

TRAINING GUIDE

Autonomous Weighing (WOW)

Cattle Training [AU NZ]

Tru-Test™
DATAMARS



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Cattle training - before you start



This cattle training guide is intended for use in Australia and New Zealand. For the rest of the world please refer to:

- *Autonomous Weighing (WOW) Cattle Training Guide [GLOBAL]*

Prior to operating your Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system (such as the Flexi Mobile 4000C) you are recommended to:

- 1 Read this Autonomous Weighing (WOW) Cattle Training Guide [AU, NZ] thoroughly.
- 2 Implement the training programmes in this guide to ensure cattle acclimation to the weighing equipment.
- 3 Read the Installation guide for your Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system.

Training tips



Training your cattle to adapt to the system is the most critical step in achieving accurate weights and drafts.



You should never pressure your cattle through the system, instead let them become comfortable with it in their own time.



Progression through the training steps should only proceed once animals become comfortable with the undertaken training step - be guided by your animal rather than the described timelines.



We strongly recommend you work through this guide in full for your first training. This will provide the necessary experience to modify the training programme to suit your livestock and preferred method of deployment infrastructure for subsequent trainings.



If you introduce a new animal to an existing trained group, the trained animals behave as "coaches". However, special care must be taken to ensure all new animals acclimate to the system.



If you experience any training issues with your cattle, revert to the last successful step before continuing to proceed.



Using spear traps

Experience says that spear/trap gates are mostly likely to be the source of any difficulties.

If you already use spear gates and your cattle are comfortable walking through them, then the steps relating to spear trap training are not necessary.

Cattle training process

How long does it take?

Each step in the training takes approximately a week:

- If your cattle have not adjusted to the step do not move on to the next.
- Resist the urge to muster your cattle through the entry/exit as this teaches animals to only walk through the entry/exit when being pressured.



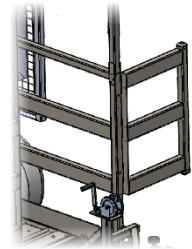
We recommend that you start training your cattle as soon as you have read this so that your cattle are ready when your new system arrives.

Fencing options for your Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system

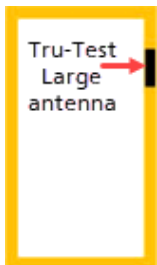
The fencing shown in the diagrams can be steel panels, temporary or permanent electric fencing.



If you are using electric fencing, ensure that the fence is attached to the electric fence standoffs on all four corners of the WOW system.



Cattle training process key 4000C models (non-drafting)



