

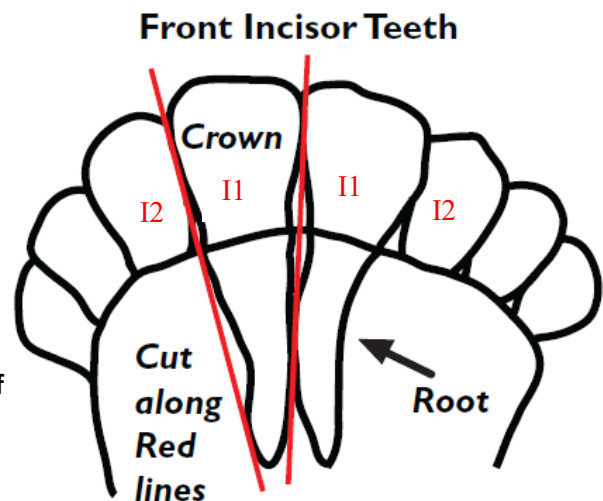
How to Extract an Incisor Tooth from your Sheep, Moose, Caribou or other Ungulates

Incisor teeth only occur at the front of the lower jaw of an ungulate and their removal is easy and will not affect your opportunity to have the animal taxidermy mounted. It is important that a middle tooth is removed from the jaw properly, so that the animal can be aged. Your assistance in taking care to properly remove an incisor tooth from the jaw, clean it and submit it is an important part of this process.

Extracting the tooth

Incisor teeth can be easily extracted from the freshly killed hoofed animal or ungulate; their removal becomes much more difficult if the jaw has been dried. You may need to soak the jaw in warm water to rehydrate it, making removal easier. To remove a tooth:

1. Cut down through the gum tissue on either side of the root with a thin-bladed sharp knife. Select one of the center teeth, as they have the largest developed root and will give the most accurate estimate of age.
2. Push the tooth out with your thumb. If the tooth does not come out easily, carefully use a pair of pliers and pull it out with a twisting motion. Clean off the soft tissue and any jawbone material from the tooth. **Do not cut into the root or submit a tooth with a broken root as it is the root portion of the tooth that is used in aging.**



IMPORTANT

- Do not send entire jawbones.
- Do not include soft tissue (gum tissues, muscle, hide) with the tooth.
- Do not store your tooth in a plastic bag. Place the cleaned tooth inside a paper envelope to dry.
- Ensure the envelope is labelled with species, date of kill, region and management unit, FWID and which tooth is being submitted (e.g. I1, I2, etc.)