

# PREMIER LONGHORNS

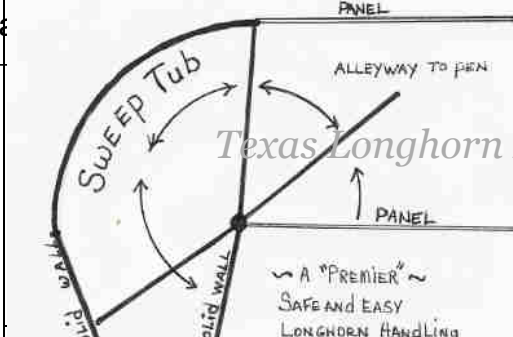
[Home](#)
[Young Cows](#)
[Mature Cows](#)
[Sires](#)
[For Sale](#)
[Saddle Cattle](#)

*Specializing In Elite Seed Stock & Trained Riding Steers*



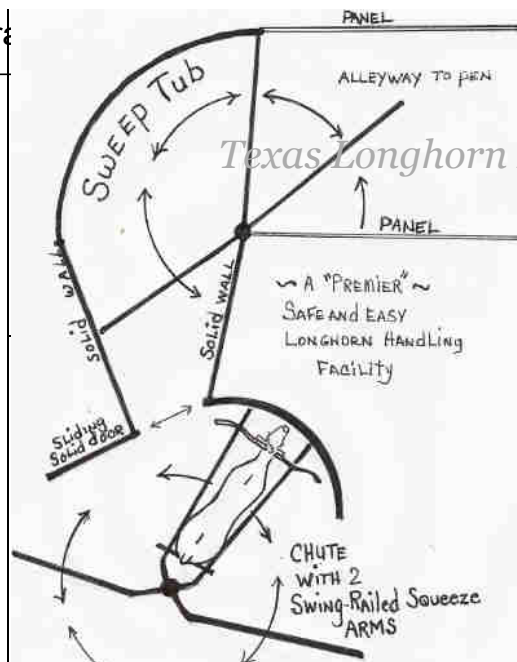
## *How To Halter & Tie Train Your Calf*

Start as young as possible. If she's already several months old, halter her if possible first in the chute or a small confined safe area then expand your training area as you progress. Do the same when introducing tying. We never leave the halter on but take it off after each lesson, this too is part of their training. Then, later on you'll be able to go up to her in the middle of the pasture and she'll have learned to just stand there quietly to be haltered. Avoid pulling, instead use the give & take method. Reinforce positive behavior with praise. In early training lessons, when teaching to tie, we use a slip tie where when the calf pulls back on her halter, the lead rope will slip and give and lengthen out. This teaches the calf not to lean against the rope or fight or panic but rather to yield to pressure. (This is safer) When the calf pulls back, shorten the length again and coax the calf to move forward and give to gentle give and take tugs. Teach her to put HER head into the halter for you. Tie the calf at her eye level, not too short, not too long. Monitor the calf whenever tied in case she swings around or gets a foot or horn over the lead rope. Always tie to something that will not break like a post or pipe fence. It is better to train a calf this way because very soon, she'll be way too strong for you to pull and if she starts pulling you, you lose control. Progressively lengthen the amount of time tied. Teach her to wait for you. We've found it's better not to use rope calf halters, instead use a 3/4 inch web-type foal-size halter -it doesn't tighten on the calf's head if she pulls on it. An older calf fits a pony size halter. The only variable is that a calf's head will be a little shorter than a pony/colt and the calf will be thicker through the throatlatch area. Keep lessons short like 15 minutes a day. End on a happy note. With proper training, she'll get lighter and lighter and more responsive just like a well-trained horse. Once taught, your calf will never forget so be sure the things she learns from you are always good, pleasant & desirable. This makes for a safer animal. This works for us!



simply just squeeze them between 2 gates or over or through the panel. This is easily done with halter trained Cattle. However, with untrained cattle, this requires additional manual labor and isn't the safest way to proceed. Generally, if you plan on having Longhorns, it is best to invest in

desire



click images to enlarge



makes for a safer animal. This works for us!

simply just squeeze them between 2 gates or

### Texas Longhorn Handling Recommendations

over or through the gate. This is easily accomplished with halter trained Cattle. However, with untrained cattle, this requires additional manual labor and isn't the safest way to proceed. Generally, if you plan on having Longhorns, it is best to invest in a proper squeeze chute made specifically for Texas Longhorns. These have 2 squeeze arms that swing in and out. They are safe for cattle & handlers while being quick and easy to use.

