

facility design and cost; secondary to
stockmanship



handling facilities, value/cost

- required cost and complexity is relative to;
- class of livestock
- frequency of utilization
- crew experience and age
level of stockmanship

handling facilities, value/cost is relative

- cattle behavior
- volume/number of cattle

handling facilities, value is relative

not so obvious influencer of cost;

- behavior (why) because it is additive
- positive in the past positive in the future
- negative in the past negative in the future

design patterns animal behavior

- patterning cattle behavior
 - observe for resistance
 - build understanding by repetition
 - understanding? do the cattle instinctively know where to go(natural flow)
 - repetition? multiple trips through with limited stress

design patterns (handler's behavior)

- reducing stress inducing situations;
 - addresses resistance issues
 - handlers ability to control personal anxiety
 - especially on those critical days?

stages of handling system, dictates cattle attitude once in handling facility

- begins with a solid fence
- multiple types and cost ranges
 - fencing is a major stress reducer for both cattle and handler
 - takes the opportunity and eventually the desire to escape away

gates

- pasture gates
 - dual directional, huge stress reducer
 - heavy, medium and light duty gates \$\$\$\$
 - logical placement (maintain natural slow reduce anxiety)
 - take time to plan gates swing direction prior to herd movement
 - always close gates behind movement!!

gates within handling system

- please understand this is the most dangerous area on the farm or ranch.
- why?

because of gate mishandling

blunt force trauma

entrapment

squeezing and pinching

puncture

gates within handling system.

- gate placement within pens, corners
- gate placement within stack alley, **multiple with opposing orientation**
- gates prior to single file alley, secure latching
- alley stop gates, rolling block preferred

hinge gates

bow gates

slide gates

Sweep system with curves

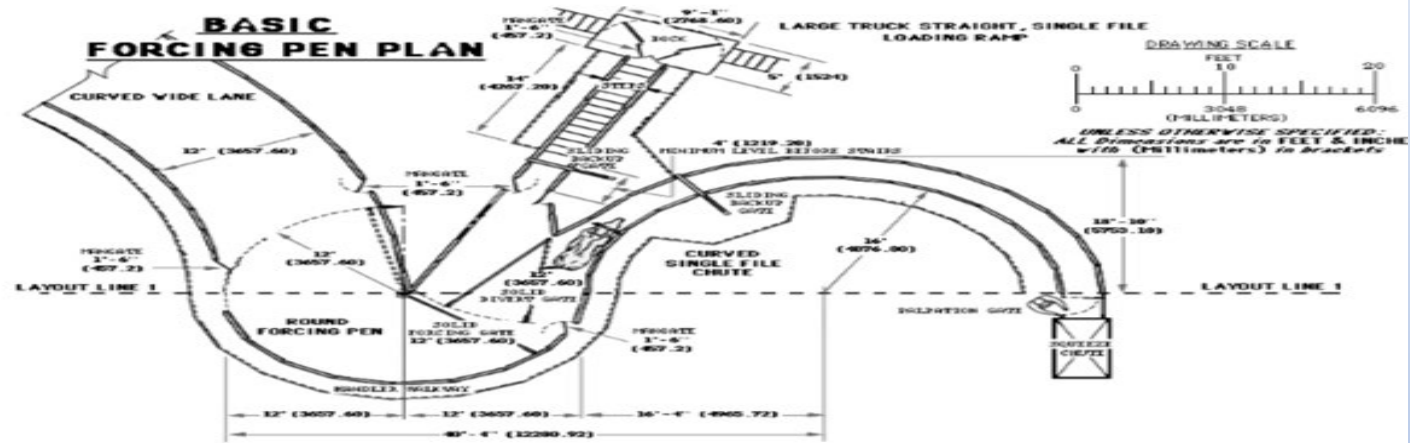
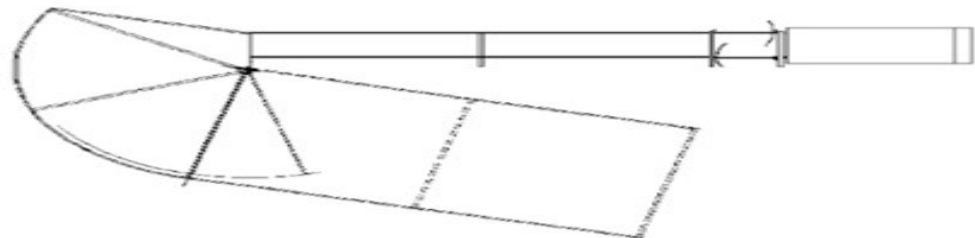
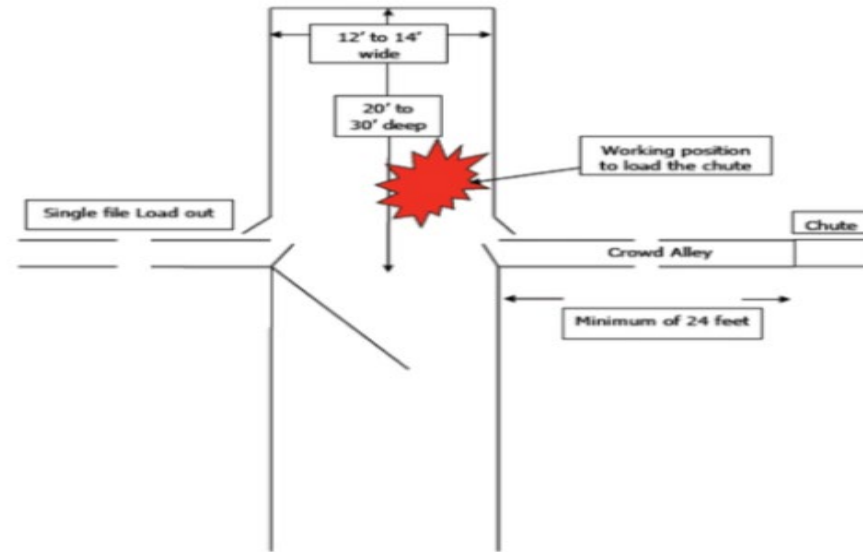


Figure 1. Processing area for handling a large number of cattle.



Bud Box design



Bud Box Dimensions		
Handler	Width	Depth*
Always on foot	12'	minimum 20'
Afoot and horseback	14'	20-30'
Always horseback	16'	maximum 30'

*Dictated by size of groups handled.

Figure 3. Bud Box design works when the handlers understand cattle behavior and understand how to position themselves inside or outside of the box, depending on cattle disposition, to create flow.

Simplest and least cost design

