

**Estimation of Age of Animal on Basis of Dentition**

*Open Education Resource*

**Aim:**

Learn to judge the age of animals by studying the teeth and identify the dentination of different categories of animals.

**Requirements:**

1. Mouth gags. 2. Rope 3. Animals- 5 (young and milking)

**Procedure:**

1 Approach the animal quietly.

2. Hold the animal properly.

3. Open the mouth and observe dental position as per eruption table for judging age upto 5 years

4. For over 5 years, judge age by the extent of wear of incisors as per the following guide lines.

5. In cattle, eight incisors teeth are present in lower jaw.

6. Cattle do not have incisors in upper jaw, instead they have dental pad.

7. Eruption of incisors teeth follows a specific sequence with the advancing age.

8. At about 5.5 years of age all the permanent incisors are present in mouth hence animal is considered to be full mouth.

The age wise incisor teeth eruption on cattle

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| Age  | Teeth eruption |
| At birth  | First pair of temporary incisors. |
| One week | Second pair of temporary incisors. |
| Two weeks | Third pair of temporary incisors. |
| Four weeks | Fourth pair of temporary incisors. |
| 2 to 2.5 years | First pair of temporary incisors.  |
| 3 to 3.5 years | Second pair of temporary incisors. |
| 4 to 4.5 years | Third pair of temporary incisors. |
| 5 to 5.5 years | Fourth pair of temporary incisors. |

**Precautions:**

* + 1. Handle the animal with care.
		2. Note the number of teeth and their wear carefully.

 **Results / Conclusion:**

In our country farmers rarely maintain records of the birth, growth, production, etc. of their animals therefore destination is the only way for determining the age of animals.