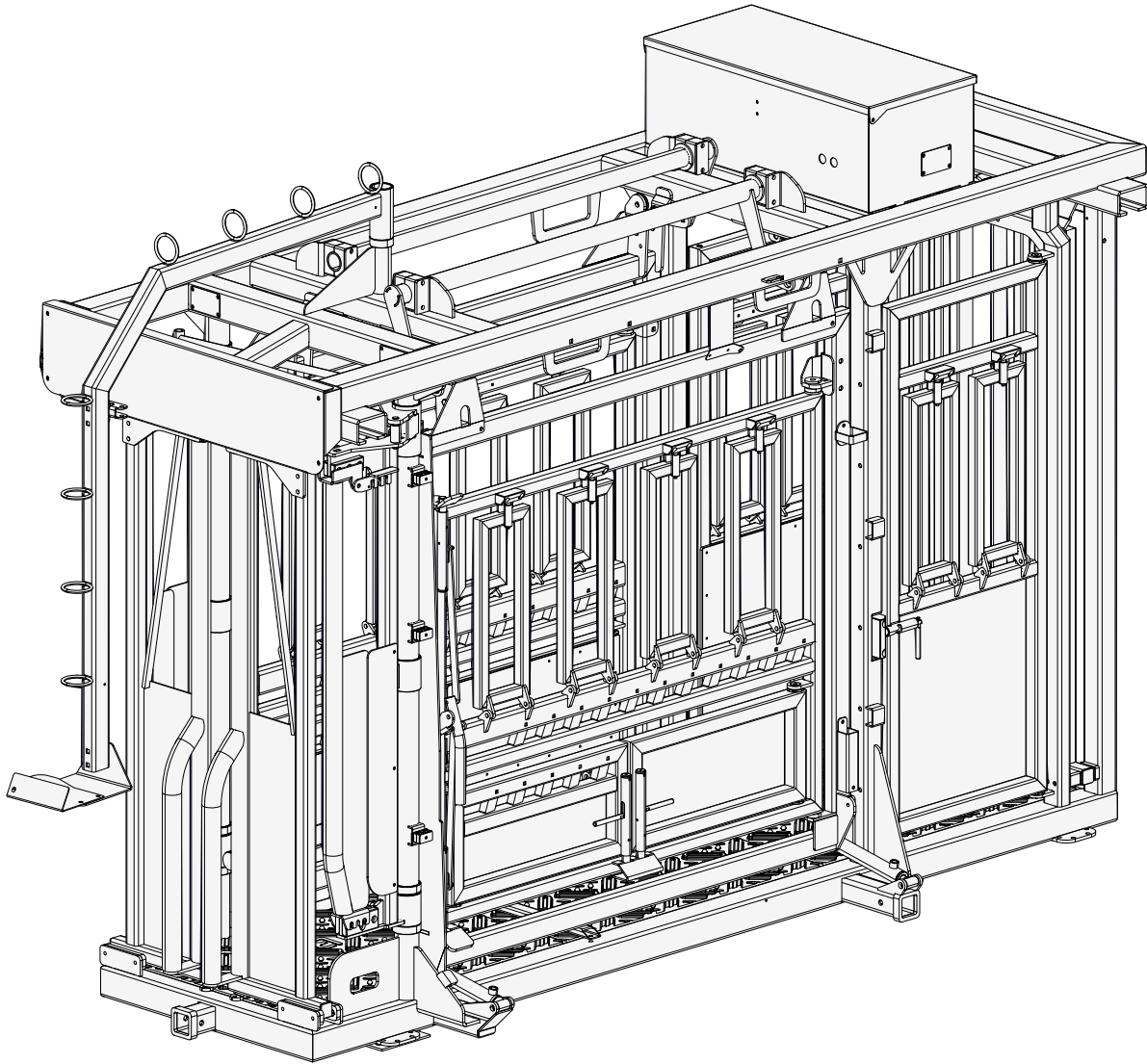


COWCATCHER

HEAVY-DUTY HEADGATES



Rancher's Choice Cattle Chute

Operators Manual

Cow Catcher

1769 Listowel Rd.

Elmira, Ontario

Canada N3B 2Z3

519-669-8884

www.cowcatcher.ca

September 2025

Table Of Contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Specifications	4
3. Safety.....	5
3.1 Hazards	5
3.2 Hazards From Modifying Equipment	6
3.3 Safety Decals	7
4. Setup.....	8
5. Operation.....	9
5.1 Controls	9
5.2 Capture Animal	9
5.3 Release Animal	12
6. Maintenance.....	13
6.1 Daily Inspections	13
6.2 Lubrication	13
6.3 Check Fluid Level	13
6.4 Change Hydraulic Oil And Filter.....	13
6.5 Cleaning.....	13
7. Troubleshooting	14
8. Warranty	15

Introduction

1. Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of your Rancher's Choice Cattle Chute.

Carefully examine the cattle chute upon receipt. Report any damage immediately to the freight carrier and register any claim.

Read and understand this manual before using the cattle chute and follow all of the safety instructions. Keep this manual with the cattle chute at all times.

Information provided in this manual was current as of the issue date. Cow Catcher reserves the right to make design changes without further notice or liability.

