

hammer is quite big enough and gives good accuracy.

6. After the block is fixed by the anterior nail rotate it carefully to align the posterior nail holes over the white line.
7. Continue to fix with nails working posteriorly. The very back nail is the key one. It has a much greater angle of wall to go into and, more important, come out of. Often the back nail needs to be slightly bent or angled outwards before fixing. There should be 5 nails used in total.
8. Inspect the job and only be satisfied if:-
 - all nails have come out through the wall
 - they have exited at least 20mm above the sole - preferably 25 - 30mm

- the block is well back and does not touch the diseased claw next to it
 - all the nail heads are level with the rubber block.
9. The nail heads are bent over with the hammer so that there are no sharp points protruding.
 10. Remove the block after 3 - 5 weeks.

If the horn is very hard - such as in very dry weather - then greasing the nails can make the job much easier.

Recognize the standard needed with the technique and make sure you achieve it. I have never had a claim against the practice for tractor punctures yet!

The Various Uses of an Ultrasound in a Mixed Animal Practice

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We have a mixed animal practice in Southwest NE. We have been using the ultrasound in our practice for three years, on both small and large animals.

Small Animal Uses

The machine is used a great deal in our kennels. We use the ultrasound for many uses, but primarily for a diagnostic aid and pregnancy detection in dogs and cats. We use the machine prior to a C-section to determine if the pups or kittens are alive. This helps us in the choice of sedation. I like to use the machine on emergency calls to pick up enlarged livers, gastric torsions, pyometras, etc.

Large Animal Uses

I use the machine in early pregnancy diagnosis as well as fetal sexing. We have also started to do some backfat measurement in the feedlot. The machine is very durable and mobile. We video tape the pregnancies for a hard copy record.

I also have started to ultrasound a lot of mares for early pregnancy diagnosis. The machine is very safe for the patient and the handler. We continue to find new uses for the machine. I foresee the ultrasound machine becoming very useful.