

# Milking Dairy Cattle

**AgSafe**

## Safe Work Procedure

Safe Work Procedure Number:









Date Approved:

Date Revised:

**DO NOT perform this procedure until you have been appropriately trained and authorized to do so by your supervisor.**

**Required Training:** Animal handling training, lone worker procedure for lone milker at night milking. Identification system for known fractious animal. MSI tool box talk. WHMIS 2015 for controlled cleaning products. Lock out procedure for automatic gates, machinery.

### Required Personal Protective Equipment and Devices

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | Eye Protection Required                           |
|  | Long or loose hair must be tied back or contained |
|  | CSA Approved Safety Footwear Required             |
|  | Hearing Protection Required                       |
|  | Nitrile/ latex gloves                             |
|  | Milking Apron                                     |
|  | No jewelry, watches, rings, necklaces etc...      |
|  | No loose fitting clothing                         |

**Potential Hazards:** Struck by animal, risk of slipping and falls, worker entrapment in automatic gates and scrapers, worker kicked by animal, zoonotic diseases, chemical splashes on worker's skin/eyes, tail swing to eyes, MSI injury due to repetitive nature of task.

#### **Pre-Operational Safety Checks:**

1. Animal handling training.
2. Alert worker to animal crushing potential in collecting yard and demonstrate safe pedestrian routes.
3. Instruct worker on when necessary to call supervisor assistance for fallen animals and freshly calved aggressive cows.
4. Appropriate footwear and illumination in barns
5. Toolbox talk worker explaining pinch point hazards of automatic gates and scraper and associated lockout as required.
6. Identification of known fractious animal i.e. foot band etc. to alert worker of danger.
7. Rubber gloves available to worker and eye protection.
8. Good clean hand washing facilities should be available to worker.
9. If worker is alone at night during milking a Safe work procedure for Lone worker needs to be implemented

# Procedure

## Before you start

1. Inspect required personal protective equipment and replace if required
2. Put on all required personal protective equipment
3. Alert employer that you have started work via lone worker procedure if applicable

## While you're working

1. Collect cows from cubicle barn and bring to milking parlor
2. Identify known difficult cows by colored leg bands
3. Teat stripping
4. Pre-dip of teats
5. Wiping teats
6. Placing milking machine on cow
7. Removing Machine and Post dip of teats
8. Repeat
9. Should you have difficulty with a fractious cow notify your supervisor immediately and avoid contact until assistance arrives

## After you finish

1. Return cows to barn and close respective gates.
2. Wash down plant and apply detergents as required using appropriate handling precaution.
3. Notify lone worker check in that you are finished chores and leaving farm safely.

*If an emergency situation occurs while conducting this task, or there is an equipment malfunction, shut the equipment off immediately and follow the lock out procedure.*

|                                |
|--------------------------------|
| <b>Date Written:</b>           |
| <b>Procedure Developed by:</b> |
| <b>Approved by:</b>            |
| <b>Date Revised:</b>           |
| <b>Date Approved:</b>          |

Please use the following **Safe Work Procedures** as a guideline to building your own safe work procedures.