This manual explains the operation and routine maintenance of the Rancher's Choice Cattle Chute.

Information furnished in this manual does not include all of the details of design, production, or variations of the equipment. It does not cover all the possible contingencies, which may arise during operation, setup, or maintenance. Should special issues arise, or further information be desired, please contact Cow Catcher.

The text contained in this manual is for current production models. Some instructions and maintenance procedures may not apply to your specific unit.

Equipment modifications from original design and specifications are strictly prohibited. Modifications or overloading may compromise safe operation and subject users to serious injury or death and may void any remaining warranty.

Cow Catcher reserves the right to change, improve, modify or expand features of this equipment at any time. Specifications, models, or equipment are subject to change without notice, and without incurring any obligations to change, improve or expand features of previously delivered equipment. Because of the variations in optional equipment and continued design improvement, certain information contained within this manual may not apply.

This operators manual does not replace, nor does its use release the owner/operator from observing all safety codes or operating limitations as well as any applicable federal, state, provincial or local regulations.

Serious injury or death of the operator or bystanders may be caused if the cattle chute is misused.

Specifications

2. Specifications

Length..... 144 in. (3658 mm)
Width 60 in. (1524 mm)
Height 104 in. (2642 mm)
Weight (app)..... 4000 lbs. (1814 kg)
Electrical.....208/240 Volt Only

Safety

3. Safety

Before setting up, operating or servicing the cattle chute, you must read, understand and follow the instructions and safety warnings in this manual. Your cattle chute may not be equipped with some of the optional equipment described in this manual.

If you have any safety concerns or questions that are not covered by this manual, please contact Cow Catcher.

The safety information in this manual is denoted by the safety alert symbol:  This symbol means ATTENTION! BECOME ALERT! YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED!

The level of risk is indicated by the following signal words:

DANGER

Indicates a hazardous condition that will result in serious injury or death if not performed appropriately.

WARNING

Indicates a hazardous condition that could result in serious injury or death if not performed appropriately.

CAUTION

Indicates a hazardous condition that could result in serious injury if not performed appropriately.

NOTICE

Indicates a situation that could result in damage to the machine or other property.

3.1 HAZARDS

The following hazards are possible during the operation of the cattle chute. All operators, maintenance and service personal, or any one working with or near the cattle chute must be familiar all hazards.

WARNING

Do not operate this cattle chute until you read and understand this manual.

WARNING

Do not operate, work on or around cattle chute while under the influence of alcohol, prescription or nonprescription medication, or if feeling ill.

WARNING

Prevent death or serious injury.

Handling livestock can be unpredictable and/or dangerous.

Using the cattle chute properly may limit the risk of injury. Know the limitations of the cattle chute.

The cattle chute may provide a safer, more efficient working environment, but it is no replacement for smart and safe livestock handling.

WARNING

Wear personal protective equipment appropriate for the job.

Safety

WARNING

This product can expose you to chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/product.

WARNING

Crush hazard.

A raised cattle chute can fall, resulting in death or serious injury.

Never enter the area under a raised cattle chute.

WARNING

Do not make any alterations to this cattle chute. Altering may cause cattle chute to be unsafe and may void the manufacturers' warranty.

Always use Cow Catcher replacement parts. Not using Cow Catcher parts may void the warranty and/or cause harm to personnel, animals or machine.

NOTICE

Do not use this equipment for any other purpose than it was designed.

Using this equipment for any other purpose could result in damage to equipment or injury to personnel.

Carefully read and understand this manual.

New equipment components and repair parts must include the current safety decal.

Learn how to properly operate this equipment.

Never operate or work around this equipment without proper instruction, while fatigued or under the influence of alcohol, prescription or nonprescription medication, or if feeling ill.

Keep your equipment in proper working condition. Know the regulations and laws that apply to you and your industry. This manual is not to replace any regulations or laws.

3.2 HAZARDS FROM MODIFYING EQUIPMENT

Do not make any alterations to the cattle chute. Altering the cattle chute may cause unsafe conditions and may void the manufacturer's warranty.

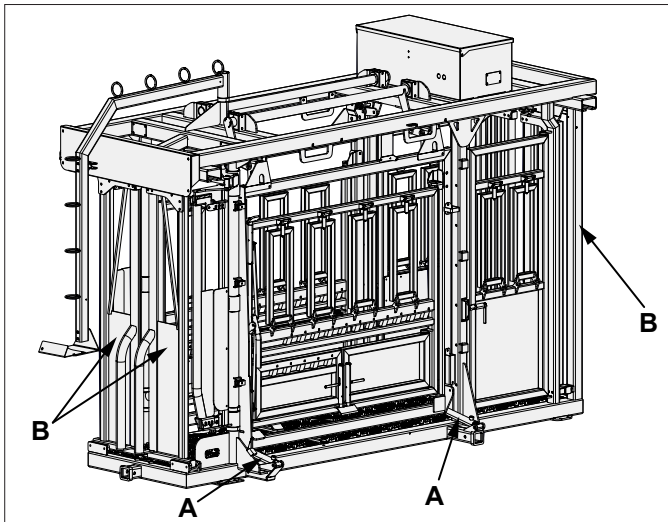
Always use Cow Catcher replacement parts.