- Prime 4000C
- Flexi 4000C
- Flexi Mobile 4000C



Open spear gate

4000C Drafter models



- PrimeDraft 4000C
- FlexiDraft 4000C
- FlexiDraft Mobile 4000C

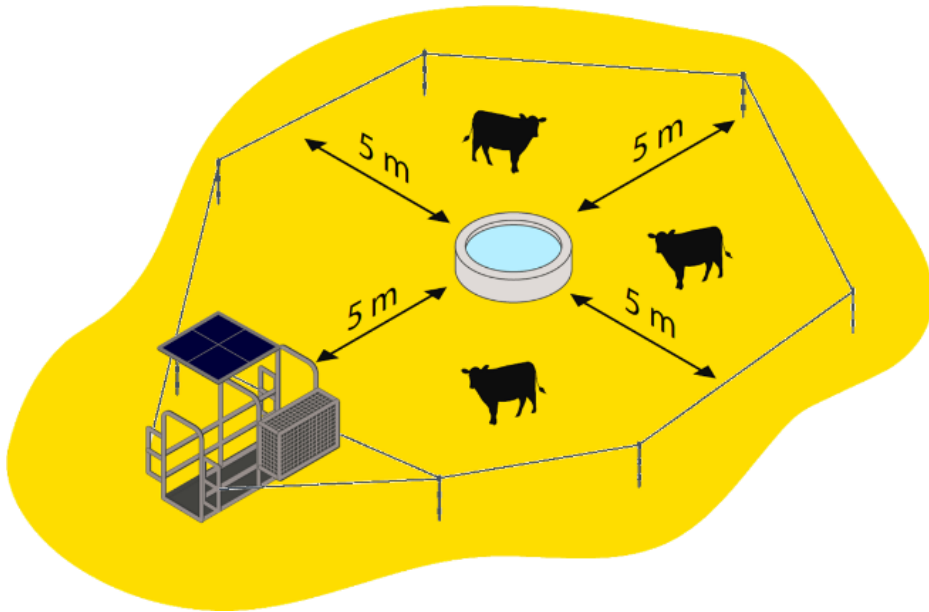


Closed spear gate

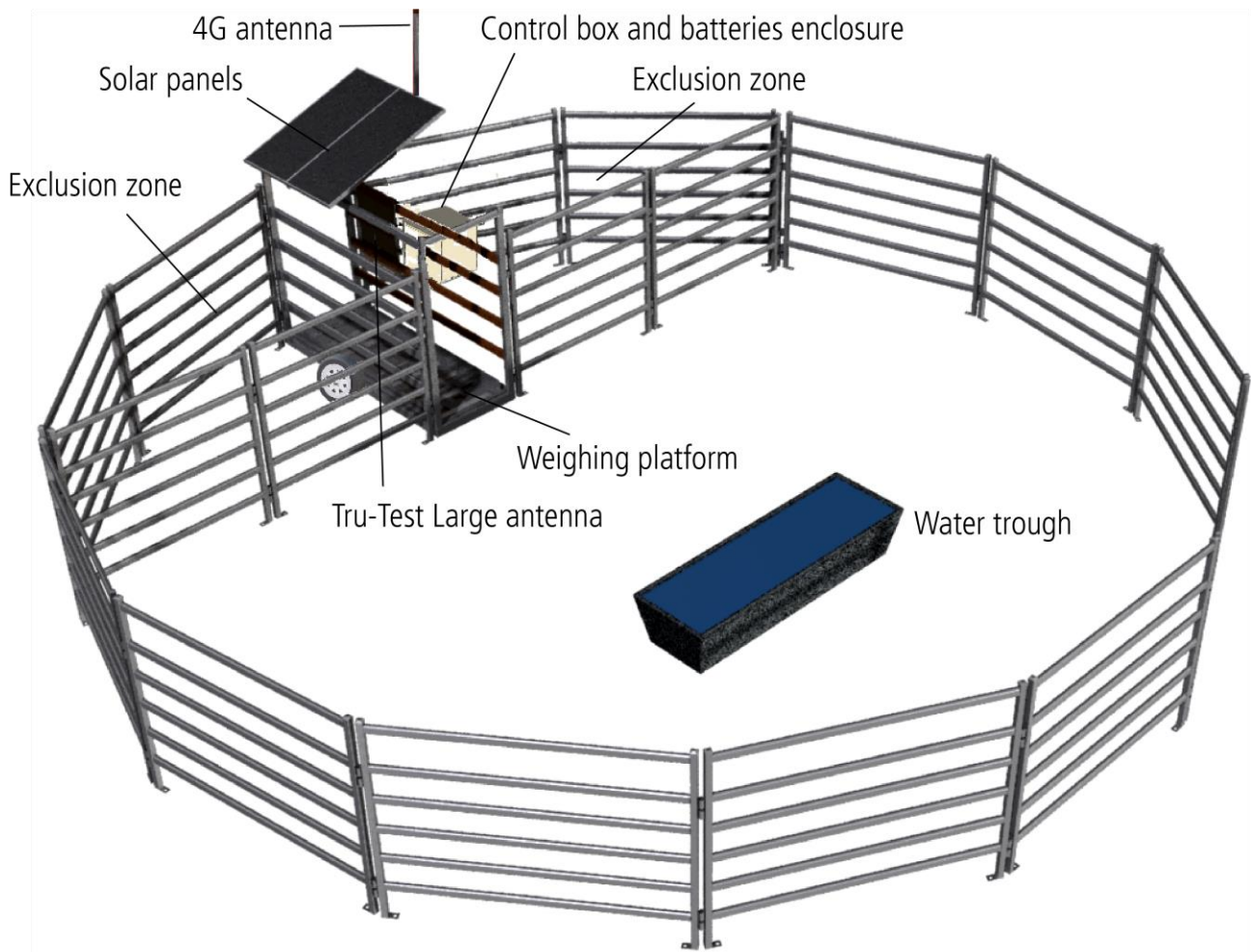
Autonomous Weighing (WOW) cattle training

