

Cattle Guards and Drive Through Gates

Overview:

Here is some general cattle guard and drive through gate information.

Cattle Guard Design Suggestions for Dairy Cows.

1. Pipe diameter is usually 2.5 inches schedule 80 (Note, this refers to the pipe wall thickness and will vary depending on vehicle-truck, tractor or other equipment load.).
2. Spacing is 4 inches.
3. Width/Span should be at least 3 feet (Note, some support foundation/structure will be necessary, you can't just lay pipe across a ditch.).
4. Depth can be as little as 6 inches which reduces injury.
5. Using a gate or wire for training helps.
6. Keep the feed at least 2 feet away.
7. Build it so the pipes lift out.
8. All the injuries I have seen occur when the cows where pushed, so make sure the pusher is educated!

Who would benefit?

Individuals with physical disabilities such as back or spinal cord injuries, with muscle weakness, chronic back pain, balance difficulties, and arthritis which makes getting into and out of a tractor, a self-propelled unit or truck very difficult to open and close a livestock gate.

Cattle Guard Resources

- [AgrAbility on line Assistive Technology Product Database](#)

Agrability Information on gates and cattle guards.

- [Gates, Guards, and Latches](#)

Drive through spring loaded electric gates.

- [American Livestock: Gate Electric Drive Through](#)
- [Northern Tool: Drive-Thru Electric Gate](#)
- [Kencove: Gate Handles, Electric Gates](#)
- [Ecklund Drive Thru Gates](#)

Precast Cattle Guard.

- [Wieser Concrete: Precast Cattle Guard](#)

Publications on Cattle Guards and Cattle Guard Design

- [American Fence: Cattle Guards](#)
- [GoBob Pipe: Cattle Guards](#)
- [Powder River: Cattle Guards](#)
- [Call Us 4 Pipe: Cattle Guards and Concrete Cattle Guard Beams](#)
- [U.S. Department of Transportation: Cattle Guards for Off-Highway Vehicle Trails](#)
- [Barn World: Cattle Guards](#)

British Columbia, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

This is a very good 20 page resource which shows different designs and discusses options for allowing livestock, wildlife, and people to pass through and over fences. The section on cattle guards and cattle guard design should prove helpful.

- [British Columbia: Gates, Cattleguards and Passageways](#)

AgrAbility wishes to thank the following individual for sharing this information.

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Considerations:

Check with your [state AgrAbility Project](#) for assistance in locating other possible sources of commercial cattle guards and drive-thru gates which are manufactured or sold in your area.