Safety

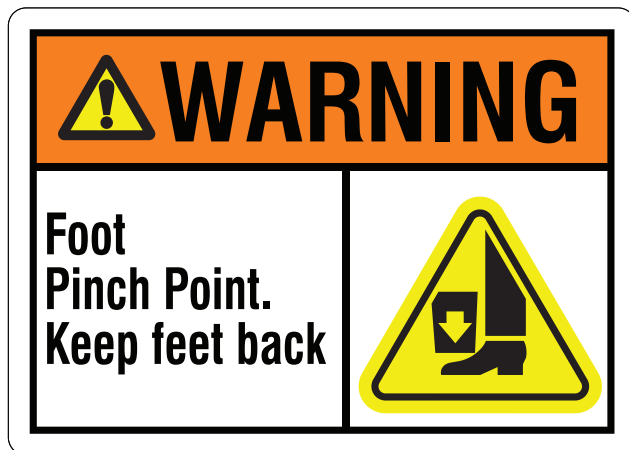
3.3 SAFETY DECALS

Safety decals are located on the machine to identify both operational and maintenance hazards. These safety decals are placed according to the hazard in that area of the machine. Read and understand each of the safety decals and the hazard it references. These safety messages are additional information to the safety content already described in this section of the operators manual.

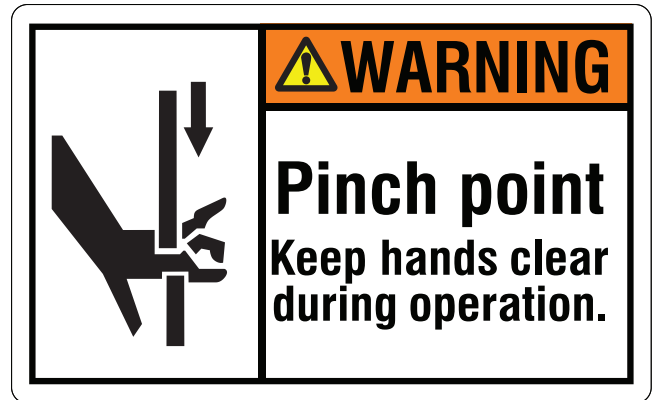
All safety decals must be legible at all times. Keep them clean by using soap and water, avoid using harsh chemicals or pressure washing. If the safety decal is no longer legible, replace it with a new one. Contact your Cow Catcher dealer for new decals.



Decal A



Decal B



Note: Decals are located on both sides of chute.

Setup

4. Setup

WARNING

Crush hazard.

Cattle chute weighs approximately 4000 lbs (1814 kg).

Use a properly rated lifting device to raise and move cattle chute.

WARNING

Crush hazard.

A raised cattle chute can fall, resulting in death or serious injury.

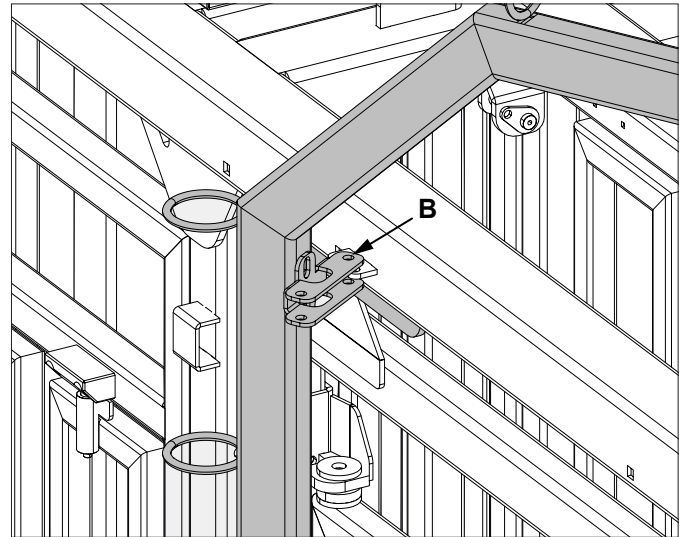
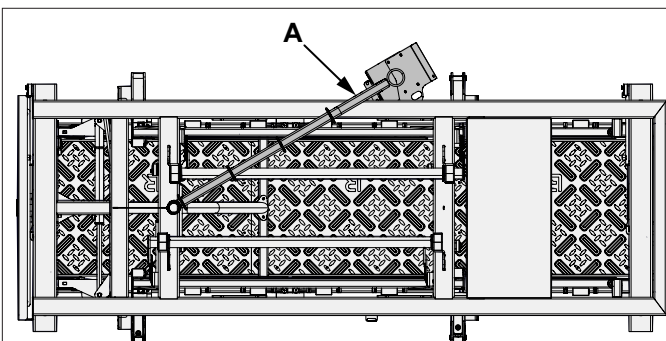
Never enter the area under a raised cattle chute.