Training steps: Use the following diagrams to guide you through the process.

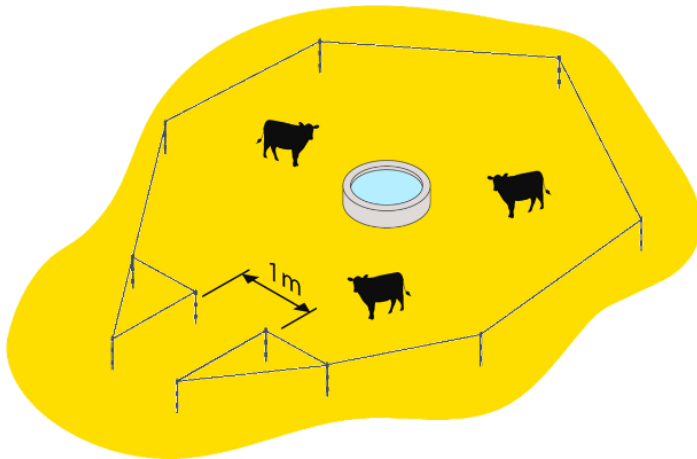
Fencing with temporary electric fencing



Fencing with steel panels

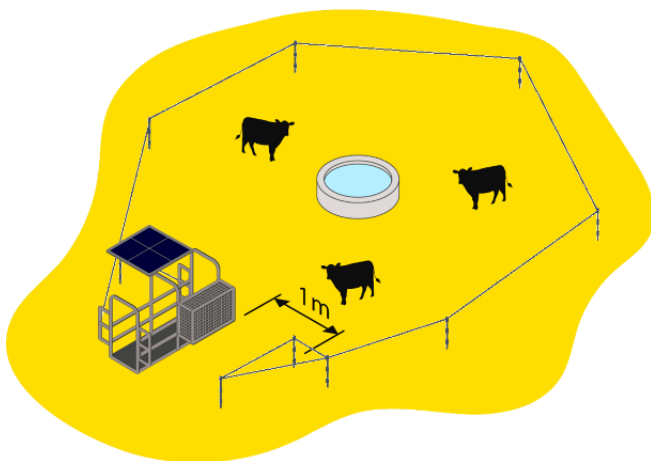


Walk Over Weighing – Week 1 training



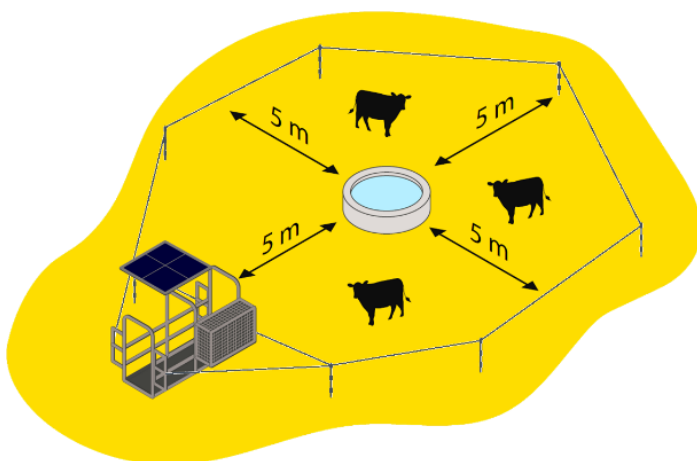
- Fence an area around the water trough, with an approximate radius of 5 m.
- Leave a 1 m wide gap in the fencing as the entry/exit point for the cattle.
- The fenced area should be large enough for cattle to drink and move around each other, but not too large that they camp in the area.

