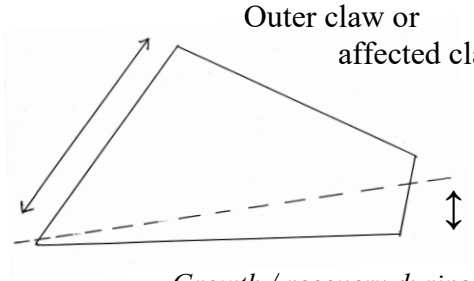
Preventive hoof care for cows.

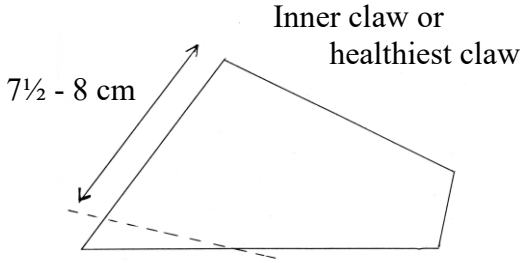
For the cow, the best approach is to schedule this prior to the dry period and after approximately 100 days in lactation (DIL) (after the negative energy balance period).

Side view:



Growth / recovery during the dry period

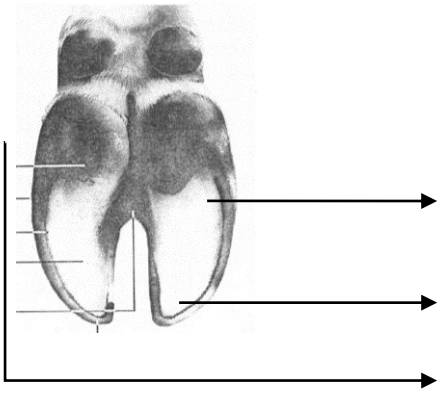
Trim to the correct length at the front
and normal trimming: A little less at the front
and a little more at the back



Cut to the correct length at the front
and create maximum height at the back
and / or preserve
(if at all possible, do not touch!)

View from bottom:

Outer claw ⇔ Inner claw



Most cows weigh between 600 and 750 kg.
Walking is much more comfortable when that weight is evenly distributed across its four legs
and, consequently, its eight claws.

Maintain / create maximum height
cut away as little as possible

If there is sufficient hoof height: trim / shorten

Trimming to heal and relieve pressure

Weight distribution outer claw / inner claw:

60 % ⇔ 40 % before the cow's hooves are trimmed

40 % ⇔ 60 % after the cow's hooves are trimmed

If this is done before the dry-off period, the affected hoof is relieved of weight, giving it 2 to 3 months to recover. With a ration low in concentrates (or similar feedstuffs) but with added structural fiber allows the hoof to regrow in a healthier, harder state. After calving, this translates into greater comfort - leading the cow to walk more frequently to the robot and the feed fence - which results in more visits and higher dry matter intake, ultimately fostering better, more sustained production and improved resistance.

± 50 % ⇔ 50 % 2-3 months after trimming: around calving and before lactation peak !!

* *If the height difference achieved is insufficient, a hoof block is necessary..*