

RESTRAINT OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS

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This 149-page book which is easy to read and amply illustrated with simple clear line-drawings for most of the handling methods as well as for the section on knot tying, is highly recommended for all people who have anything to do with handling domestic animals. In particular veterinary technicians, veterinary nurses, stock inspectors, veterinary students and even experienced veterinarians may derive great benefit from having this book either on their shelves for quick reference or even from carrying it with them when going out to attend to animals. For those who have never worked with animals before, the author clearly describes typical behaviour encountered in each species and hence different approaches to handling and restraint. She emphasises safety of the animal as well as the owner and handler and suggests always working quietly and with minimum restraint before moving on to heavier restraint if necessary. She stresses the proper care and inspection of equipment such as ropes, and mentions all possible sources of danger to man and beast in the handling of the various species. Chapter 1 is an Introduction, Chapter 2 deals with Knot Tying and Chapters 3-11 cover restraint in cats, dogs, horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, and goats respectively. One chapter deals with rodents, rabbits and ferrets, and Chapter 11 with restraint of birds.

There are 3 appendices: one for gender names, another for physiologic data (rectal temperatures in Fahrenheit, pulse rates and respiratory rates), and the third contains a glossary of terms which may be unfamiliar to those not involved in the veterinary field. The index is at the end of the book and only a few words used will be slightly foreign to South Africans eg. "chute" instead of "crush".

This is a simple, practical and yet thorough book on a very important and often neglected aspect of working with animals and will reduce mishandling, danger and trauma to both man and animals if the methods described are practised.

J H Williams