WARNING

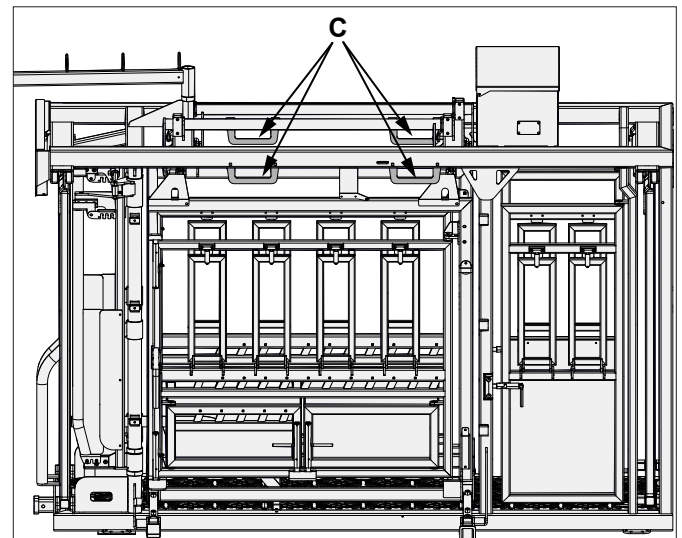
Prevent electrocution or fire.

Be certain chute is connected to a 208/240 volt single phase grounded power source.

1. Swing control arm (A) to opposite side as forklift and fasten in place with pin at location (B).



2. Insert forklift forks through lifting brackets (C). Carefully raise and move cattle chute to desired position.

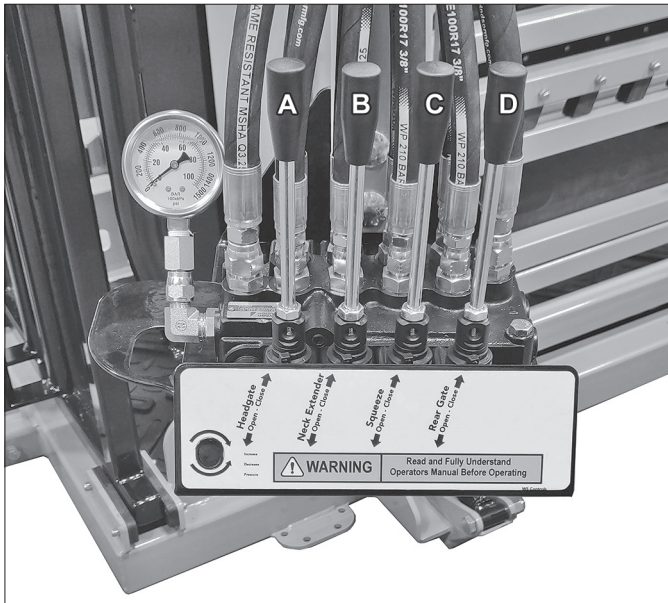


3. Verify cattle chute is sitting on firm and level ground.
4. Fasten chute to ground if possible.

Operation

5. Operation

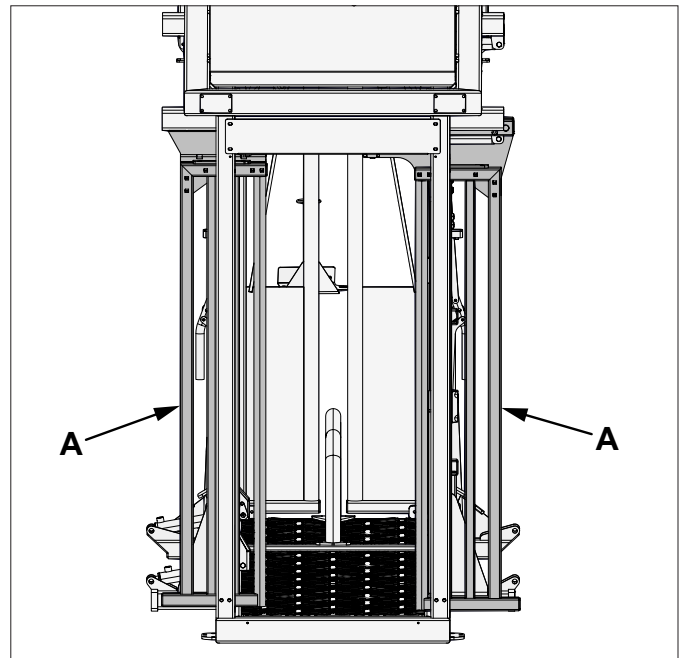
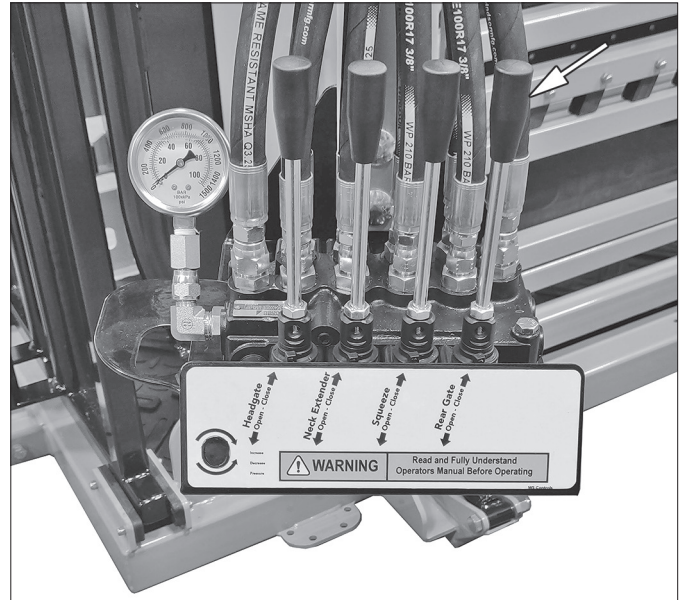
5.1 CONTROLS



