Nose of Sucking Heifer on University Farm.](image)

rings and shown in the cuts, can be purchased for about 65 cents, and will be
found useful in a number of emergencies on a stock farm, since it is very use-
ful in tapping the stomach of cattle and sheep in acute cases of bloat or bloat,
as well as for ringing bulls.

The device described above is submitted to the farmers and dairymen of
Wisconsin with the hope that it may be found as useful to those possessed of
"suckers," as it has been to the Experiment Station and with the assurance that
when given a trial it will transform what may be a great nuisance in a dairy
herd into a very valuable animal.