

Theme 7: Milking & milk Hygiene

WHICH MILKING PARLOUR TO CHOOSE (Level 2)

Topic	Milking & milk Hygiene
7.1	Instructions hand milking techno & hygiene
7.2	Instructions machine milking good practice
7.3	Problems during milking
7.4	Scoring of teat condition
7.5	Milk production recording
7.6	Calculation of costs hand vs machine milking
7.7	Which milking parlour to choose
7.8	Testing & maintenance of milking machines
7.9	Milking & cleaning routine in milking parlours
7.10	Storage & cooling of milk on farm



1. You will learn about (learning objectives):

- Different milking parlors.
- The differences between parlors.



2. No Milking Parlor

- No power/ electricity.
- Low number of cows.
- Low milk production.



3. Start thinking about a Milking Parlor

- Training facilities.
 - Parlour milking is a different skill compared with ordinary machine milking.
 - Enough people available for becoming a milker ?
- Which dealers are available, and where do they live.
- Are there mechanics available in case of malfunctions.
- Spare parts can be delivered/are available at any time .



3.1. Start thinking about a Milking Parlor. Cont'd...

- Large number of cows need to be milked.
- Production per cow increases.
- 24/7 power available.
- Lack of labor.



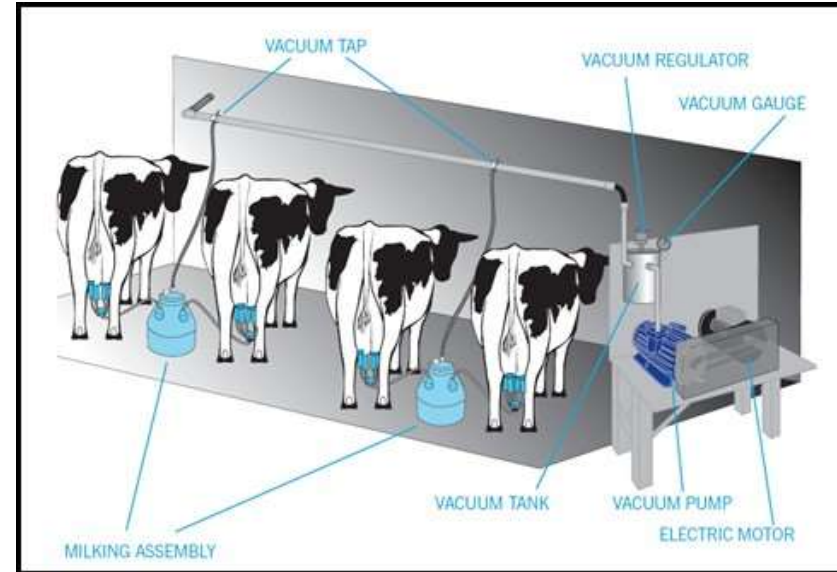
4. Different parlors

Trolley milking

milking is a very logical “in between” step from hand-milking to parlour milking.

Relative cheap solution in case of lacking labour.

One person can easily operate 4 units, means that four cows can be milked at the same time.

