

The Ultimate in Stock Handling

Cattle Handling Instruction Manual and Operating Guide

Important Safety Measures Inside





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Auto Head Yoke Installation

- 16mm threaded rod (or 8.8 high tensile M16 bolts)
- 8 x M16 Big Square Washers
- <u>When using bolts</u>: 4 x M16 Nuts are required (Nyloc Nuts recommended)
- <u>When using threaded rod</u>; 8 nuts are required

Stand Head Bail against posts and clamp or tie back for safety. The door frame needs to be plumb to ensure the doors reset after the previous animal has passed through the head bail. Drill 16mm holes through the center of the posts using the mounting tabs on the outer frame as a guide.

Put threaded rod through all four holes with a square washer and nut at both ends. Do nuts up firmly. Or use 8.8 High tensile bolts of a suitable length.

Auto Head Yoke Maintenance



Oil ALL moving parts in the mechanism regularly. Use oil and reapply when reset becomes slow. DO NOT use grease as it attracts dust



Auto Head Yoke

Caution: Please be aware of pinch point between the door and the outer frame **Before use:** Oil ALL rods and moving parts above the Head Bail (See Maintenance)

AUTO HEAD YOK

Width Adjustment

To adjust the width of the doors, loosen the antirattle knobs at the bottom of the door, take the weight of the door with one hand and lift the end of the notched settings bar. Slide the door in or out to adjust, remembering to tighten the anti-rattle knobs again.

Breeding Bulls, Cows, Yearlings, Calves It is better to set the bail too narrow than too wide

Restraining Rope

Place rope over the head, under the hook and up into the clam cleat. Rope can go under the head if you are wanting to hold the head up.

To Release, just give the rope a good downwards tug

Installation Tabs

Hole centers are 976mm apart to suit the width of most existing timber yards. Top tabs are 1240mm off the ground

For operating tips go to Page 10



Release Lever

Move the lever in the opposite direction to where you want the doors to go. <u>Lever Forward</u>: Sets the doors to catch an animal <u>Lever Back</u>: Unlocks the doors, allowing the animal to push the doors open and walk through

When operating the release lever from further back from the Auto Head Yoke, a shackle and rope can be fitted in the hole on the release lever to release the animal forward from further back

Handle

Used for manually opening the doors when animals are NOT caught in the Head Bail. Refrain from using this handle to open the doors forward when an animal is caught in the bail. Instead unlock the doors using the rope extension described above and encourage the animal forwards



Presentation Width Key

The purpose of the Presentation Width Key is to adjust the variation between the width of the doors when set to when caught. Upon receiving your Auto Head Yoke, the Presentation Width key may be wound in to protect it during transit. For general use wind the key about halfway out. Further out will give more door travel for a firmer catch.

Auto Head Yoke Reset Stopper

Disengaged; The Reset Stopper will allow the doors to set back for catching animals in the bail. This also allows the doors to return back to the catching position after the previous animal has exited. **Engaged**; The Reset Stopper will lock the doors for weighing. This set-up is also used when using the Reverse Catch method with the Horn Kit (detailed on page 5).



Operation for Catching Polled Animals





- Push Release Lever forward to set doors for catching
- The animal puts their head through the gap in the doors and the thick of their neck picks up the doors and locks them in the head bail.
- Once finished push the Release Lever backwards before walking down the side. This naturally makes the animal move forward pushing the doors open

Once the animal is clear of the doors, they automatically come back to the set position ready to catch the next animal

Horn Kit



Catching horned animals in the Auto Head Yoke without using the Horn Kit can be difficult because the horns pick up the doors and close them before the head has completely passed through the Head Bail. This can be frustrating for the operator and hard on the animal if their head is caught in front of the horns. We have designed the Horn Kit to alleviate these issues and still have the operation of the Auto Head Yoke done by one person. Below are the steps you need to take to operate the Horn Kit.



Operation for Catching Horned Animals

(Reset Stopper Engaged)



- Activate the Reset Stopper to stop doors from setting in the traditional catch position
 Place the supplied chain over the pins at the top of the doors 7 Links is usually enough. For larger horns use all 8 links.
 No width adjustment is required when switching from polled to horned animals
- 2. Pull the Release Lever backward and, using the handle at the front, manually open the doors to where the chain links are pulled tight
- **3.** The animal puts their head through the gap until their horns clear the doors before pulling back to lock themselves in the caught position
- 4. Once finished, remove the chain from the top of the doors and pull the Release Lever backwards to unlock the doors, letting the animal push the doors open and release themselves forward.

Cattle Crush Installation



Installation Suggestions

Pouring Concrete

Your concrete platform needs to be higher than the surrounding areas to avoid water pooling and sediment settling around load bars. Pour concrete to a minimum 100mm thick with reinforcing. Have a generous apron for safe working area. Screed concrete twice to get very smooth and then rough up your area outside the footprint of the loadbars. Keep the hand trowel away from where the scales are going because this will cause minor depressions and effect the accuracy and longevity of your loadbars. Use a yard broom while concrete is wet to achieve a non-slip surface outside of the crush. Leave concrete to set for a minimum of 4 days before installing crush. Concrete takes 21 days to set properly.

