

Design and Operation of the Milking Platform

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Prioritize Your Goals

- How many cows?
 - Add 20%?
- How long to milk?
- Time for strategic and operational management versus the harvest of milk
- Evaluate your strengths, weaknesses' and what you like
- Parlor is part of the system

Barn Design

- Parallel
- Parabone



Barn Design

- Rotary



Barn Design

- Herringbone



Barn Orientation and Location

- Regards to grazing system
- North-South: East West Orientation
- Slopes
- Environmental issues

Key to Efficient Cow-Through-Put

- Cows walk past barn/holding area and exit to main grazing system
 - Herd mentality
 - Fresh forage



Holding Pens



Circular

Rectangular



Crowd Gates

- Critical issue of efficient cow flow
- Do Not leave the pit!
 - You train the cows, not the cows train you!



Feeding System

- Feed in or out of parlor?



Clean-Up and Waste System



Access to Cows



Feeding and Access



Ability to sort and cut cows easily



Winterized

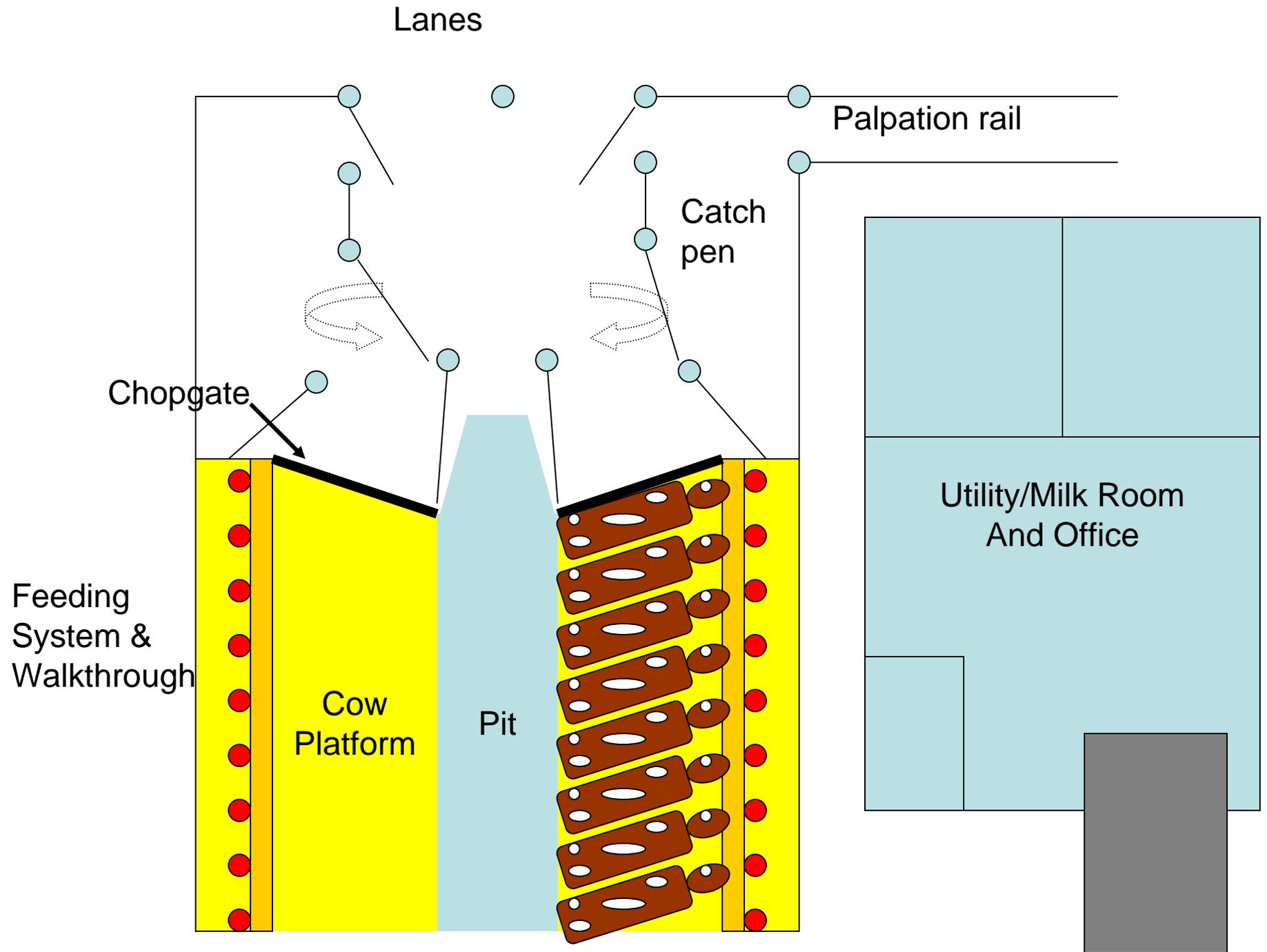


Comfortable...
winter and summer



Easily Cleaned





Key to Successful Milking Platforms

- Develop YOUR barn and YOUR system that matches the goals and strengths of YOUR operation!

