

CowTime Quick Notes

CowTime Quick Notes provide more detailed information about selected milk harvesting topics. They are primarily written for farmers and as a resource for their advisers.

The CowTime Quick Notes expand on the information provided in the CowTime Guidelines and are closely aligned to the CowTime goals of making milking easier, safer and more productive.

The Quick Notes provide a brief synopsis of the topic in a format suitable for easy distribution – by fax or photocopy. They aim to cover the most frequently asked questions posed to milk harvesting advisers and have been written by specialists in the field. They include a short list of key references for readers who want to dig deeper into a particular topic. As in the guidelines, they do not compare different brands of equipment.

Sources of Quick Notes

From time to time, new CowTime Quick Notes will be commissioned from industry authors to add to list. Topics will be selected based on farmer request. The list of CowTime Quick Notes available at the time of publication follows. Check the website for an updated list.

The Quick Notes are available from:

- the CowTime website at www.cowtime.com.au;
- by faxing the CowTime team on (03) 5624 2290;
- from your regional co-ordinator;
- from your CowTime On-Farm Advisor; and
- through the milking machine equipment dealership network.

Quick Notes topics (at February 2003)

1. Management

- 1.1 Cow behaviour and milk let-down
- 1.2 Cow handling: interactions between people and cows
- 1.3 Key factors to ensure a calm, consistent milking routine

2. Monitoring milking performance

- 2.1 Using the CowTime Milking Monitor

3. Aspects of dairy design

- 3.1 Designing for better cow flow
- 3.2 A checklist for making changes to milk harvesting infrastructure
- 3.3 Reviewing competitive milk harvesting quotes

4. Basic milking equipment

- 4.1 Teatcup liners: where the rubber meets the teat
- 4.2 Guidelines for choosing milking clusters
- 4.3 Pulsation systems
- 4.4 Machine cleaning systems
- 4.5 Vat cleaning systems

5. Automation in milk harvesting

- 5.1 Teat disinfection systems
- 5.2 Automatic Cluster Removers (ACRs or detachers)
- 5.3 Dairy feeding systems – Herringbone dairies
- 5.4 Dairy feeding systems – Rotary dairies
- 5.5 Milk metering and herd testing
- 5.6 Electronic ID systems for cows
- 5.7 Automated drafting systems
- 5.8 Automatic milking installations (robotic milking)

6. Troubleshooting

- 6.1 Stray voltage