Bolting Load Bars down

For best results use 12mm x 100mm Tru Bolts (supplied). These needs to be at least 200mm inside the edge of the concrete to avoid cracking. Bolt load bars to the Crush and tighten making sure you have passed the cable from the front Load bar and above the rear Load Bar first. Lower the crush onto your concrete pad. Maneuver to the required position. Now remove a single bolt and, with a long masonry or dyna drill, pass the drill down through the top and bottom hole of the Load Bar into the concrete. Insert Tru Bolt, tighten and replace bolt in load bar to secure Crush. Move onto the next hole.

"Don't mark holes on concrete and move crush away to drill holes. It doesn't work." – Owner Wayne Coffey

HD Vetless Crush

Auto Head Yoke Release

An extension of the release lever on the Auto Head Yoke

Auto Head Yoke Remote Handle (Optional extra)

Used for pushing the doors open when using the Head Bail as a door (e.g., When weighing). This can be folded up, out of the way, when catching animals

Offside Gate Opener (Optional extra)

Used for Drafting out the offside. Push forward to unlock and open. Pull back to shut

This can be folded up, out of the way, when not in use

Indicator Holder Attach your weighing indicator here and rotate to the best position

Top Access Gate

Used for pour-on, vaccinations, liver biopsies etc. Roll handle towards you to open

Near Side Gate Opener

Used for safe opening of the near side gate from the rear of the Crush

Anti-Backing Ratchet Pole

Stored here. Take off and insert behind animal to encourage or hold them forward. Rarely used due to our Auto Head Yoke design and operation

Auto Head Yoke See previous pages for instructions specific to the Auto Head Yoke

Split Gate Joiner

Pictured with Top and Bottom gate joined. To split gates, lift this handle upwards. The gates are now operated separately with their individual catches

Load bar Mounting Plates Pre-Drilled for HD Gallagher, HD Iconix or HD Trutest Loadbars

HD Vet Crush

Top Vet Gate

Vet Area.

Often opened outwards to

allow the "Vet" to enter the



Joins top and bottom gate. Lift the handle up until the bottom of the handle sits on top of the keeper. When using both the top and bottom gate joined together, either slam latch can be used (bottom for foot operation, top for hand operation).

Offside Vet Gate

Comes standard on all Vet Cattle Crushes for extra safety. The Handle for the slam catch points upwards for quick and easy unlocking when exiting the Vet Area in a hurry. Just put your hand on the handle and push away from you to open gate

🔍 Top Vet Gate Slam Tab

Have this engaged when opening top vet gate outwards and slamming closed again. It will stop the gate from going straight through the first slam catch. Deactivate to slam closed from the inside direction

Kick Door This gate gets closed behind the animal to protect the vet while working in the Vet Area

Foot Operation on Kick Door Place boot on the upwards facing peg. Move the foot handle towards the hinge end of the gate to unlock the door and push inwards, releasing to latch door shut behind animal. Unlock the door again with your boot on the peg and pull back towards you until the door latches into the catch in the open position

Common Vet Area Configuration

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- 1. Separate the Vet Gates and activate the top Vet Gate Slam Tab
- 2. When the animal enters the Crush, shut the sliding gate, close the Kick Door behind the animal and open the Top Gate outwards.
- **3.** Once the animal has been treated, pull the Kick Door back and latch the top gate shut. Let the treated animal go, ready for the next animal to enter.

Squeeze Component



To tighten squeeze -

Lift handle and push forward. It will click through the ratchet stages, automatically locking at each increment. This ensures operator safety with a stroppy animal in the crush. The squeeze can also be operated quietly by simply lifting the handle fully to disengage the ratchet before pushing forward. Lower the handle to lock in position. This would be used on smaller animals to avoid unnecessary noise

To release squeeze -

Lift the handle to reverse the above operation, the squeeze is reverse spring loaded so will only need minimal force to open



Due to the use of oil impregnated nylon bushes and rollers, there are few grease points in the squeeze mechanism.





There are eight grease points in the trolley of the squeeze (one at each end of the tie rods). This will lubricate the ball joints that pivot during operation.



Tips for best operation

- Auto Head Yoke, lubrication is KEY
- Set the Bail before filling the race. In most cases the first animal will catch itself rather than getting to a closed gate and backing up.
- If you want the doors to remain open, remove the large tension spring while the doors are in the set position.
 This is handy when treating animals in the race and letting them all out through the head bail, or handling a large number of animals with the Horn Kit





• If an animal does not want to walk forward, and instead is pulling back, push the Release Lever forwards, to release them back, then manually unlock and open the doors forward for them to walk through.

• If the release lever is not unlocking the doors, lubricate the release lever fingers (*pictured above) and oil both ends of the stop block (**pictured above)

• When operating the release lever from further back from the Auto Head Yoke, a shackle and rope can be fitted in the hole on the release lever to release the animal forward. (All Cattle Crushes come with a release handle fitted).