Walk Over Weighing – Week 2 training



- Introduce the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system leaving a 1m opening to the non-Tru-Test Large antenna side. This allows cattle free choice to enter/exit via the WOW system or the 1m opening.

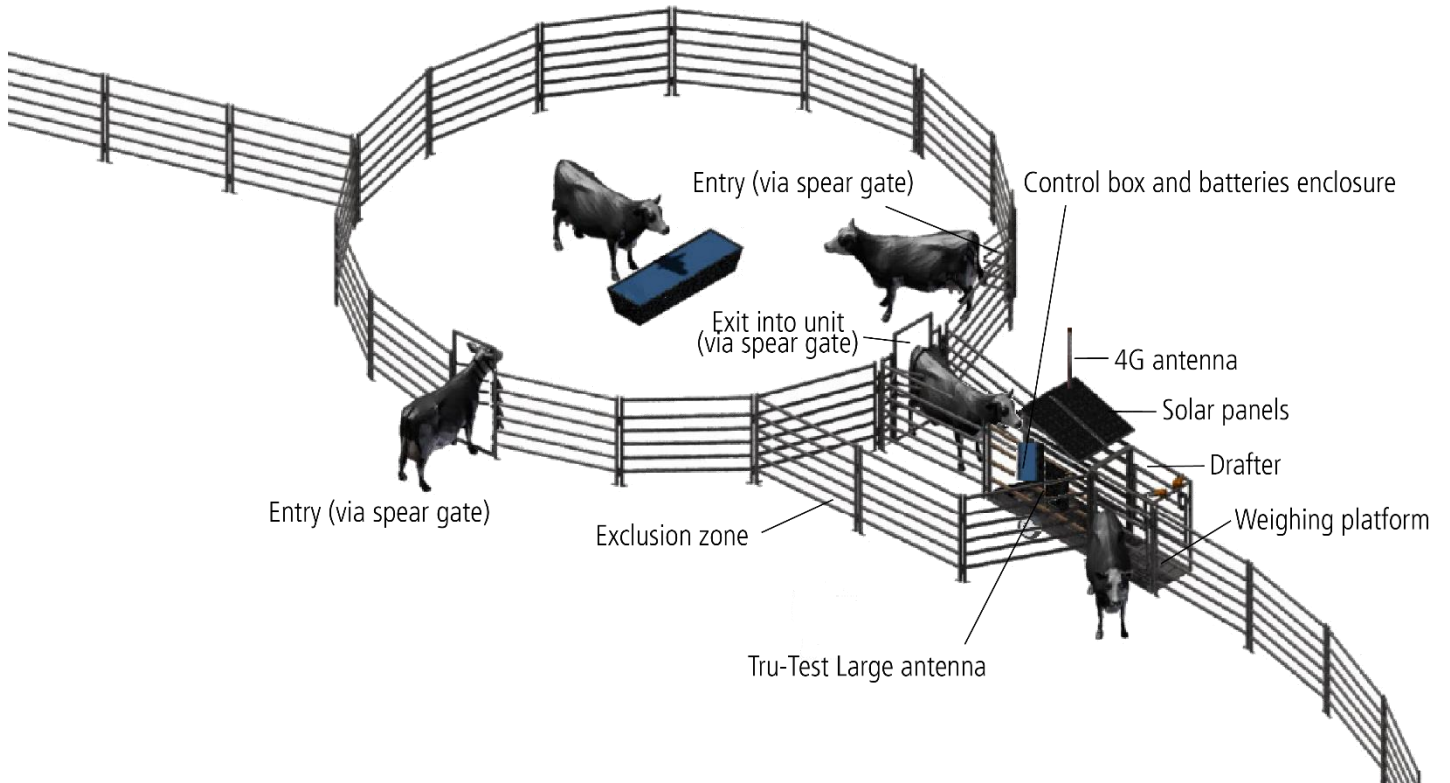
Walk Over Weighing – Week 3 training



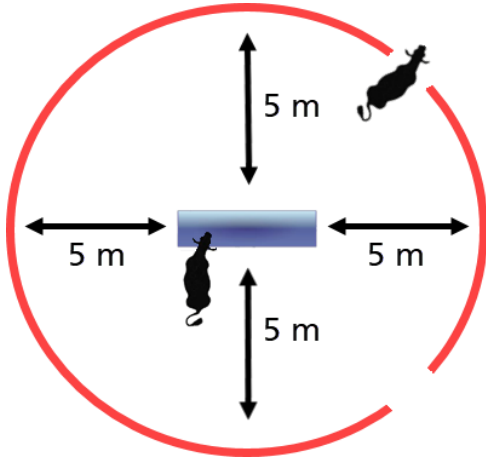
- Fence the open area creating one entry/exit.
- Use cattle panels (or electric fencing) to fence around the Tru-Test Large antenna, so cattle are unable to have their EID tag read from outside the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system.
- Cattle will now enter and exit through the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system.
- Weights will start being collected and displayed in Datamars Livestock.
