

Smarter Milking Webinar

▶ Cow Flow

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Outline

- Objectives
- Understanding cow flow
- Cow track
- Collecting yard and milking parlour
- Human behaviour / Interaction



Objectives

- Understanding cow flow
- Identifying problems / Corrective actions
- Self-reflection



What is cow flow?

- Cow flow is the movement of a herd of cows to and through the milking parlour from where they have been feeding and resting. This movement needs to be smooth and efficient.



Cow Track

- **Width** (fenced 0.5m from edge)
- **Surface**
- **Camber**



Collecting Yard / Milking Parlour

- **Yard**

- ↯ Size (1.5m sq-1.8m sq)

- ↯ Shape

- ↯ Surface

- ↯ Backing gate

- **Parlour**

- ↯ Natural light

- ↯ 90° turns

- ↯ Surface

- ↯ Milking routine



Human Interaction / Behaviour

- Droving the cows from the field (cows heads up / heads down)
- Moving cows in and out of parlour
- Farmer's behaviour during milking



Summary

- **Observe cow flow at a distance** (cows heads up / heads down)
- **Check your track**
- **Look in the mirror (Self-reflection)**



Thank
you!

- Andrew Hogan
- FRS

