

Four Principles

There are four basic principles of cattle behavior that when used properly can improve the ease and speed of working cattle while reducing stress and increasing efficiency. Those principles are:

1. Cattle want to see you.
2. Cattle want to go around you.
3. Cattle want to be with and will go to other cattle.
4. Cattle can only process one main thought at a time



Ten Keys to Effective Cattle Handling

Ten handling pointers to keep in mind and a few suggestions that will improve the ease of handling cattle, whether they are being gathered from the pasture or processed through the corrals.

1. The only way to work cattle quickly is slowly.
2. Work from the front to draw cattle to you.
3. Apply pressure when cattle have a place to go.
4. Pressure from the side.
5. Cattle must be comfortable to go by you and stay straight.
6. Pressure cattle from behind only when absolutely necessary.
7. When working cattle, move in straight lines and triangles.
8. Going with the flow of cattle slows them down or stops their movement.
9. Going against the flow of cattle initiates or accelerates their movement.
10. Cattle work best when they are ready - You have to get them there.

Sponsors



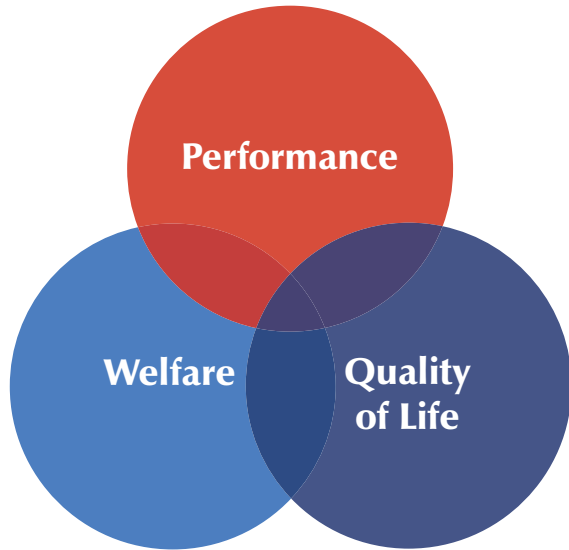
STOCKMANSHIP AND STEWARDSHIP

Creating and managing movement is the key to effective cattle handling



A SAFE, WHOLESOME AND HEALTHY BEEF SUPPLY

Why This is Important To You and the Beef Cattle Industry



Welfare

- Improved cattle handling leads to improved public perception
- Less injury to handlers and cattle
- Less carcass damage and trim loss

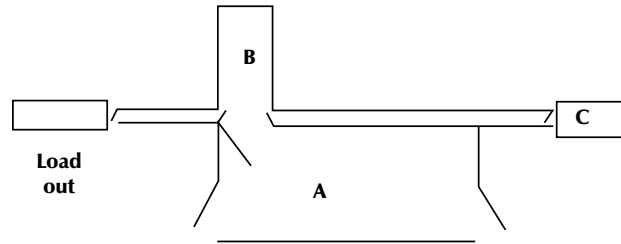
Performance

- Increase efficiency
- Increased gain
- Less investment in veterinary intervention
- Less investment into facilities and repair

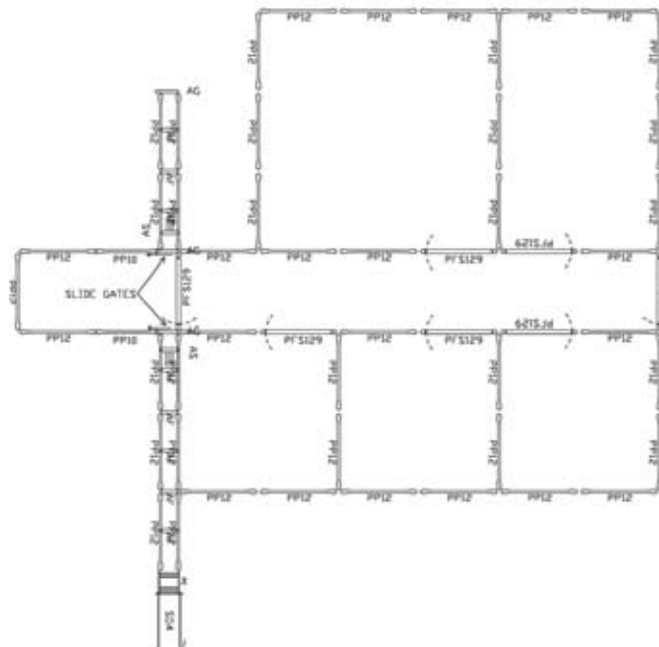
Quality of Life

- Improved profitability
- Sustainable family operations
- Enjoyment of the ranching lifestyle

The “Bud Box” Concept for Cattle Pens



A- Holding/ Staging pen
 b- Bud box
 c- Squeeze chute, scale, palpation cage



Ron Gill



During his 20 year career as a Texas AgriLife Extension Specialist, Dr. Ron Gill has provided technical expertise to livestock producers in beef cattle nutrition, management, and livestock handling techniques. Sought after as a national speaker, Ron's credibility is founded on his own ranch experience. Born and raised on West Texas ranches, Ron, his wife Debbie and brother Richard own and

operate Gill Cattle Company a commercial cattle enterprise in North Central Texas.

Dr. Gill's participation in stockmanship originated from two interests:

- development and delivery of beef cattle assurance education highlighting the impact of stockmanship on beef quality and food safety;
- service on state and national advisory boards focused on increasing adoption of improved livestock handling to enhance animal well-being.

Working to reduce sickness in high-risk cattle on his personal ranching operation increased Ron's desire to improve his own stockmanship skills. Incorporating more effective stockmanship has enabled him to capture the economic benefits of improved livestock handling through reduced sickness, reduced labor, and improved weight gains.

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