



## Types of Milking Parlours for Commercial Dairy Herd

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Before a decision is made about the design and placement of milking parlours, it is important to look at the milking practice in the normal way. In developed countries where labor is scarce and costly, machine milking is widespread and is common on many tropical dairy farms. Milking machines not only reduce the needs of the staff and eliminate the frustration of milking, but in many cases do a better milking job than could be done by hand. However, most small dairy farms in developing countries have very low prices and the number of dairy cows in each one is not enough to economically justify the installation of the machine. In addition, the equipment requires energy and is more expensive to buy than the few pieces of equipment needed for hand washing. On commercial farms where many cows are being milked at the time, milking is a potential investment. Several types of milking parlours are used in dairy farms around the world. The abreast parlour allows the cows to come in and out one by one. Stands should be 1.0 to 1.1 m wide when using a bucket milking machine or by hand milking, and 0.7 to 0.8 m is sufficient for the installation of a plumbing system. In both cases the width of the mesh should be 0.6 to 0.8 m. A key feature of the abreast parlour is the long distance between the milking parlours and the cows that disturb the milker as they live in the same area.

Milking procedures will usually be more similar and work better in a large surrounding area (60 stables) than in a nest of equal size of herringbone or parallel parlour (twice 30). Rotary parlours usually use a 'face-in' suspension and are subject to all the same damage to the corresponding milking parlour. The milking parlour is part of a building where cows are milked on a dairy farm. Cattle are brought to the milking parlour for milking and then returned to the feed and / or rest area.

The main advantages of a milking parlour compared to dairy cows in their area is that they increase efficiency, provide ergonomic benefits, and reduce the risk of injury, both painful and recurrent related stress. This article introduces a framework for ideas for designing a milking parlour. Larger types and components of modern milking parlours as well as standard alternate milking types are described. The effectiveness of the milking parlour and hygiene are also discussed.

### Tandem Parlour

The tandem parlour also allows for the individual care of cattle. It is widely used in small commercial herds and especially in herds with high yielding cattle. The volume of the parlour about cows milked per hour and the efficiency of the work can be compared to that of a small herringbone parlour. The main drawbacks of this type of parlour are the need for more space and more expensive construction compared to other types of parlour with the same capacity.



*Fig: Tandem Parlour*



*Fig: Walk-through Parlour*

### **Walk-through Parlour**

At the entrance to the houses or in the chute parlours the cows enter and leave in groups. They have been used mainly for small herds. Its small size can be advantageous where the room will be installed in an existing building, but it is lower than other types in many other aspects, however, cheaper to build than the tandem parlour.

### **Accommodation in Herringbone**

The arrangement of the herringbone parlour creates a cohesive work environment and allows the feed to be centered on the side walls. Four stands on each side of the hole, the smaller the size of this type of greater efficiency. The popularity of the herringbone parlour is largely due to its simplicity and high strength measured by the number of cows milked per hour. However, the risk of kicking cow's milk is greater in this case than in the houses where the milker is standing next to the cow.



*Fig: Herringbone*

### Collecting Yard

Cattle are usually gathered in the collecting yard (holding area) before milking. This may be part of a yard that is temporarily enclosed by chains. The collection yard should be a minimum size of 1.1 to 2.0 m<sup>2</sup> per cow. Large cows with horns and a small herd size will require the largest area for each cow. The area should be reduced from 20 to 100 mm / m. This not only improves water quality but also encourages cattle to face the door. The collection yard should be paved to make it easier to clean and allow for more hygienic conditions in the house. The roof is good for shade and to prevent wet cows from entering the house during the rainy season.

Sometimes people think that cows are milked 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. While the milk is working 24/7, cows are milked two or three times daily, and it takes about 7 to 15 minutes to milk each, depending on the cow and the program.

Whatever the structure of the house, be sure to keep the cow's udder clean before the milking machine is attached. That healthy, nutrient-rich milk is untouched by human hands, is tested for contamination several times, is safely digested in a processor, and arrives at you safely and cold within two days.



*Fig: Collecting Yard*

### References

1. Objective book on livestock production and management by Upadhyay and Sahu.
2. Internet Source