Plus, the exceptionally best one on the market has a door that the cow enters through from an added sweep or pen. One person can thus work their cattle alone. You can also A.I., palpate & preg check easily in this type of facility. It is best not to purchase a LH chute that is of flimsy metal but one that is heavy pipe and substantial. Plus, it will actually appreciate in value if you should need to sell it. Yet, a well thought out facility will serve you well & you'll be glad you have it for years to come.

### How To Help Your Cattle Overcome Chute Shyness

NEVER allow anyone to use an electric prod on your cattle, instead use a sorting stick, rattle or your own presence & voice to guide them. Daily feed your individual cow or small group of 4 or less calves in the sweep/chute area for a week or two & let them out promptly after each meal to condition them to think how pleasant the chute can be. With untrained cattle especially, speak softly, avoid quick movements and go slow. It's faster and safer. Decline assistance from anyone who is loud, rough or impatient. Position your chute with doors swung /secured wide open, so cattle may daily walk through freely as they regularly go from one area to another for pasture and water. Be a LEADER not a PREDATOR and your Texas Longhorns will follow you to anywhere.

Two-year-olds have extra nutrient requirements for their own growth while also nursing a calf. This clearly influences the cycling activity at the beginning of the breeding season. Also consider, two-year-olds are in the stage of life where the baby teeth are being replaced by permanent teeth. Some of these young cows have problems consuming roughage similar to broken-mouth older cows. Cycling activity is also influenced by the number of days since calving. A Kansas data report stated that there was an 18% increase in cycling for every day the condition score improved. The percentage of first-time breeders cycling was about 10% less than mature cows that were having at least their second calf. Thus, many producers choose to breed replacement heifers ahead of the cow.

beginning of the breeding season. Two-year-olds have extra nutrient requirements for their own growth while also nursing a calf. This clearly influences the cycling activity at the beginning of the breeding season. Also consider two-year-olds are in the stage of life where the baby teeth are being replaced by permanent teeth. Have your heifers cycling Body Condition of at least 5, ideally 6 or 7. As a body condition score increases, the percentage of cows cycling increases in a linear fashion. A Kansas data report stated that there was an 18% increase in cycling days since calving. To repeat, it is also important to have a 1% increase in cycling days for every 1 full body condition score improvement. The percentage of first calf two-year-olds cycling was about 10% less than mature cows that were having at least their second calf. Thus, many producers choose to breed replacement heifers ahead of the cow

### Four Important Ways To Protect Your Longhorns

**MAGNETS:** Longhorns like to eat, seem to do so on cruise control and can easily ingest foreign matter, like bits of metal (wire, screws, etc) found in the pasture or hay and believe it or not, even in their feed.. Many a favorite & valuable bovine has tragically died prematurely, & unnecessarily due to "Hardware Disease", including one legendary sire. You can prevent this from happening by giving each cow an inexpensive 1/2"x3" cattle Magnet, inserted at the back of the tongue w/ a balling gun. Available at the feed store for a few dollars each, it looks like a silver bullet. The calf must be old enough (about one year old) for the rumen to be fully developed. One magnet will last a lifetime.

**ROUND BALE RINGS:** For most breeds, open tubular Rings work fine-But Not Longhorns! If they can get their head through the rails, they can easily get their horns hungup. Open rings are suitable Only for weanlings. For all others use SOLID wall construction designed hayrings. Owning Longhorns is exciting but the excitement of seeing your best cow or bull running hurt & confused through a fence with its head entangled dragging a hay ring possibly breaking a horn or worse-we can do without! We're not saying it will happen next week or next month but it will happen with open design. Don't let it happen to you. Thanks to Curt Winters ([www.redhillsranch.net](http://www.redhillsranch.net)) for this wise advice.

