

Efficiency by Design – Layout, Facilities & Labor

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I have a farm, now what?

- How many cows can I milk?



One cow ?



A few cows ?



Lot's of cows ?



How many cows can I milk?

- Effective acres x stocking rate (1.25-1.50) determines potential cow numbers
- Stocking rate (1.25-1.50) depends upon type and size of cow
 - Large cow lower stocking rate
 - Smaller cow higher stocking rate
- Supplemental feeding rate
- Soil type and fertility
- Climate or region





Harvesting of surplus forage

How many cows?

How much grass can the farm grow ?

How many cows are needed to consume it ?



Parlors



Milk barn



Milk shed



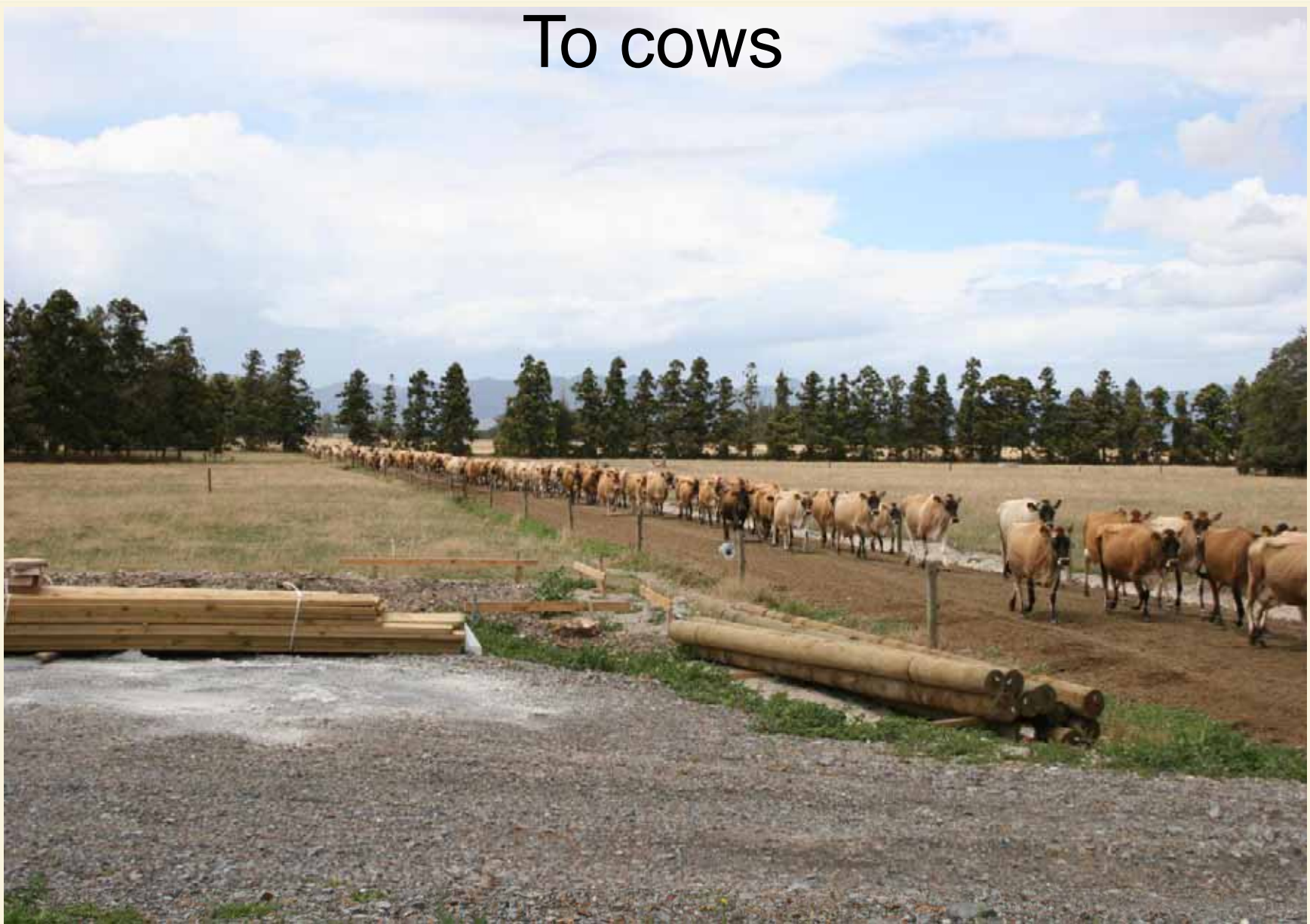
What size parlor do I build?