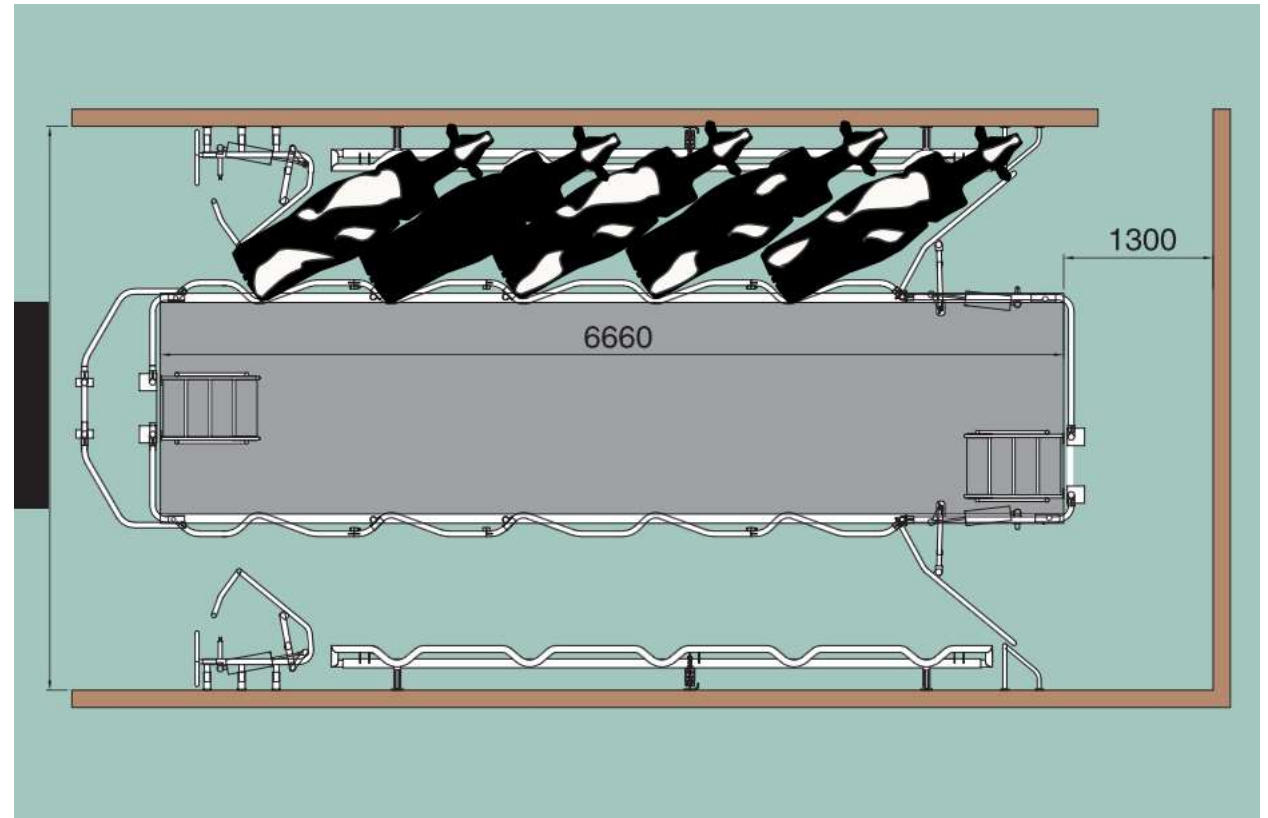


4.1. Herring bone milking parlor

A well-known type of milking parlour is the herringbone parlour.

The milker has close contact with the cow and the udder is easily accessible.

The milker has a good overview of the cows.



Herringbone parlours are most usually 30°, nowadays also 50 and even 80° are constructed.

Various versions are possible for a good set-up according to personal wishes. 30°, cows are milked from right/left side, 50-80° are milked between the cow's hind legs.

