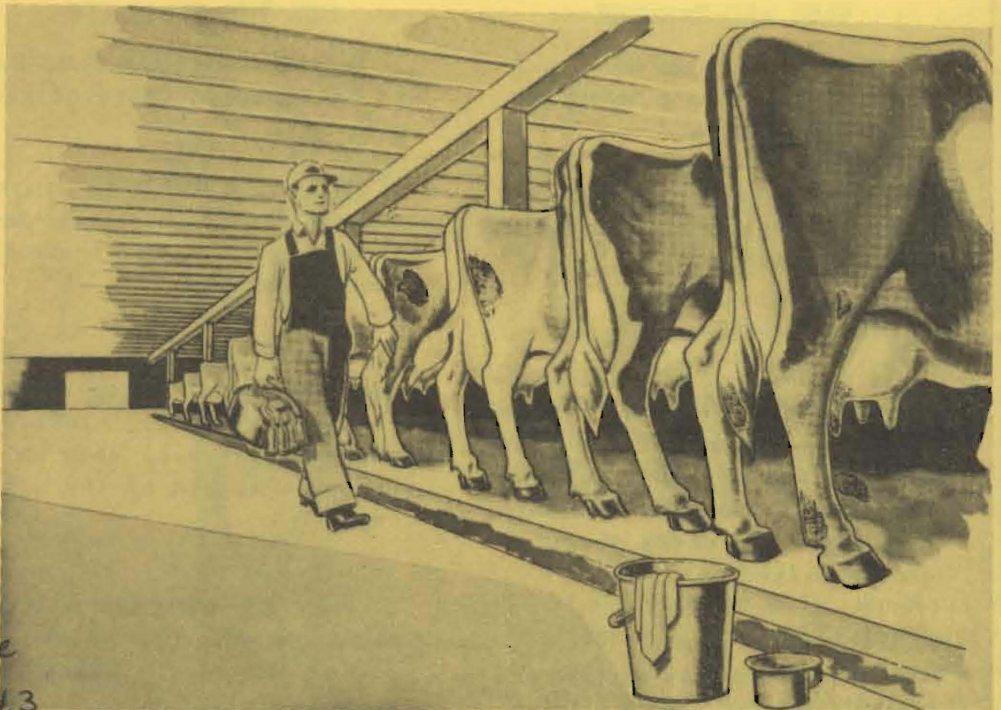


Better Milking Practices

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STEP 1



WASH AND MASSAGE

Wash and massage udder and teats about 1 minute before you are ready to milk.

This act is the first and most important step to good milking practices.

It causes the "milk letdown" hormone to be released by the cow. Muscles around the tiny milk cells in the udder contract and squeeze the milk down into the ducts and teats where it can be milked out.

Be careful not to disturb or excite cows just before milking. When this happens, cows will milk slowly and all of the milk cannot be taken.

STEP 2



USE THE STRIP CUP

Regular use of the strip cup is an important part of good milking.

Milk out a couple of squirts of milk from each teat to help reduce sediment and lower the bacteria count.

The strip cup is probably your most useful weapon against mastitis. Flakes, clots, or stringy milk will show up on the wire screen of the strip cup.

These are signs that a break has occurred in the inside lining of the teat. Extra care should be given during milking to prevent further injury. Early treatment brings more favorable results.

STEP 3



ATTACH THE MACHINE

A shiny, distended teat is the sign of a good letdown of milk. She is ready for the milking machine.

Here is a good routine to follow when you have a stall cock for every other cow:

- Wash and massage cow No. 1.
- Check with strip cup.
- Wash and massage cow No. 3.
- Check with strip cup.
- Attach machine to cow No.1.
- Attach machine to cow No.3.
- Wash and strip cup cow No.2
- Machine strip cow No. 1.
- Attach machine to cow No.2.
- Wash and strip cup cow No.4.
- Machine strip cow No. 3.
- Attach machine to cow No.4.
- Wash and strip cup cow No.5
- etc.

STEP 4



MILK COWS FAST

Cows like to be milked fast. You have no time for doing other jobs during milking. Many cows will milk out in less than 3 minutes. Few cows will take longer than 5 to 6 minutes after they become accustomed to a good milking routine.