**PERIMETER FENCING:** Good fences not only make good neighbors but keep your Longhorns safe. Where possible, use woven field fence to the ground with a hotwire over top-to keep the critters out and your cattle in. In rural areas, Coyotes hunt in packs, Big Cats range along rivers & will try to kill your calves for dinner. Longhorn Moms are protective. In suburbia, they will want to "eliminate" the neighbor's dogs who get in the pasture and think its fun to chase & terrorize their babies.

**BALING STRING:** Hay bales usually come wrapped in either plastic netting or plastic string also wire. It keeps your bales securely contained till ready to be consumed. However, it is important that extreme care be taken that ALL the string/ netting be completely removed, not just from the bale but from the entire area that cattle have access to before ever exposing your cattle to the bale. String carelessly left either are the ground or concealed in the midst of the hay is easily consumed. You may find old partially chewed string or even plastic bags blown around your pasture. More than a few cows and calves have become seriously ill or even died unnecessarily from ingesting foreign matter, something that could have been very easily prevented along with the unscheduled vet bill.

### Understanding Health Care Basics

Know your cattle. Then, quickly, you will recognize if something is out of the ordinary. Then, investigate further if it is.

Notice the consistency of the cows' manure. If it is too loose, she may be getting feed/hay that is too rich or has too much protein. If the manure is watery, this may be serious & you had best address her condition promptly. Often, this is indicative of internal parasites.

Get and have handy an ordinary Digital Thermometer from the drug store. Normal temp for a cow is 100-102. Fever is often the first sign of a problem & if called, the first thing your vet will inquire about.

Along w/ fever, *Understanding Long "Horn" Basics* appetite, cough, mucous discharge, but for no obvious

All Registered Texas Longhorns originate from 7 families: Phillips, Butler, Wright, Peeler, Wichita Refuge, Yates, & Marks. Today most prominent are the "Butler" and "Non-Butler" (derived from the rest of the families) and "Blended", a blend of these two types. Straight Butler cattle are known for exceptional horn length but tend to be small from intensive line breeding. Non-Butler (often most influenced by Phillips, Wright & WR) are desirable for their size and conformation. Blended herds strive to preserve the best qualities of both strains projecting a "Total Package" comprised of horn, size, conformation, color, disposition, hybrid vigor along w/ mothering abilities. For example, Premier Longhorns is a blended herd. Horns can be lateral, attaining to

Along w/ fever, mucous discharge, *Understanding Long "Horn" Basics* appetite, cough, but for no obvious

All Registered Texas Longhorns originate from 7 families: Phillips, Butler, Wright, Peeler, Wichita Refuge, Yates, & Marks. Today most prominent are the "Butler" and "Non-Butler" (derived from the rest of the families) and "Blended", a blend of these two types. Straight Butler cattle are known for exceptional horn length but tend to be small from intensive line breeding. Non-Butler (often most influenced by Phillips, Wright & WR) are desirable for their size and conformation. Blended herds strive to preserve the best qualities of both strains projecting a "Total Package" comprised of horn, size, conformation, color, disposition, hybrid vigor along w/mothering abilities. For example, Premier Longhorns is a blended herd. Horns can be lateral, attaining to the most Tip to Tip measurement and bringing the highest prices. Horns can also dramatically turn upward commonly called fighting horns. Some horns corkscrew doing a double, even triple twist. Some Longhorn Cattlemen even expressing a concern that high prices for lateral horn may in time diminish the prevalence of double twist-the traditional look found in a Frederick Remington western work of art. Whatever your Longhorns look like, you can be sure that each one, yes, even the clones are unique and a True American Original!

### *How to Implement "Less Stress" Weaning*

Precondition physically by providing creepfeed & have calves used to drinking water prior to weaning. Calves can start to eat creepfeed by one month of age. If possible, administer first round of calfhood vaccinations/deworm prior to weaning. Healthy calves endure stress better and likelihood of illness is reduced. Separate calves & cows by a secure/safe fence preferably electric where they can readily continue to see one another thus reducing their anxiety. Retain calves in a familiar environment preferably on pasture. Expect all to bawl quite loudly at times, so be sure to notify any close neighbors that all is well & that this will subside in a few days. Keep cow & calves separated a minimum of one month, longer with first time mothers. From now on, keep heifers separated from bullcalves to prevent premature breeding.