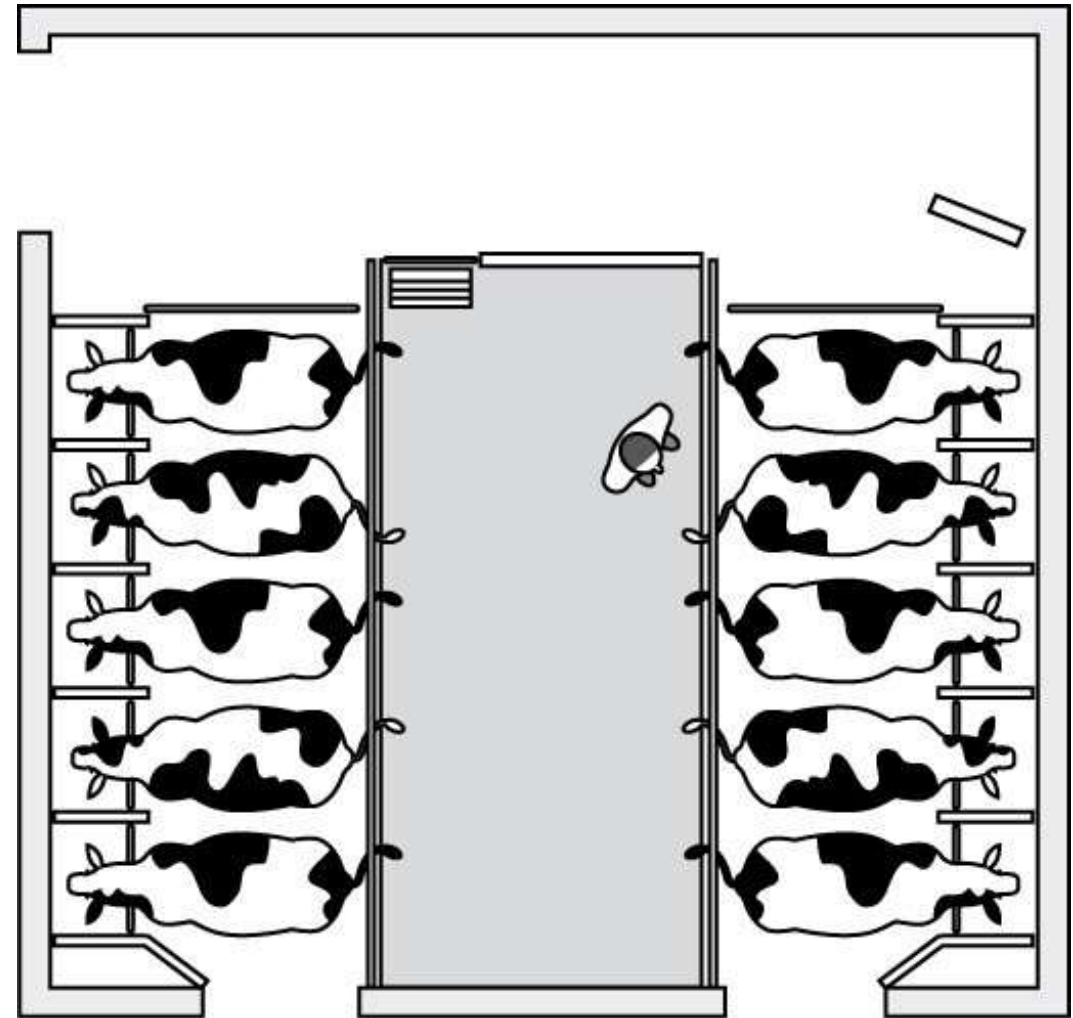
4.2. The side by side milking parlour

The side by side milking parlour is very compact. This makes it very suitable in renovation situations.

This type of barn is also used widely in new construction. Milking between the hind legs requires a different approach. The overview and accessibility of the udder is less.

The safety of milking in here is much greater for the milker. The can't really hit you with its hind legs.

The cows are locked during milking. A manure gutter is very useful for collecting the manure . The walking lines of this barn are very efficient.



4.3. The swing over milking parlour

Swing over is a sort of herringbone system which is more efficient with less investments.

Swing over is a 1 for 2 principal, 1 unit milks as well the right and the left cow.

Max capacity for one person is approximately 2 x 26 swing over, meaning about 120 cows/hour.

Well experienced milker must be able to make the parlour > 90% efficient.

