Preliminary Line-Up of Conference Papers

World Draft Cattle Symposium 2027

January 16-17, 2027: 2 PM - 5 PM CEST *(Central European Time)*

(Online Event)

On January 16-17, 2027, the Center for Draft Cattle Research and Education will host the next World Draft Cattle Symposium. After the great success of 2024's symposium, the symposium now intends to focus more on the practical use of draft cattle around the globe and in the 21st century as well as on the preservation of skills. We want to bring together practitioners, engineers and scientists for comprehensive discussions on best practice examples as well as to explore innovative new ways of understanding, training and utilising draft cattle. We are excited to document and preserve relevant draft cattle skills and the traditional knowledge that comes with it.

The symposium will be hosted virtually in order to give as many people the chance to participate as possible. It also intends to create high standards in order to make it as accessible and participatory for local farmer communities, especially in the global south.

Languages

Live automatic caption translations will be available for 36 major languages. When posted to YouTube, the captions will support for 100 languages.

Registration

To register: https://kloster-lorsch.de/freilichtlabor/tagungen/world-draft-cattle-symposium/registration-form-2027/

Registration closes on December 31, 2026. All registrants will be sent the Zoom conference link after that date.

Cost

The symposium is free of cost, but a donation to the Center for Draft Cattle Research and Education is appreciated, to create fellowships for learning. See the Registration link.

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CENTER FOR DRAFT CATTLE RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Cattle Behaviour, Physiology and Training

Understanding Cattle Psychology and Behaviour in Training Oxen



Author: Drew Conroy

Working with a draught cattle whilst taking care of everything around us, communicating rather than dominating



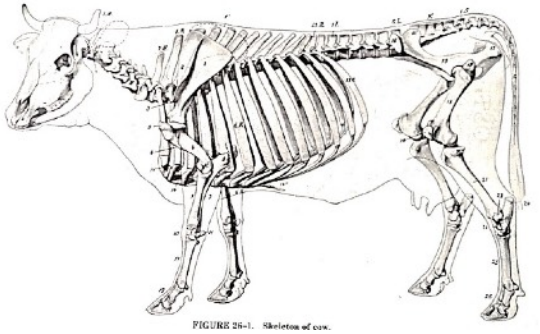
Author: Pascal Durand

The Application of Learning Theory in Training Draft Cattle



Author: Noeline Cassettari

Aspects of bovine anatomy relating to harness systems



Author: Barbara Corson

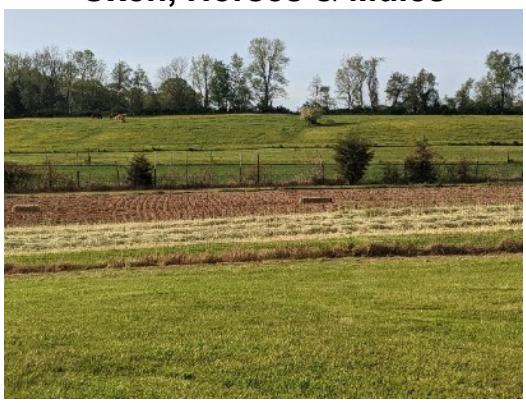
Crop Management, Farming and Market Gardening

Draft cattle management systems in tobacco cultivation in Pinar del Río, Cuba



Authors: Raymundo Vento Tielves, Paul Starkey, Claus Kropp

A 7-Year Crop Rotation Powered by Oxen, Horses & Mules



Author: Pete Watson

Utilizing Oxen in Farm Design for Enhanced Efficiency



Author: Kevin Cunningham

Rice cultivation and community building in Katima Mulilo District, Namibia



Author: Joseph Simathaa

Design and Testing: Haymaking Using Hybrid Animal-Drawn Equipment



Author: Denis Adam

Integrating Draught Animal Power into Smallholder Farm Mechanization: Exploring a Custom Hiring Centre-Based Approach for Rainfed Agriculture in India



Authors: M Din, Dayanand Tekale, Sabyasachi Das, Malyaj, D. K. Sadana, S Sai Mohan, Sajal Kulkarni, Mridul, Praful, Kavya, Santosh, Harshitha and Arvind Sama

Skills and Oral Histories

Preserving Ancestral Skills: Yoking Demonstrations and Oral Histories of Galician Native Breeds (Caldelá and Vianesa)



Authors: Davide Outeiro Castiñeira, Federation of Galician Native Breeds (BOAGA)

Voices of the Yoke Collection: Traditional Knowledge and Draft Animal Heritage



Author: Barbara Sosic

Skill Preservation and Living Tradition - The Australian Bullock Drivers League



Author: Australian Bullock Drivers League

Forest Management and Logging

The Economics of Draft Cattle in the Forest Industry in the 21st Century



Author: Tom Jenkins

The Working Bullock – Past and Present Contributions to Australia



Author: Philip Thomson

Integrating oxen into a horse logging life



Author: Steffi Schaffler

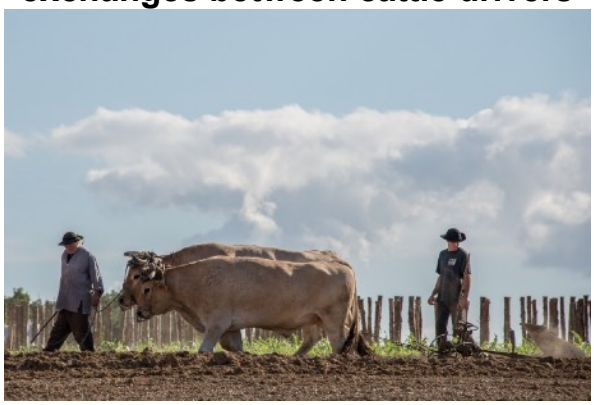
Networking and Community Building

The Guinean Network for Animal Traction and Integrated Development: Thirty-Five Years of Progress



Authors: Ablo Camara, Seydouba Camara Katia and Paul Starkey

In France a useful tool for training and exchanges between cattle drivers



Authors: Lèonnie Biteau, Michel Niouloou, Pierre del Porto

Pull Together - DAPNet Builds Community with Live-Power



Authors: Ivy Pagliari, Anna Knapp-Peck, Ruth Burke

Promoting your talent



Author: Lilith Schmidt-Gebhardt

Fundraising for Working Animals



Author: Antonio Perrone

The Ox Wagon, a participatory and co-creative project by Vrienden van de Koevzw, in collaboration with artist Laura Eva Meuris



Authors: Wouter Hellin, Laura Eva Meuris

Working Cattle in Human-Animal Interaction, Intervention and Therapy

A potential way to use cattle in psychological therapy: Hikes with Bovines



Authors: Tautvilė Šukytė, Ugnė Nedzinskaitė

At the Pace of an Ox: Advancing Human-Animal Partnerships, Agroecological Practices, and Soil Health



Authors: Ruth Burke, Tim Harrigan

Cattle as Equals – When Perception Becomes Connection and Encounters Become Shared Learning



Author: Svenja Grün

Same Ox, Two Jobs: Gentling as the Shared Foundation of Draft Work and Therapy



Author: Carole Soule