- If you have any problems during the training process, always go back to the step before the problems began.
- If you continue to have problems, contact your local Datamars Territory Manager.

Autonomous Weighing (WOW) Drafter cattle training

Training steps: Use the following diagrams to guide you through the process.

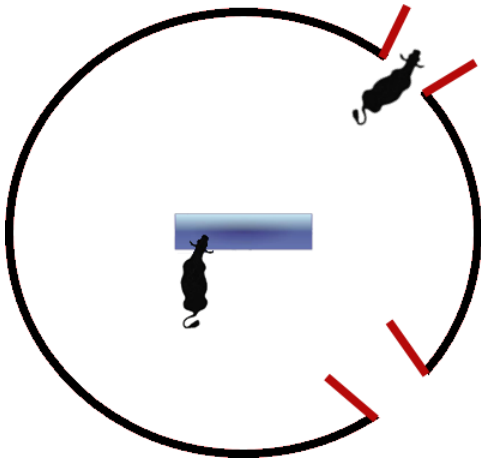


Walk Over Weighing – Week 1 Drafter training



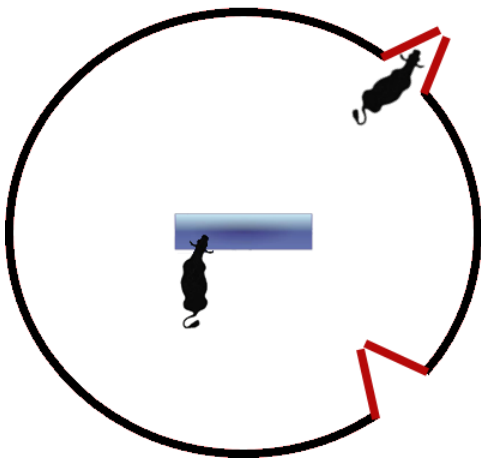
- If your cattle are spear trap trained progress to Week 4.
- Fence an area around the water trough, with an approximate radius of 5 m.
- Leave two 1 m wide gaps in the fencing as entry/exit points for the cattle.
- The fenced off area should be large enough for cattle to drink and move around each other, but not too large that they camp in the area.