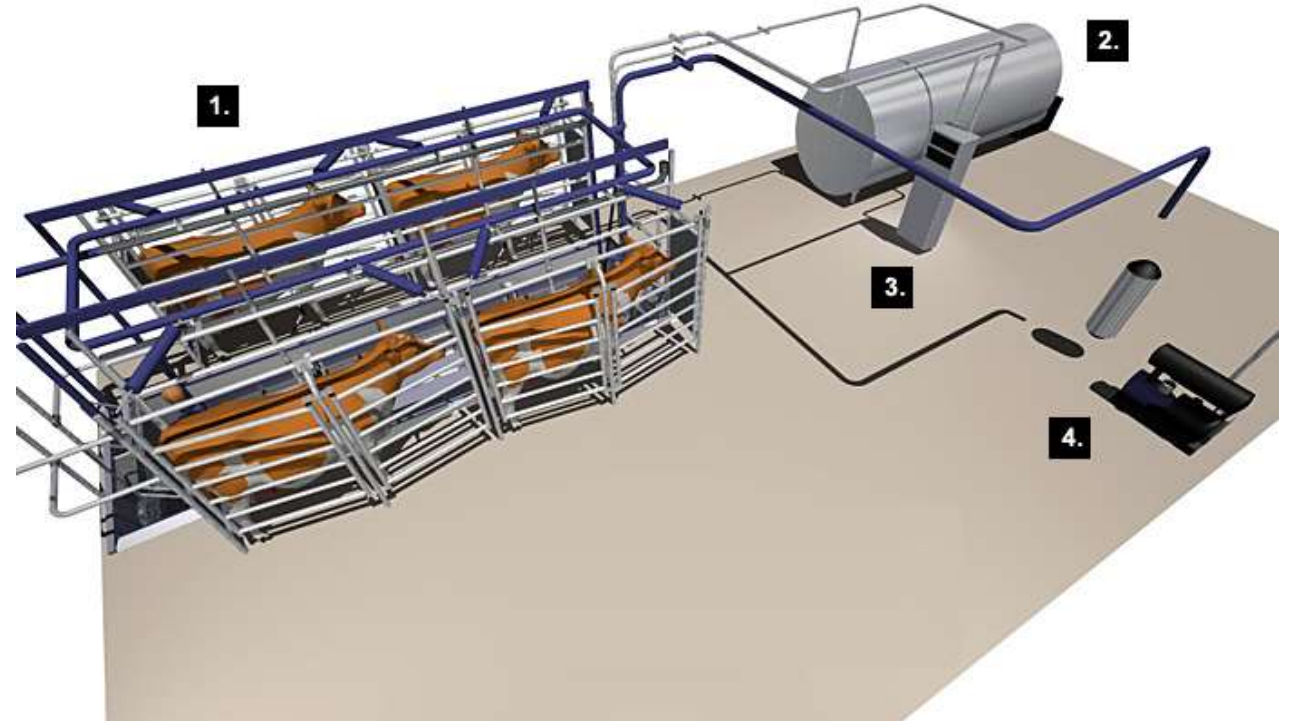


4.4. The Tandem milking parlour

The tandem milking parlour is designed to milk the cows from the side. The milker has a complete overview.

The cows can see the milker so that the cows quickly get used to the presence of people. This results in a quiet herd.

Once chosen for this system there are few or no possibilities for expansion.



5. Most errors cannot be recovered later

- Correct length, tailored to the cow(s).
- Position of the milk unit must be adapted to the position of the udder.
- Prepare yourself well before you start building, learn from other people's mistakes.



*In this picture the cow positions are too short therefore;

- cows won't come in easily.
- Stress , poor milk let down.
- Shitting and urinating while milking.

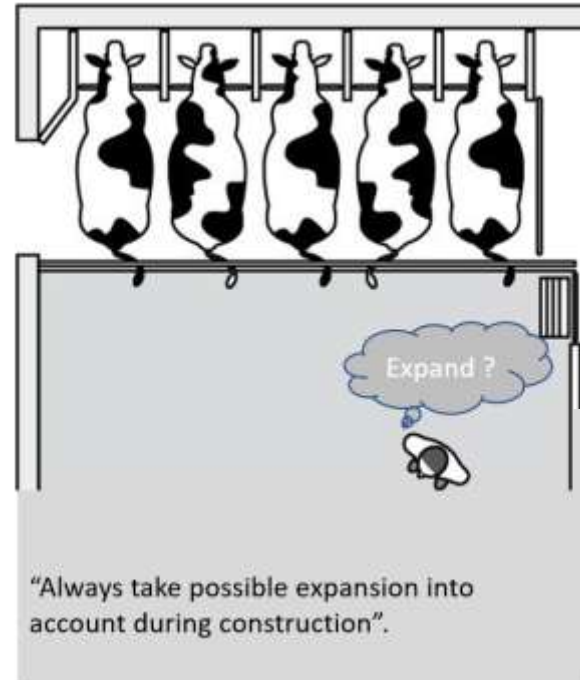
6. Which version do you choose

1. Very simple version with only the basic necessities.
2. With Milk jars, will inform you straight away during milking about your daily management.



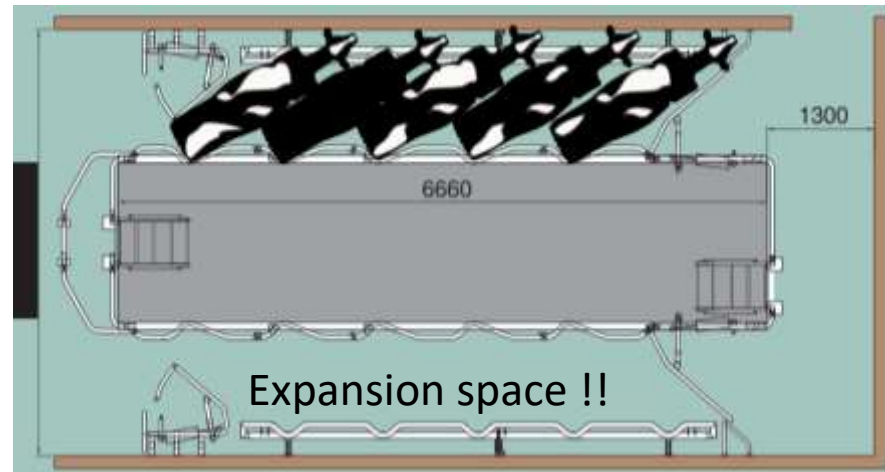
6.1. Which version do you choose. Cont'd...

1. Look into the future, how will your farm look within five years.
2. How many cows are you planning to keep within five years.
3. What kind of cows will you have within five years.
4. Always make sure that your milking parlour will be the centre of your farm.
5. Keep the (men)working/(cow)walking lines as short as possible.
6. Make sure that your milking parlour can easily be expanded.



Easy expandable from single 5 to double 10

Easy expandable swing over to unit milking.