### *Why Address the 'Special Needs' of Younger & Older Cattle?*

**Answer:** Because older and younger cattle are not as aggressive as cattle in their prime. These are the ones pushed away from hay and cubes, often do not get their fair share & are easily overlooked. This can adversely affect their health and well-being.

#### **TIPS:**

Put your elderly cows in with the weanling/yearlings heifers. They'll feel more secure with an adult and in turn she will not feel intimidated by them. In cold weather make sure they do not become dehydrated- Ice water is not appealing to drink in freezing weather. Providing warm water can go a long way, encourage drinking and even save a life. Be aware of any problem with teeth that may impede their consuming sufficient amounts of food even though it is readily available. Keep an eye out for depression, changes in manure consistency and provide a dry place out of the wind.

Texas Longhorn mamas can produce calves well into their 20's and often have the longest & most beautiful horns. Your younger cows are on their way to getting there. All deserve your good care and attention to their special needs.

Point of Balance, moving back and forth on the line parallel to the direction you want them to go.

A flight zone is a cow's personal space. When you penetrate the Flight Zone, the animal will move, when you retreat from it she will stop moving. The size of a FZ will depend on her fearful or docile nature and/or the extent she has been trained, the angle of your approach and the cow's state of excitement. The FZ radius can range from zero feet for a trained riding steer to as much as 300 feet for range cattle. If you are within her FZ, the cow will move away from you. Handlers should work cattle at the edge of the FZ at a 45 to 60 degree angle behind the animal's shoulder. When moving your cattle, avoid approaching them directly. Try to work them close to the



Point of Balance, moving back and forth on the line parallel to the direction you want them to go.

The Flight Zone is a cow's personal space. When you penetrate the Flight Zone, the animal will move, when you retreat from it she will stop moving. The size of a FZ will depend on her fearful or docile nature and/or the extent she has been trained, the angle of your approach and the cow's state of excitement. The FZ radius can range from zero feet for a trained riding steer to as much as 300 feet for range cattle. If you are within her FZ, the cow will move away from you. Handlers should work cattle at the edge of the FZ at a 45 to 60 degree angle behind the animal's shoulder. When moving your cattle, avoid approaching them directly. Try to work them close to the

be white.

5. The resulting clarity of the freeze brand is far superior to a fire brand resulting in a crisp, sharp brand with no blotching.
6. Freeze branding does require preparation, slightly more time and the brand site hair to be clipped w/preferably size 40 blades.
7. Freeze branding is the modern & superior way to go...The improved results and low stress are worth the small amount of extra effort. \* Plus, Fire Branding has been know to cause Cancer.

for more info click: <http://home.austin.rr.com/doublehelix/Brandexplanation.html>

## The Care & Feeding of Texas Longhorns

*note: The following article was reprinted from the  
January 2008 TLMA Texas Longhorn Journal:  
Longhorn Basics 101 by DeeDee Strauss*

You will find that Texas Longhorns are easy to take care of... especially so, if you have ever owned high-maintenance horses in the past. Texas Longhorns are a low maintenance animal. In fact with little attention, beyond their basic needs having been met, they have been known to take very good care of themselves. Some large breeders even preferring to let their Longhorns live in a somewhat primitive environment with noticably little difference in conditions from what these hardy cattle have lived in for centuries. These ranchers insure a clean water source and sufficient forage-usually just native grasses along with basic preventive healthcare. These Longhorns prove the claim of their thriftiness, hardiness and strong survival instincts developed over the many centuries.

However, often today, we find a changing environment. With superior genetics, increasing demand and higher value along with smaller acreages, many owners are giving their Texas Longhorns greater attention in order that they may as individuals meet their fullest potential and value. Whether you see your Texas Longhorn as an investment, a beloved pet or simply something majestic to adorn your pasture, you will certainly want to take proper care of what you've got.