- Milk harvest in 1.5-2.0 hours
- Determining size of parlor
 - 10 sides/milking
 - Number milking cows \div 10 = total units
 - 150 cows \div 10 = 15 swing
 - Multiple herds
 - If milking time exceeds 2 hour limit - group

Parlor should be easily accessible



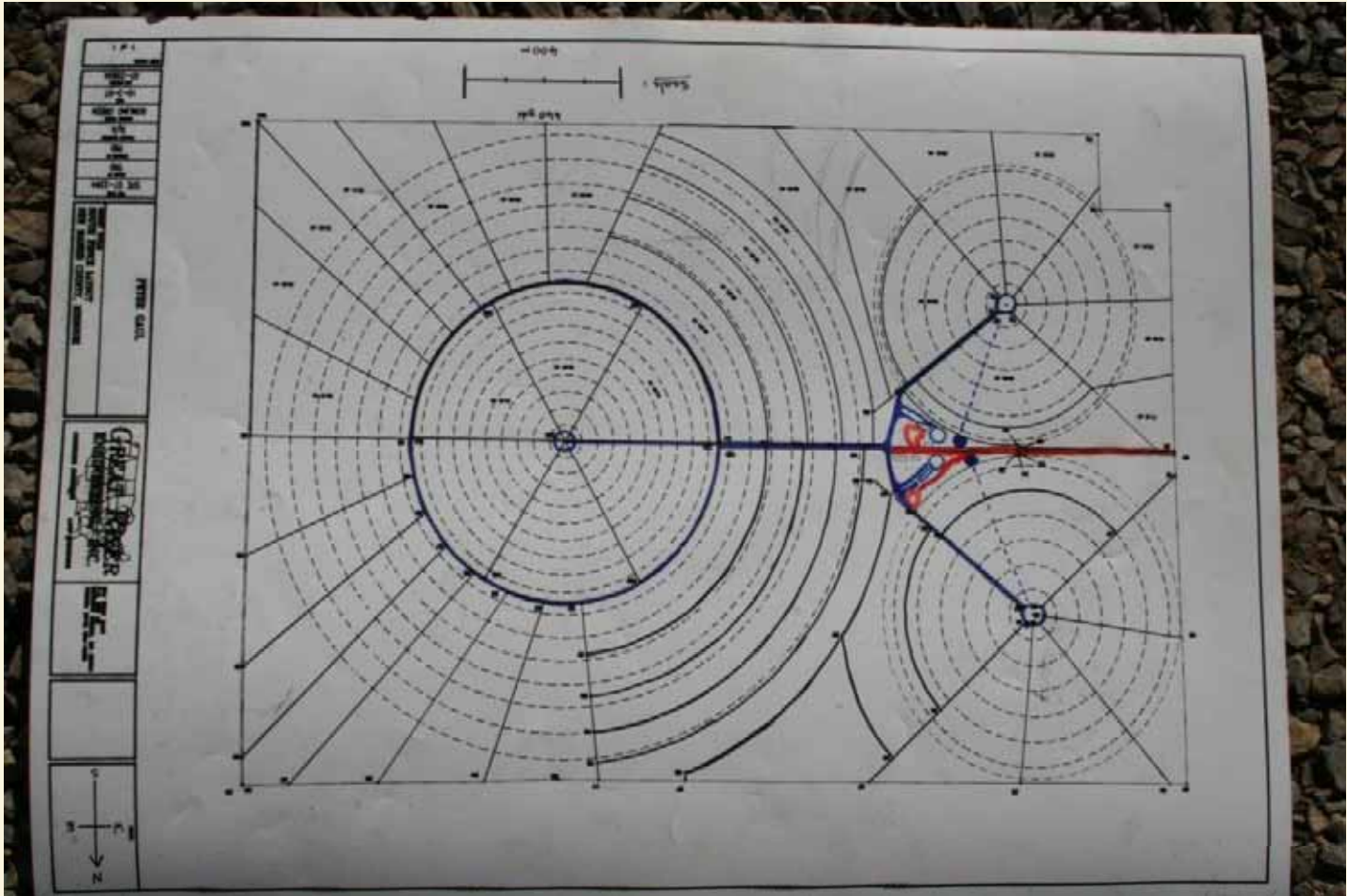
To cows

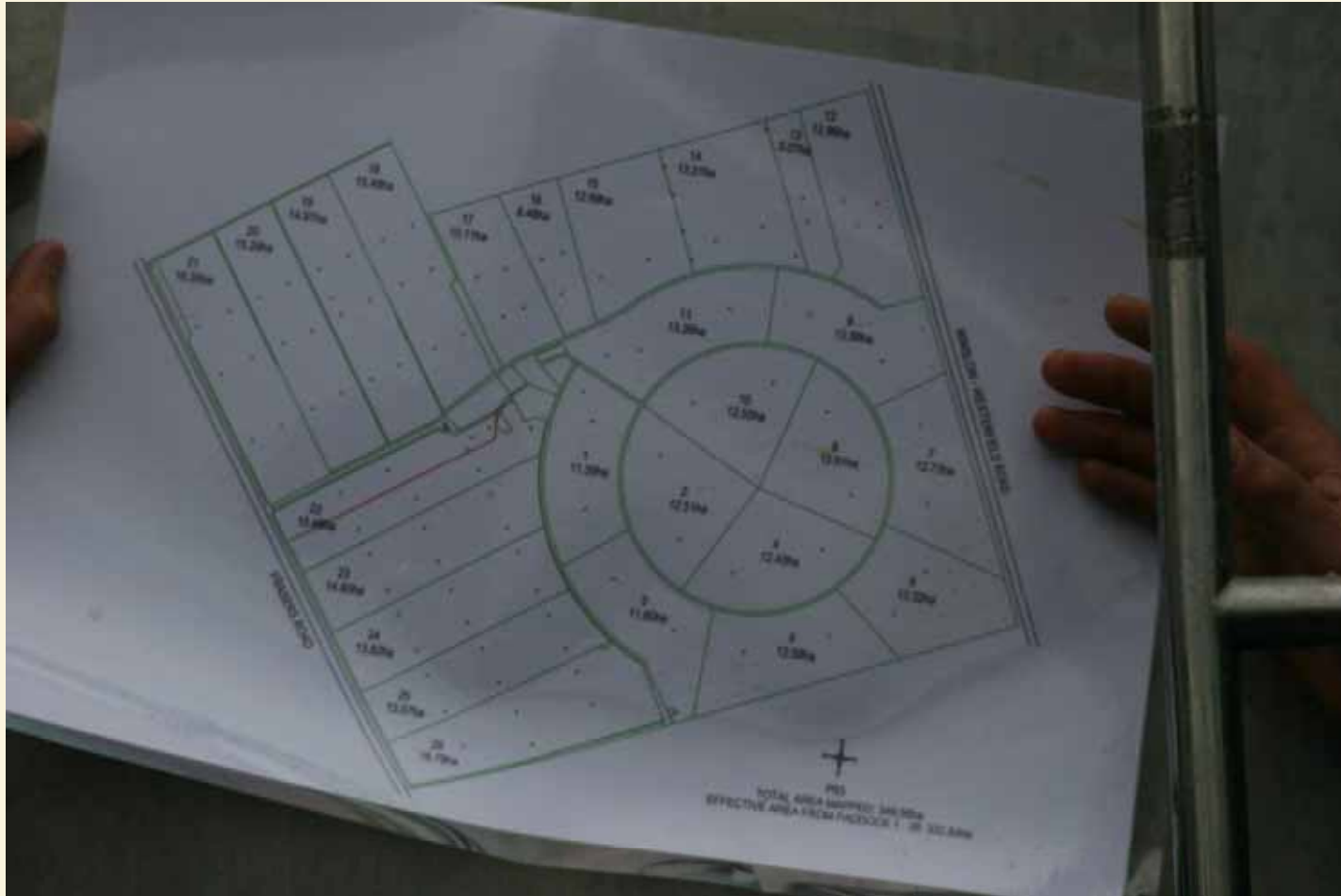


And people







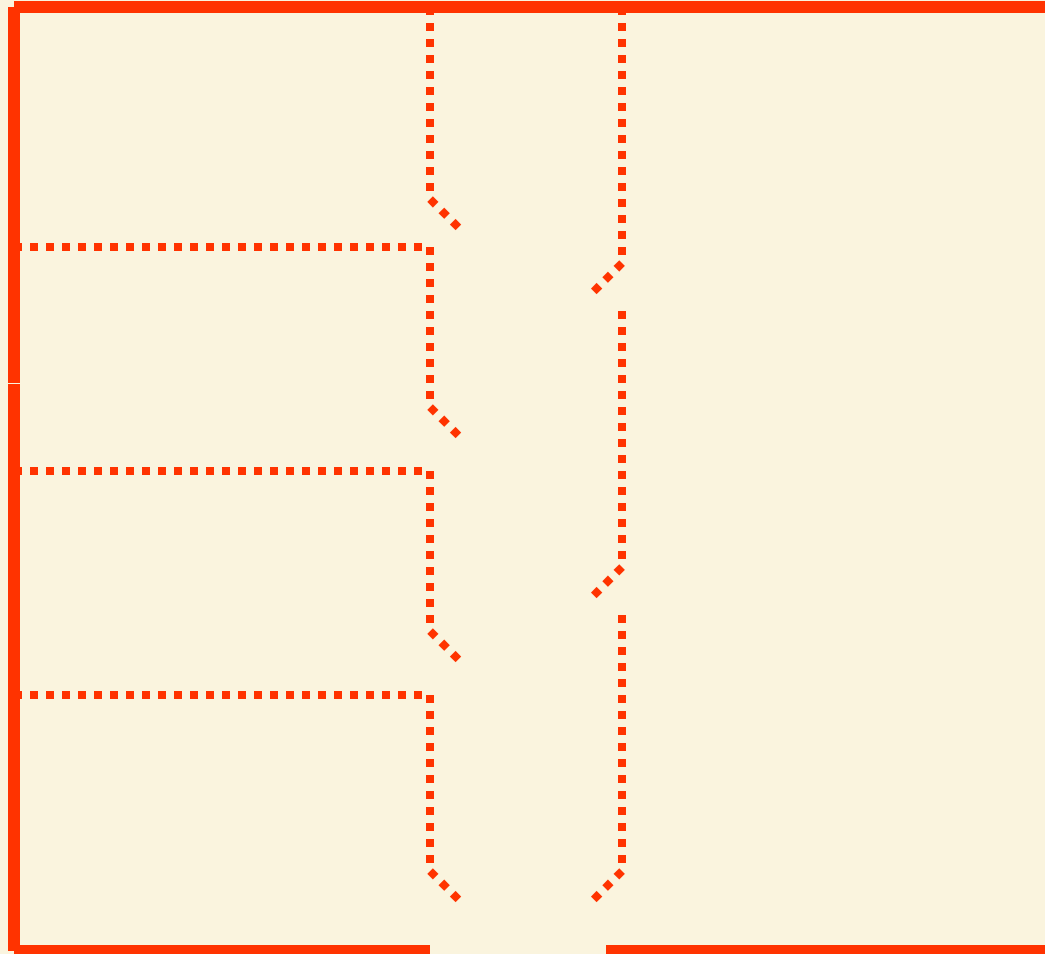


Paddocks

- Similar grazing capacity
 - Forage type
 - Topography
 - Soil type
- Shape
 - As square as possible
 - More uniform grazing
 - Rectangular no more than 4 times as long as wide