- A. Head Gate Open/Close
- B. Neck Extender Open/Close
- C. Squeeze Open/Close
- D. Rear Gate Open/Close

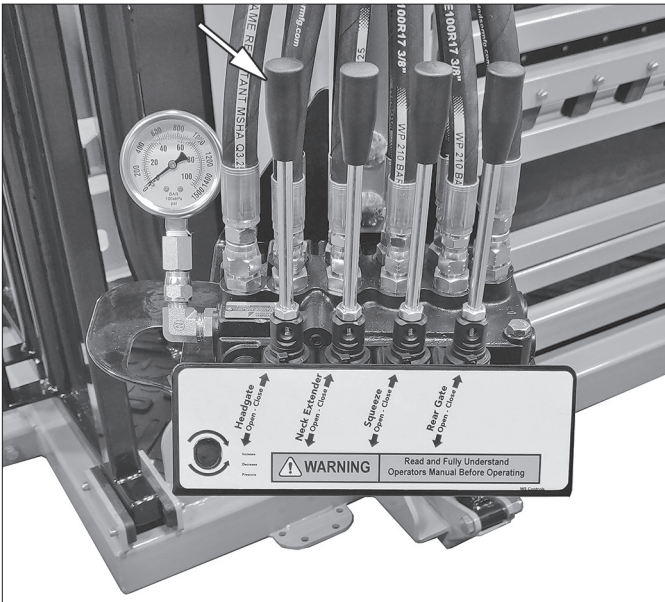
5.2 CAPTURE ANIMAL

1. Verify all people are clear of the chute.
2. Verify squeeze panels are open and all gates are closed and latched.
3. Pull rear gate lever to open rear gate (A). Allow animal to enter chute.
4. Push rear gate lever forward to close rear gate (A).



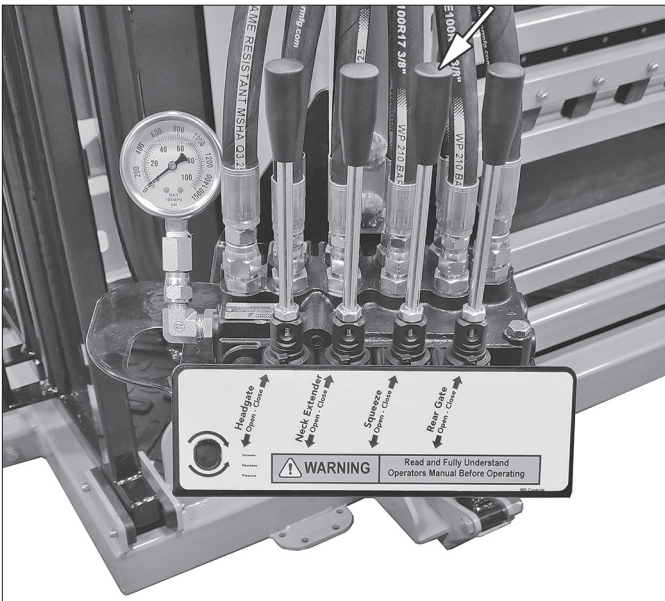
Operation

5. Pull headgate lever to open headgate.
6. Move animal forward and push head gate lever to capture head.

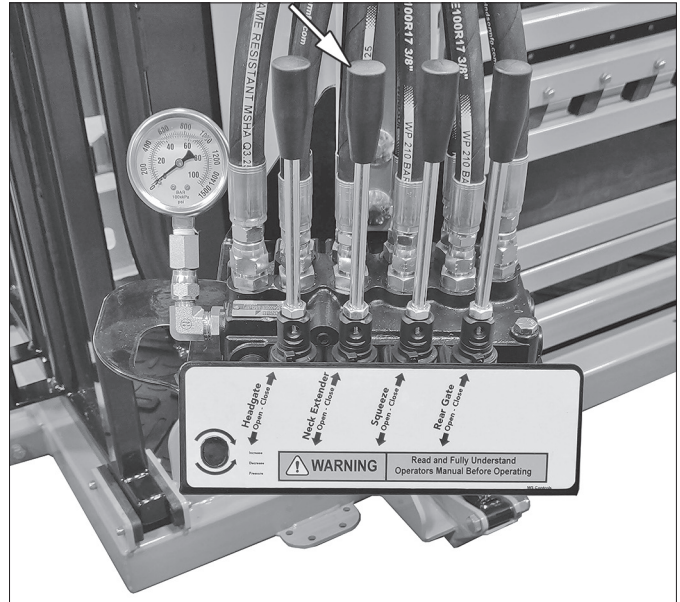


Note: Typically, the animal will pull backward after the head is captured. Allow the animal to pull backward before squeezing.