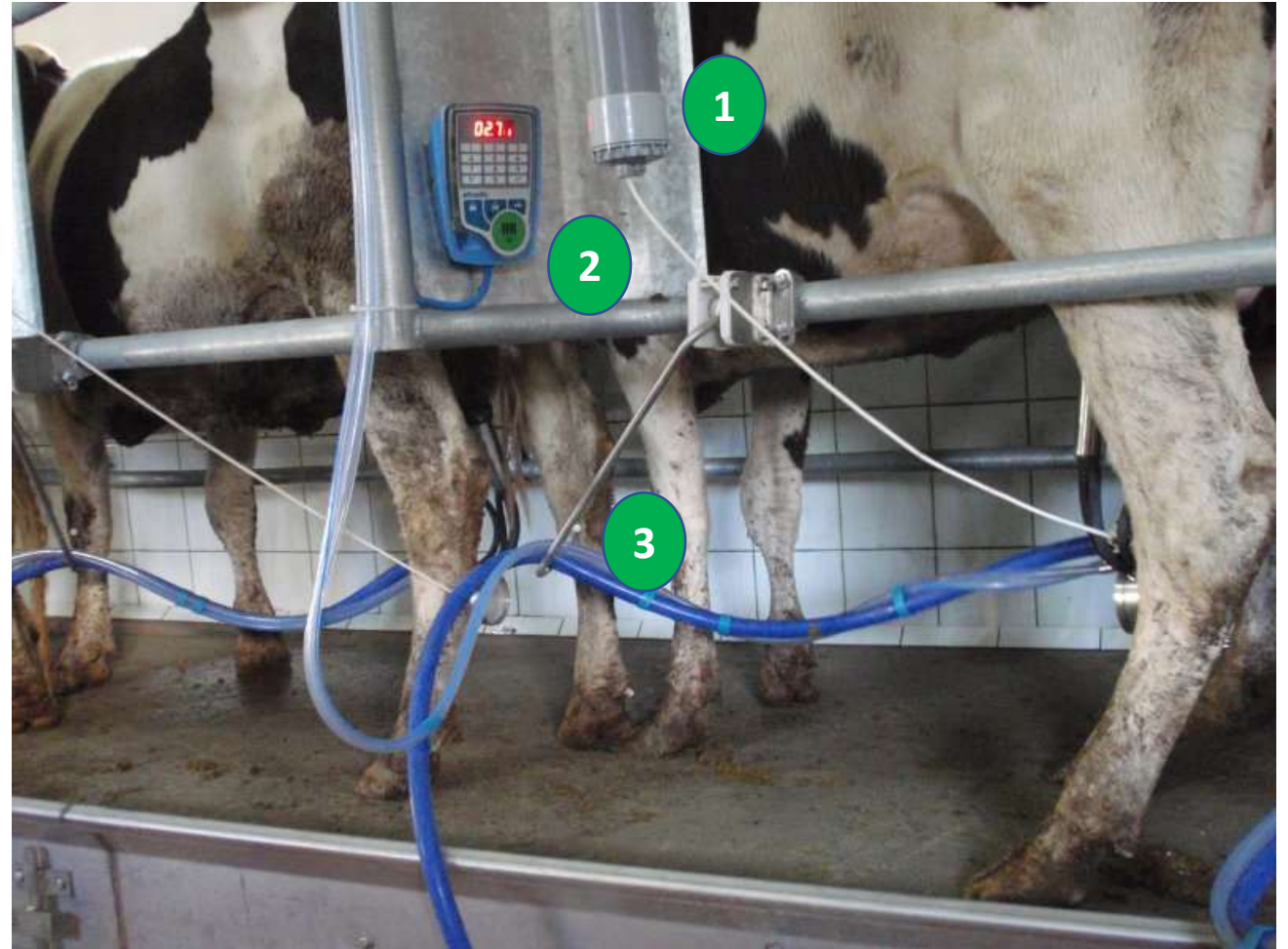
Start with one side and five units, when more cows invest in five extra units.

6.2. Which version do you choose. Cont'd...

1. Automatic take off.
 - -/- labour.
2. Milk production registration.
 - Management.
3. Milk hose guides.
 - Better milking.
 - More milk.
 - Faster milking.

Every "extra" means higher investment

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7. Summary

1. Milking parlour is the most valuable/important machinery in your farm.
2. Choosing the right milking parlour is a time-consuming activity.
3. The location of the milking parlour is very important in case of future expansion.
4. The milking parlour always must be the heart of the farm.
5. Learn from other one's mistakes is a statement you must keep in mind.
6. Mistakes in construction cannot be corrected anymore.
7. Choosing a milking parlour is a decision for the next 15-20 years.

