

SAFETY WORKING WITH CATTLE

1. ALWAYS close gates using both hands, keeping your body squarely behind the gate with one hand on the latch.

NEVER SWING THE GATE WITH ONE HAND.

NEVER SLAM THE GATE ON THE ANIMAL.

ALWAYS BE AWARE OF THE GATE LATCH AS A SAFETY STOP.

2. When letting an animal into a pen, open the gate across the alleyway and set the latch so the animal cannot knock the gate into you.
3. When letting cattle out of a pen, open the gate completely across the alley and set the gate.

If possible, enter an empty pen alongside of the animals and drive animals out with this fence between you. If this is not possible, use the slow flowing method by letting the animals turn on their own. Usually the herd will follow the first one out.

Always give the animals plenty of room – crowding them may result in an injury to you or the animal.

4. If you must be in the alleyway and animals are approaching, do the following:
 - a. Step into an empty pen or a pen with a lot of room, but know where those animals are at all time, OR
 - b. Stand as flat up against the fence as possible and allow the animal to pass on the far side of the alleyway, OR
 - c. In the last case, climb up approximately halfway on the fence. This allows safe clearance for the animal.

Other than in this event, no employee is to climb over or jump off of any fences. If this case does arise, climb down one rung at a time. Never jump down.

GENERAL REVIEW OF LIVESTOCK HANDLING

1. Never throw the gate at the animals.
2. Always work the gate from the end with both hands, one hand securely on the gate latch until latch is secure.
3. Never loiter or visit behind an unlatched gate.
4. **Use your gate blocks.**
5. Be aware that all animals can kick – watch those hind legs.
6. Be especially careful with blind animals.
7. Moving at a slow steady pace and remaining as quiet as possible gets the best results and it is the safest.
8. This is no rodeo, so don't be a rodeo clown.
9. Remember; if possible get out of the alley. If not, stand calmly up against the fence and allow the animal to pass on the far side of the alley. If all else fails, climb up the fence, but **don't jump down.**
10. When animals are wild, worked up, or hot; work them very slowly. Work with help, not alone, and always use gates for protection.
11. Use safety guards and shields whenever possible.
12. **Never bring a horse to work that the supervisor has not approved.**
This is not a training facility.
13. **Report all accidents as soon as possible to your supervisor or to the office.**
Your job and your rights to a claim may depend on it.

OTHER SAFETY SUGGESTIONS

1. Eye protection is recommended at all times.
2. On certain jobs some lifting is required:
 - a. Remember to lift with your legs while keeping your back straight.
 - b. If an item is too large to be lifted alone, get help or have your supervisor move it with a machine.
 - c. Never turn while lifting.
 - d. Always make sure of your footing before lifting.
3. Proper attire is required. Solid shoes or boots, no loose hanging clothes, no jewelry, no neck scarves or neckerchiefs.
4. Only those employees that have been tested satisfactorily may operate tractors, bobcats or loaders.

No employee may ride on equipment, except the operator.

5. No employee is to sit on the fences, gates, feeders or alleyways at any time.
6. Never stand in loading chute while a vehicle is backing up to it or pulling away from it.
7. Always keep as many cross gate latches across alleyways as possible to prevent animals the chance to turn back or run.
8. Always turn the cattle from an angle. Use your pole or tick with both hands securing it to the side of your body.

(Dairies – Do not use aprons to herd cattle.)

9. Never let animals into the alleyway without advising the people down the alleyway first. The common warning industry wide of “animals coming” is:

“HEADS UP”

Once again, you must follow the safety rules and work habits outlined here as well as those shown you in your orientation prior to starting work or you will be subject to disciplinary action.