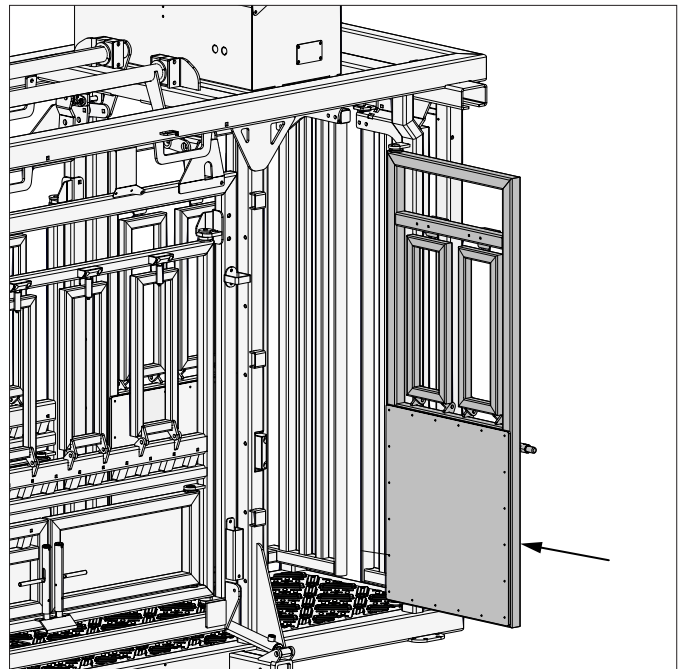
7. Push squeeze lever to apply squeeze.



8. Push neck extender lever to help prevent animal movement during neck injections.

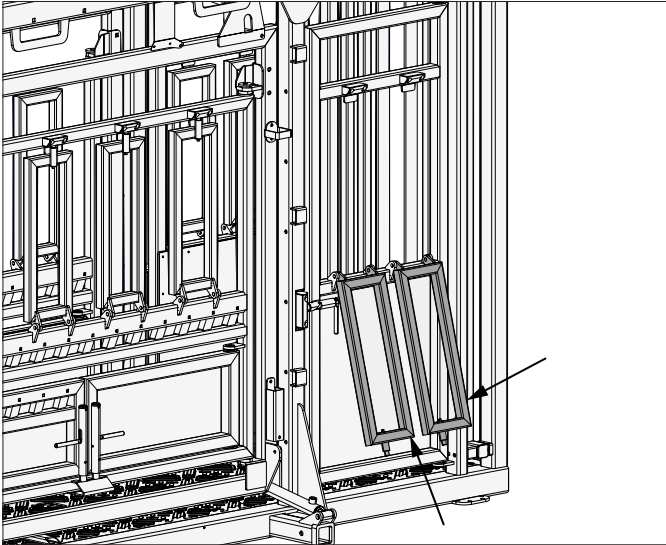


9. Open access doors located on both sides of chute as needed to work animal.

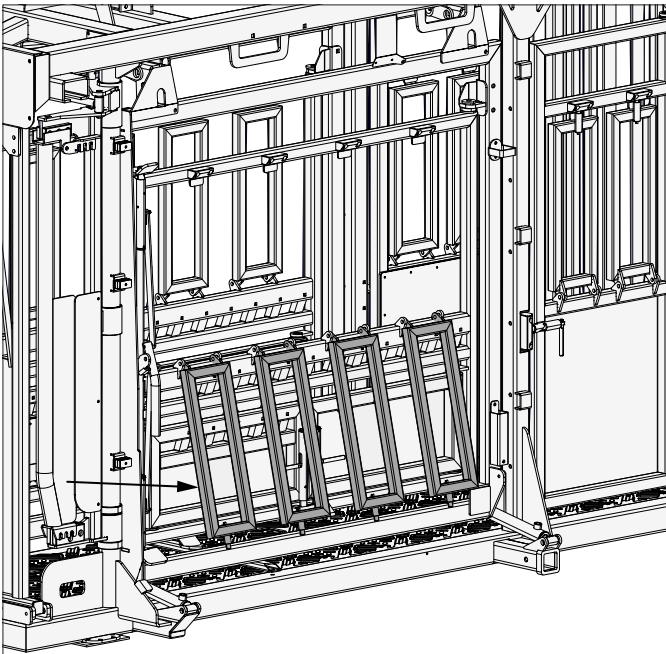


Vet Door Open

Operation



Vet Small Access Doors Open

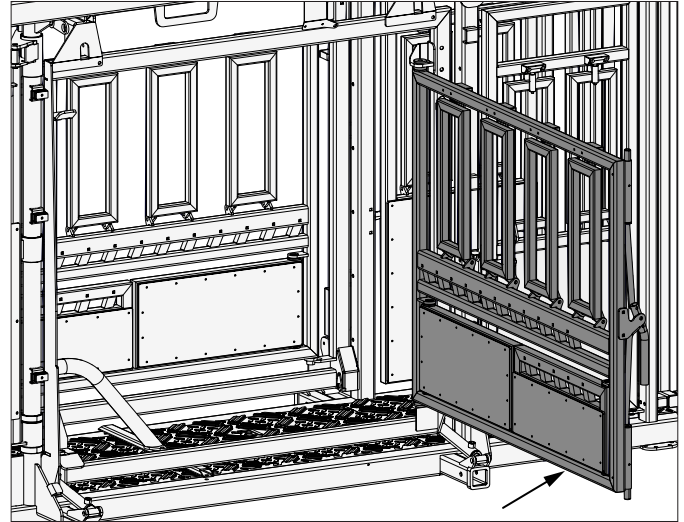


Upper Access Doors Open

WARNING

Crush hazard.