Walk Over Weighing – Week 2 Drafter training



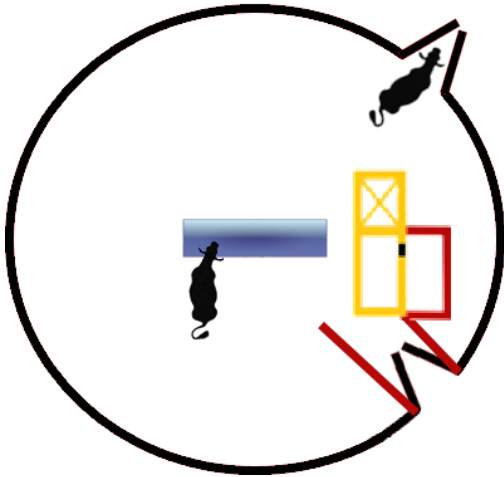
- Introduce spear/trap gates at the entry and exit portals.
- Spear/trap gates should remain in the open position during this step so that cattle can move freely through each entry/exit.

Walk Over Weighing – Week 3 Drafter training



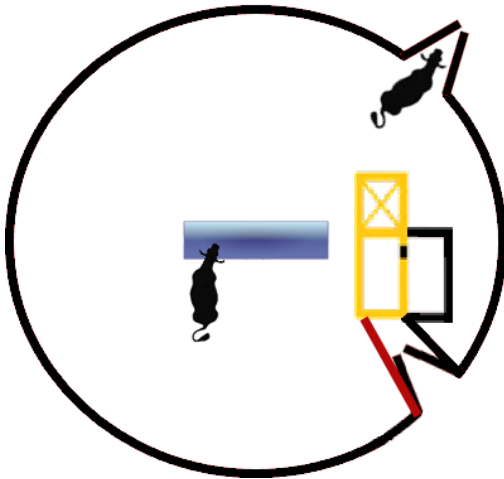
- Start closing the arms of the spear traps one arm at a time.
- Cattle will start entering via the entry spear trap and leaving via the exit spear trap.

Walk Over Weighing – Week 4 Drafter training



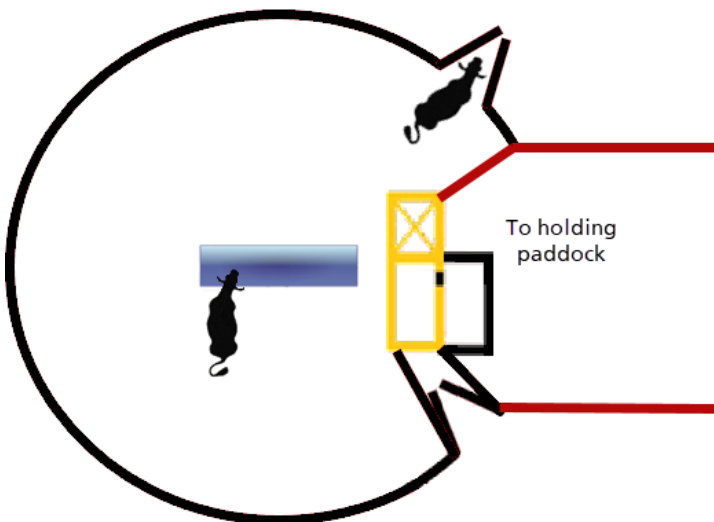
- If you are drafting the animals into a paddock that contains water, then you can place the drafter at the entry or exit. We recommend placing it at the entrance.
- If you are drafting into a paddock that **does not** contain water, you must draft on the exit and provide a third spear gate back into the water trough area.
- Introduce the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) drafter system.
- Set up panels at the entrance to the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) drafter system which allows cattle free choice to enter via the WOW system or the 1 m opening.

Walk Over Weighing – Week 5 Drafter training



- Close the open panel directing cattle through the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) system.
- Cattle will now walk in through the Autonomous Weighing (WOW) drafter system.
- Weights will start being collected and displayed in Datamars Livestock.

Walk Over Weighing – Week 6 Drafter training



- Additional fencing can be added to create a holding paddock to contain drafted cattle.
- Drafts can now be setup in Datamars Livestock as required.
- If you have any problems during the training process, always go back to the step before the problems began.
- If you continue to have problems, contact your local Datamars Territory Manager.