

- "THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE OX; ASK AND YOU WILL SEE"



KAREN RYDER

Tao of the Hound

Humans have been using cattle for thousands of years. Mainly for food consumption like milk and meat. But cattle are still used today around the world for farming, where they plow and haul in the harvest and forest work where they pull large logs from the woods to be used for lumber and to heat our homes.

As humans have been working with oxen for a long time we also have used the same behavior methods based on pressure for a long time. But the question arises, what if we change the way we work with the oxen? Are oxen cognitive intelligent enough to do so? Roo and Buffie are 2 male oxen who are conditioned differently than the usual culture for oxen in human care.

Focusing on their choices and paying attention to when they want to participate in a behavior has made Karen's program a one of a kind. Through giving them a voice Karen starts to understand more about what both individuals prefer and how each individuals learning curve works. Cattle are way more intelligent than we have ever thought.

Saying yes or no to a behavior is not as easy as it sounds but the oxen seem to understand they have a voice in their own care.

Speakers Time Slot

Thursday 16th of December, 2021

8:20PM - 9:05PM CET