Do not open side access door unless releasing animal out the side.



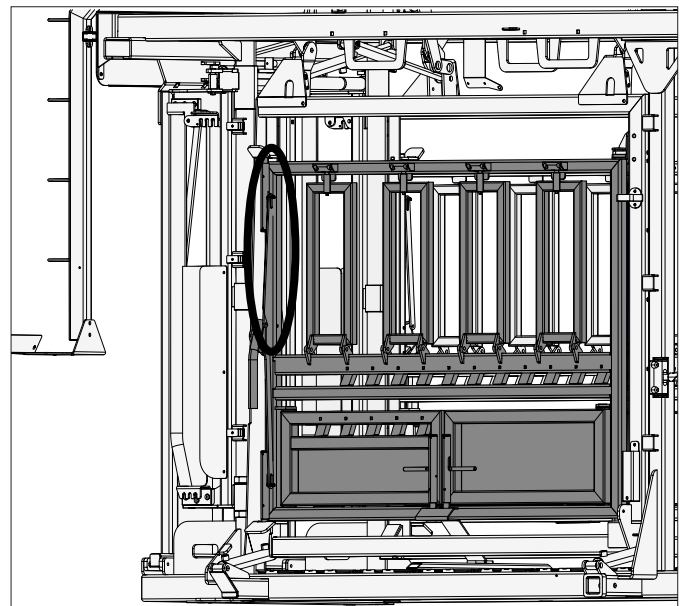
Side Access Door Open

WARNING

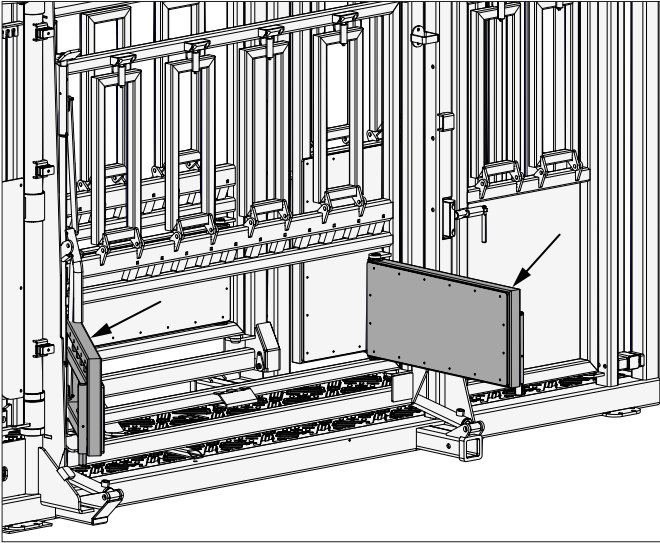
Pinch hazard.

Do not close side door with fingers wrapped around post at area indicated.

Close side door by pushing on door at area indicated.



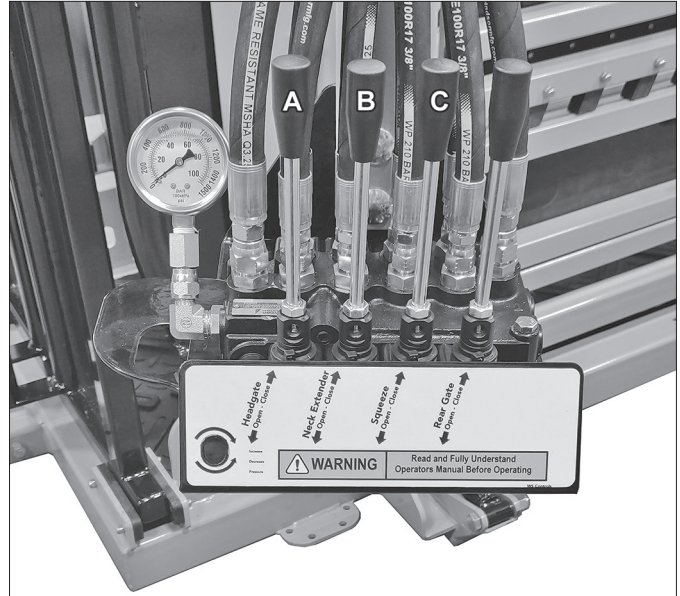
Operation



Lower Access Doors Open

5.3 RELEASE ANIMAL

1. Verify all people are clear of the chute.
2. Pull lever (C) to release squeeze.
3. Pull lever (B) to open neck extender.
4. Pull lever (A) to open head gate.