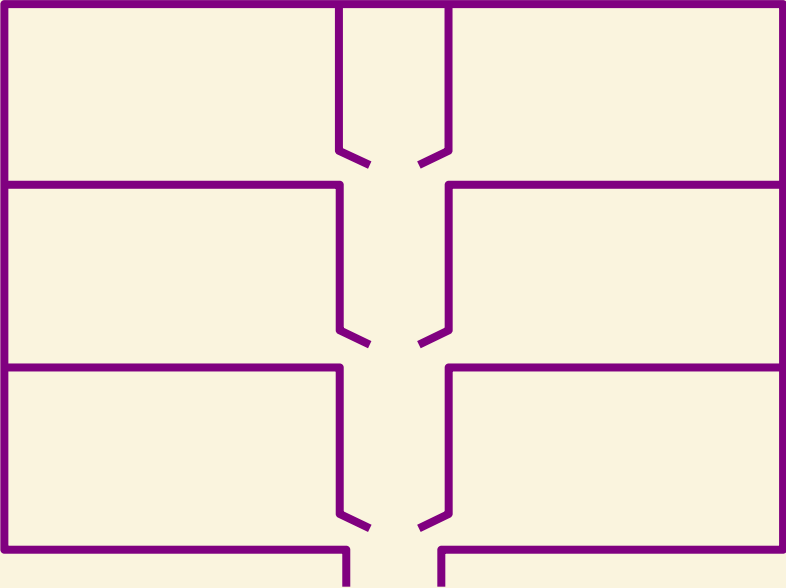


FLEXIBLE – High tensile perimeter, polywire subdivision

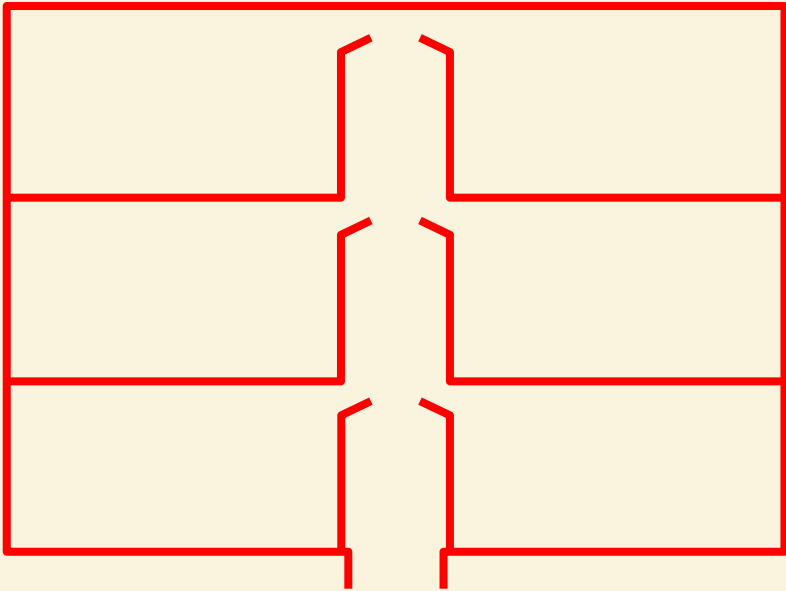


Gates

Yes



NO



Lanes

- Width
 - Animals Only
 - 10-14 feet (varies with herd size)
 - Equipment
 - 14-24 feet
- Materials
 - Dirty base, clay
 - Top with sand mix, sand chat or limestone
- Crown
 - Slope 3%



Water

- Maximum 800 feet from cattle
 - 17% increase in pasture utilization compared to 1400 feet (University of Illinois)
- Not at gate
- Elevate??



Calf raising



Or calf rearing



Labor



Can I run it by myself?



Do I need help





Thanks

