

- It is now ready for sale or storage.
- The hides and skins will be protected up to 2 months from bacterial infection.
- Salt reduces moisture content to an extremely safe level of 20 – 30 % m.c.

With dry-salting, all the above steps are followed except that the stock is exposed to the sun or put on a pole to dry.

The amount of salt required is only 10% of the weight of the hide, or 4 tumpeco mug fulls. Folding is done only once along the back bone line with the flesh-side out.

4. Advantages:

- a. Produces higher quality leather when tanned.



Higher quality leather

- b. It is market-demand oriented, especially the European Union markets

- c. Uses very little amount of water in soaking during tannage
- d. In many cases salt is provided almost free of charge by the exporters.
- e. Livestock farmers and buyers get better incentives for their hides / skins sold.

Conclusion:

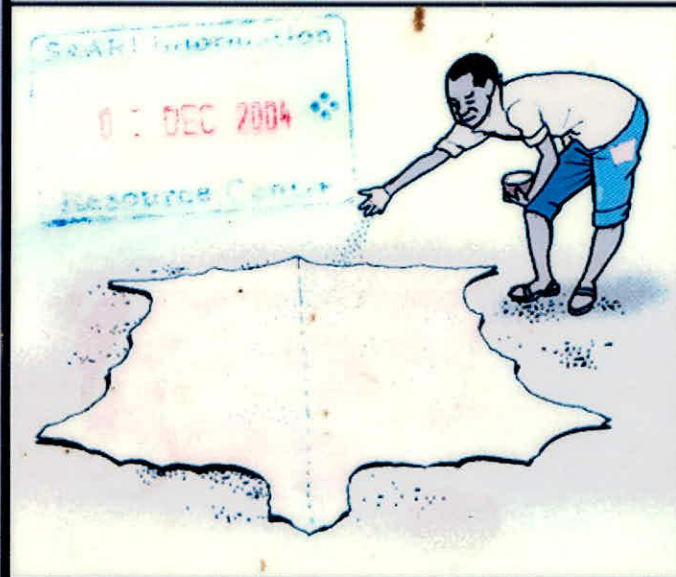
With the above explanation that clearly stated the ease of preserving hides and skins using salt as well as the assured markets from the European Union, the hides and skins dealers will definitely benefit.

A good hide or skin starts from the farm. It is therefore essential that the farmer keeps his animals healthy. Similarly the hides and skins buyers would earn more money from the improved method of preservation using the salt method.

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IMPROVED METHOD OF PRESERVING HIDES AND SKINS



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March 2003

1. Introduction:

Hides and skins if not well preserved are of very little economic and commercial value. Because of this neglect hides and skins produced in the country, particularly the Lango Farming System, go to waste.

By now the country would be earning more than 3% of GDP from hides and skins. In addition more people would be employed in public and private sector organisations dealing in hides and skins.

Instead of our people using leather for foot wears, bags, cases, belts, wallets, etc made from our hides and skins people have resorted to using synthetic and other materials that pose a threat to our environment. The current method of preserving hides and skins is open air-drying that includes frame drying for hides only and triple wire drying for skins only. Other rudimentary and unrecommended methods that are still practiced by some livestock farmers, butchers and hides and skins buyers are ground-drying, pole-drying, roof-drying, wall drying. However, these methods do not result into properly seasoned stock that is acceptable to international markets. That is partly why the current earning from hides and skins is very low.

2. Salting:

This is the method of preserving hides and skins by use of salt.

There are 2 types of salting methods:

- a) Wet – salting
- b) Dry – Salting

3. Steps in salting:

Whether you are using wet or dry salting the following activities are important

- Preparation :
- Removal of fats (Defatting)
- Removal of excess /loose meat found on the stock (Defleshing)



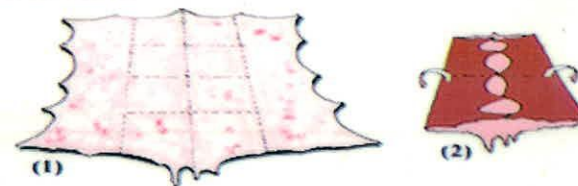
Defatting/ Defleshing

- Washing the stock using scrubbing brush to remove dirt and any other contamination.



Washing the hide

- ☐ Weighing the hide (not skin)
- ☐ On the weight of the hide, 30 %/ 1/3 of magadi salt is evenly sprinkled throughout the flesh – surface.
- ☐ For skin only 3 or more handful of magadi salt is evenly sprinkled throughout the flesh – side. On the average we will need five handfuls of salt.
- ☐ Bundle the stock with flesh side in. First begin with the side edges to line with the back bone line. Next line the neck and tail edges with the center. Then fold last to get the bundle.



Bundling hide after wet-salting