Maintenance

6. Maintenance

6.1 DAILY INSPECTIONS

Thoroughly inspect the cattle chute before each operation.

Check for loose, missing and damaged parts. Repair or replace parts as needed before using cattle chute.

Verify head gate, tail gate and squeeze operate smoothly with no binding.

Verify all latches move freely.

6.2 LUBRICATION

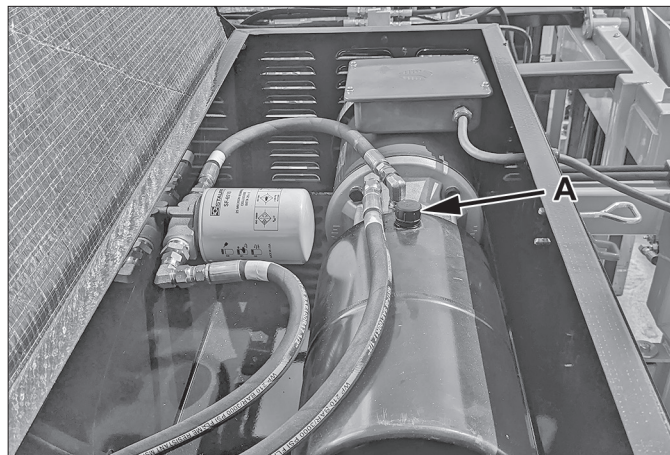
Pump grease into grease zerks in the following locations:

- Headgate Cylinders - Yearly or every 15,000 head.
- Rear Gate Cylinders - Yearly or every 15,000 head.
- Squeeze Cylinders - Yearly or every 15,000 head.
- Neck Extender Cylinders - Every six months or 5000 head.

Lubricate all plastic bushings on horizontal swing doors and latch pins with WD-40 or equivalent.

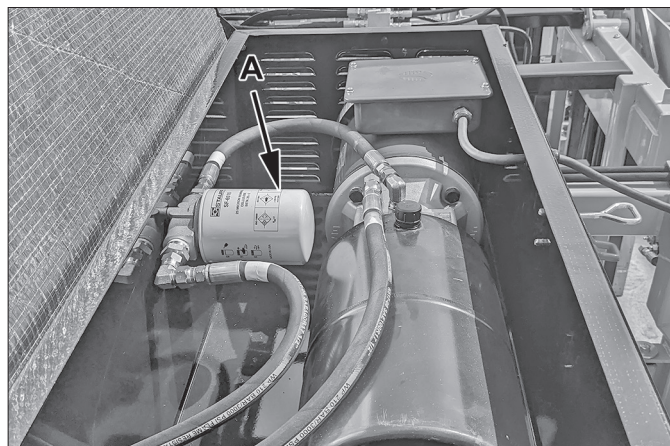
6.3 CHECK FLUID LEVEL

Check hydraulic oil level. Oil should be approximately 2 in. from the top of the reservoir. Add Petro Canada hydraulic oil if level is low.



6.4 CHANGE HYDRAULIC OIL AND FILTER

Change hydraulic oil and replace hydraulic oil filter (A) every 2 years in high use applications, or every 3 years in low use application. Add Petro Canada hydraulic oil to reservoir until oil is 2 in. from the top of the reservoir. Operation hydraulics to fill filter, turn off pump and recheck oil level.



6.5 CLEANING

Wash cattle chute as needed to prevent corrosion and keep chute in good working condition.

Troubleshooting

7. Troubleshooting

Issue	Possible Cause	Corrective Action
Squeeze function not moving freely.	Sliders need lubrication.	Lubricate sliders with WD-40.
Head gate function not moving freely.	Sliders need lubrication.	Lubricate sliders with WD-40.
Neck extender does not lock.	Fluid level low.	Add fluid to correct level.
Latches do not move freely.	Frozen or dry.	Lubricate with WD-40.
One or more hydraulic function will not stay in locked position.	Oil level low.	Add hydraulic oil to correct level.
Hydraulics operate slow.	Low hydraulic oil level.	Add hydraulic oil to correct level.

Warranty

8. Warranty

Cow Catcher warrants to the original purchaser, that the equipment will be free from defects in workmanship and materials, for a period of five years from the date of purchase.

This limited warranty is non-transferable.

This limited warranty does not cover damage resulting from improper use, improper maintenance, or lack of maintenance/neglect, nor standard wear items (bushings, hoses, etc.) from normal wear.

Additionally, this warranty does not extend to any product which has been subject to accident, nor does it extend to a unit that has been repaired, altered, or serviced by unauthorized persons.

This limited warranty does not cover any damage or adjustments required, if such damage or adjustment is caused by the use of supplies, parts, or attachments not sold or approved by Cow Catcher.

Except as otherwise provided herein, Cow Catcher disclaims all other warranties, expressed or implied, including, but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Under no circumstances shall Cow Catcher be liable for any loss of business, revenues, or profit or other indirect, incidental, special or consequential damage or loss arising out of any effects in or performance of this equipment, however caused.

Cow Catcher
1769 Listowel Rd.
Elmira, Ontario
Canada N3B 2Z3
519-669-8884
www.cowcatcher.ca