



Animal Handling Guides for Dairies

Part 4: Moving Cows More Effectively

Link to resources: <http://umash.umn.edu/training-guides-dairy>



Learning Objectives

- ◆ Understand how the cow's head and nose position relates to their movement.
- ◆ Discuss ways to move a cow (location, speed, blindspot, pressure zone, etc.).
- ◆ Demonstrate the zig-zag method for moving cows.



Watch Video

- ◆ View (2:20 minutes) Stockmanship Part 4 - Moving Cows More Effectively:

English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tguA5Elk9aU&feature=youtu.be>

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XzpJxMy7c&t=8s>



Discuss

- ◆ When approaching a cow, discuss all factors to keep in mind to move her effectively.
- ◆ Describe the zig-zag method and how it works to move cows effectively. Demonstrate how this method works within your group.

◆ Refer to Figure 1

Move the two cows into the holding pen (Marked with an X). Describe your movements while approaching the gate and how you will move the cows. Draw your movement in the pen upon entrance of the gate until the cows are at X.

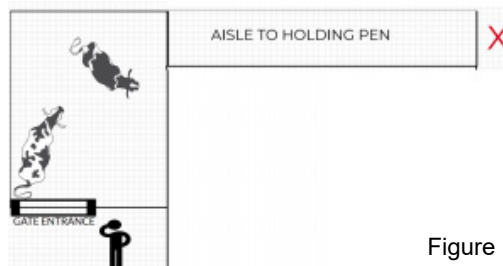


Figure 1



Take the Quiz (online or pdf download)

- ◆ Each person taking the training should take the quiz.



Additional Resources (optional)

- ◆ Watch (1:15 minutes) Adjusting the speed of cattle by moving along side the herd - A video to show how to slow and speed up cattle in herd.
- ◆ Watch (10:39 minutes) Moving Cattle on Foot - In the field, this video shows techniques for moving cattle using their reactions, movement, flight zone, low-stress handling methods, balance point, etc. to control herd movement.
- ◆ Read Start Herd Movement the Right Way (1-page) - An article that introduces effective tips and checklists for moving cattle in a herd.
- ◆ Watch (18:35 minutes) Using Natural Cattle Behavior to Move Cattle - A training video (low quality audio but highly informative) to teach how to approach a cow and use the cattle's behavior to move a cow and a herd.
- ◆ Access the quiz answer keys online under each Additional Resources accordion menu.