



Success Stories

LOW STRESS ANIMAL HANDLING

umash.umn.edu/animal-handling

The Problem:

A major source of anxiety for the cow or the pig is people. **Stressed cattle and pigs are more difficult to handle and this puts workers at an increased risk of injury.** Much of an animal's anxiety comes from how they are handled.

The Solution:

UMASH collaborated with dairy scientists at the University of Minnesota to produce educational materials related to stockmanship or low stress handling. The bilingual (*English and Spanish*) resources include 5 short videos demonstrating the techniques used in positive animal handling.

THE IMPACT

- ⇒ **Bilingual (*English and Spanish*) videos with fact sheets and barn posters** have been well received by producers, veterinarians and businesses who serve farmers.
- ⇒ **Featured in** Farmers Hotline, Hoards, Agriview, Living in the Country, Blooming Prairie, and other media outlets.
- ⇒ Added to Gear Up for Ag Health and Safety™ program delivered to **1,500 college students** in 2018.
- ⇒ Qualify as **ethics training** for the FARM 3.0 Program.
- ⇒ Used as an **in the field training resource** on iPads for 2,000 dairy workers in the southwest United States.
- ⇒ Partnered with University faculty to create **lesson plans for Ag Education teachers** (*to accompany videos*).

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

"The videos give a concise introductory explanation to working with cattle and how an employee can make animal interactions more pleasant and efficient for both animal and handler."
- Dairy Education Coordinator

"Stockmanship materials have been used to train field services staff. This is part of an overall effort to increase the quality of milk by less stressed animals."
- Cheese company representative

The bilingual (*English and Spanish*) animal handling videos have over **25,000 views** on our YouTube channel.



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