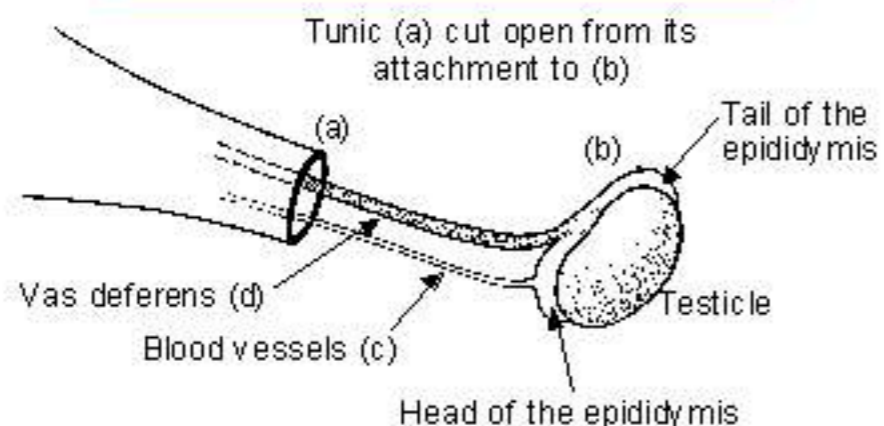


ENLARGED VIEW OF THE TESTICLE



(Fig.15-8)

The operator must not be involved in catching pigs and at all times must keep his hands clean. He/she must scrub and wash hands before commencing.

- 5 The skin over the testicle is wiped clean with cotton wool and antiseptic solution.
- 6 Each testicle is raised to the surface with the thumb first and second fingers.
- 7 A separate incision is made into each testicle through the skin and the tunic (a) and attachment of the tunic broken (b). The testicle is either pulled away by traction endeavouring to break the blood vessels (c) and cutting the vas deferens or the complete spermatic cord (blood vessels and vas deferens) cut at (d).
- 8 After both testicles have been removed it is important to raise the skin incisions to make sure no strings of tissue are left behind. If so cut cleanly away.
- 9 Pigs over 5 weeks of age should only be castrated under local anaesthetic on welfare grounds. 0.5 ml should be injected into each testicle and under the skin. Castration should commence 5 minutes later.
- 10 Return the pig to the pen.

Outdoor sow herds - Hygiene and sow aggravation are problems and it is wise to avoid routine castration by finding a castration free outlet for the young pigs. This is relatively easy in the UK but may be difficult in some countries.

CASTRATION OF THE NORMAL PIG

Reason

In some countries entire boars are accepted at slaughter but in others castration is required.

Method

This is by surgical removal of both testicles. The best time to perform the operation is under three weeks of age.

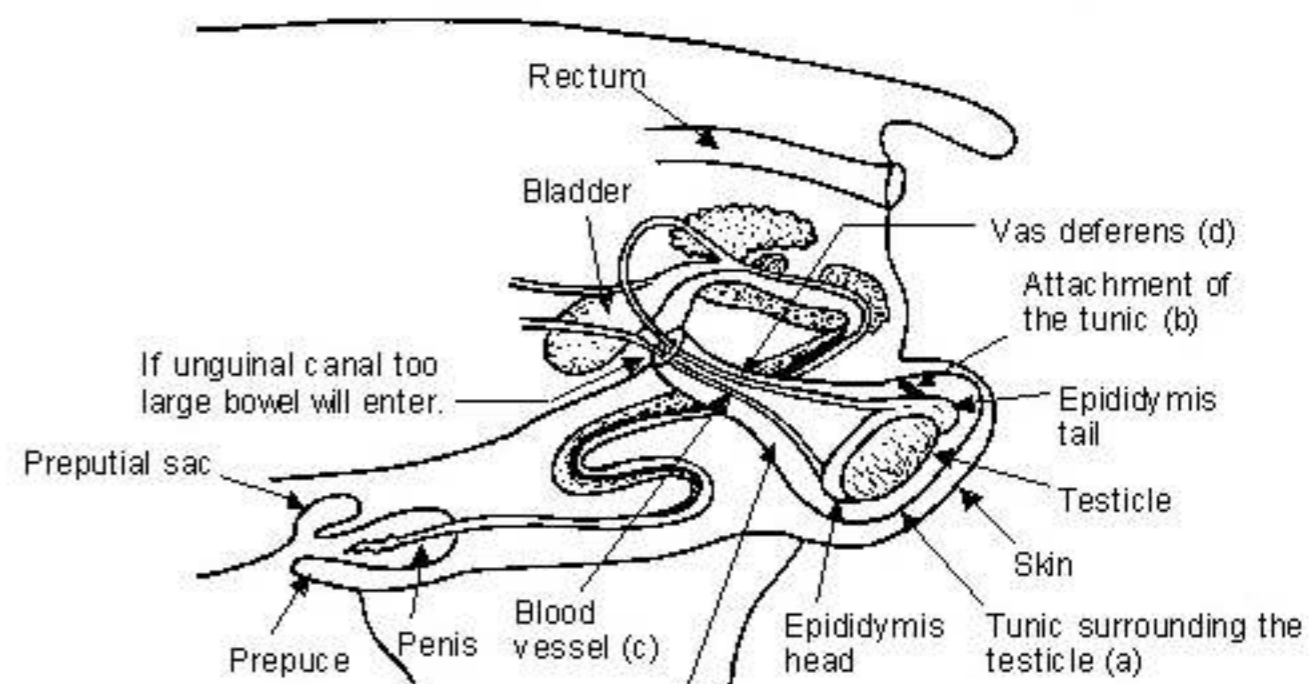
Materials Required

A bucket of warm water, antiseptic solution & cotton wool.
A surgical blade & handle.
A marker spray.
Two people or one if a stand is used.

Procedure

- 1 Only commence castration after the farrowing pen has been cleaned out and the pen or creep area has been bedded with suitable dry bedding materials if applicable.
- 2 Hold the litter in a clean dry area or a box with no floor and covered with bedding.
- 3 Remove the females
- 4 One person holds the piglet between the legs with the testicles presented as shown or a stand may be used. Study Figs 15-7 and 15-8.

ANATOMY OF THE NORMAL AND RUPTURED PIG



Bowel contents fill here if ruptured.
(Fig.15-7)