Always operate your machine according to the manufacturer's directions. Make sure your vacuum line is cleaned at least twice a year.

Good, clean rubber parts speed up milking, reduce injury and make cleaner milk. Use two sets of rubber inflations and change them each week. Soak one set in lye solution, while the other is in use, or boil in lye water and store dry.

STEP 5



STRIP BY MACHINE

As milk is removed, the udder becomes soft and relaxed. This gives teat cups greater opportunity to crawl up and shut off the flow of milk.

Pull the teat cups down with one hand and massage each quarter of the udder with the other. Remove the cup when milk stops flowing. The front teats will usually milk out first.

There are three good reasons to strip cows by machine -- it saves time, it makes for cleaner milk, and it keeps the cows in good milking habits.

STEP 6



MILK COWS DRY

If cows are properly stimulated and are trained in good milking habits, all the milk can be removed.

When too much milk is left in the udder, pressure is built up and maintained for too long a period. This pressure will eventually cause the tiny milk cell to quit producing any milk. Once it has quit, it cannot be brought into milk again until calving time.

This is the reason why poor milking practices make cows dry off or quit milking too soon.

KEEP YOUR MACHINE WORKING RIGHT

It is necessary to have clean, "live" rubber inflations in order to get effective massage and protection from teat injury. Keep your milking machine in proper adjustment according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Clean the vacuum line about every 3 months to insure delivery of adequate vacuum to each stall cock.

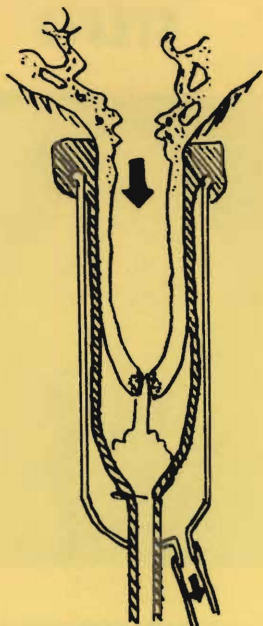


Fig. 1 Vacuum or milking stroke

Negative pressure, or vacuum, is brought to the milking machine by a pipeline and air hose. On the milker head is a pulsator which directs the vacuum into the pail and to the teat cup shell.

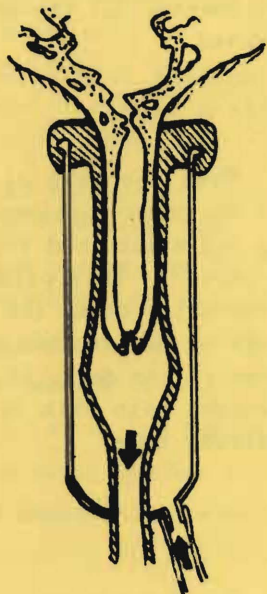


Fig. 2 Release or "massage" stroke

Constant vacuum from the pail is brought to the cow's teat through the milk hose and claw of the milker. This lowered air pressure or vacuum on the teat causes the test valve to open and the milk runs out into the milker pail. Vacuum is also on the teat shell during this vacuum or "milking stroke". See Fig. 1.

The pulsator cuts vacuum and allows air to enter the teat shell in its release stroke. This causes the rubber inflation to collapse. The action massages the teat and protects it from injury. See Fig. 2.

TRACTOR CAN PROVIDE EMERGENCY POWER

Nothing is more upsetting than to have the power fail at milking time.



Use the power from your tractor or auto in an emergency. Tap the manifold and insert a stall cock. Tractors have a plug which can be removed and a stall cock can be inserted by a combination of inserts, bushings, etc. Run a hose from the tractor to the end stall cock or attach near the motor.

Most tractors deliver a vacuum stroke of 19" to 20" when running at a low idle. A vacuum regulator valve will bring it down to operating level on the line.

ADVANTAGES OF MACHINE OPERATION

- Will milk the greatest number of cows in the shortest time.
- Aids in keeping production up during lactation.
- Helps insure healthy udders by causing less irritation.
- Helps produce clean, wholesome, high quality milk.
- Enables hired help, not dairy trained, to do the job efficiently with the least supervision.
- It applies to any herd of milk cows.