## How to Implement Proper Nutrition

Here at Premier Longhorns, care begins before the calf is born. The mother cow is provided access to a high quality complete **Mineral Program**. Statistics show that soil have forage quality can vary tremendously in different areas. Therefore, we have found that proper mineral supplementation is a necessity for good growth and good health. Guessing minerals the best way they are easily consumed at forage. Often, usually 2 to 4 ounces daily. Solidly in blocks what NOT the best choice. While whitens, block are needed necessity, the traditional red mineral blocks are best avoided entirely. Since a part cattle health is likely to develop deficiencies. Even something as seemingly unlikely as trace amounts of sufficient copper intake will impact your Longhorn's coat condition, with **Forage** color and shine noticeably and beautifully intensifying with consumption. Furthermore, proper minerals are necessary for strong horn growth and efficient reproduction. While protein content of forage will vary with season and growing conditions, usually 8% protein will be adequate. However, energy requirements of a

Proper nutrition includes clean fresh **Water** and lots of it. This can not be over emphasized. Longhorn Cattle are ruminants and sufficient clean water is necessary for them to properly utilize their foodstuffs. They will drink from ponds and streams. Regular **Deworming** will help insure that all the good groceries your animal for and your body consume will actually go to be they intended purpose, good health and reproductivity. It is inadvisable to set out a definite **Internal Parasite Control** program with your ranch directly to your claim but a good single for circumstances. We currently deworm 3 times a year. Although a growing cattle will often build resistance to internal parasites. However, it is vital to be critical concern on an annual basis not only the brand of worming medicine but gallons a temperate rotate the class of medicine. Our program is as follows: Water in summer, heat of 90 degrees, we drink 10 to 15 or more gallons of water in Oklahoma, after first hard freeze, deworm with injectable to treat a wide spectrum of parasites including river flukes. Early spring, pour-on topical dewormer and again 4 to 6 weeks later. (Then again in late August if very wet conditions exist; if in a drought, this step is not necessary) We treat all young calves at @ about 4 months of

Regular **Deworming** will help insure that all the good groceries you pay for and your cows consume will actually go to the intended purpose: good health and reproductivity. It is advisable to set out a definite **Internal Parasite Control** program with your veterinarian to complement your specific circumstances. We customarily deworm 3 times a year. Although, mature cattle will often build resistance to internal parasites. However, in reference to growing calves, this is of greater importance. Particularly in summer heat, this is of critical concern. An 800 lb yearling steer or heifer that might normally drink 9 gallons at temperature of 60 degrees, will drink up to 18 or more gallons of water in summer heat of 90 degrees. Along with shade, be sure your Longhorns have access to all the fresh clean drinking water they want. Early spring, pour-on topical dewormer and again 4 to 6 weeks later. (Then again in late August if very wet conditions exist; if in a drought, this step is not necessary) We treat all young calves at @ about 4 months of age when receiving first round of calfhood vaccinations. Deworming is especially important for replacement heifers, sire prospects and steer prospects as young stock are most vulnerable and you want to lay for them a foundation for a long lifetime of good health.

We have had excellent success in **External Parasite Control** with a season-long feed-through additive in our loose minerals. IGR is an insect growth regulator than prevents horn flies from progressing to maturity and so drastically and significantly cuts down adult horn fly population. However, late summer/early fall will sometimes see a spurt and that is easily controlled with a topical pour-on repellent.

Whether it be your beautiful Longhorn Cow, Bull or Riding Steer, their diet and care need not be the result of some wild guess or a stab in the dark. Their nutritional needs are easily met. A little common sense and accurate knowledge along with an easy to maintain and simple recordkeeping system will go a long way. Provide them with a proper diet and capable care and your Riding Steer will provide you with a lifetime of affection and loving companionship and your Longhorn Cows and Bulls with many beautiful calves for many years to come.

## PREMIER LONGHORNS

*Specializing In Elite Genetics & Trained Riding Steers*

Website Designed by Premier Longhorns LLC © 2023 at Homestead™ [List Your Business for Free](#)