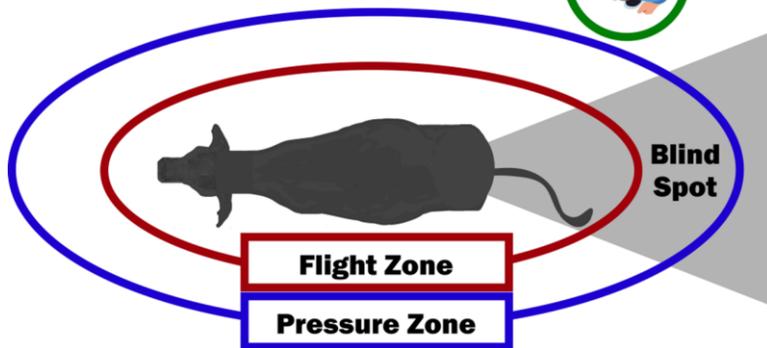


Working Safely with Cows



Wisconsin workers are hurt by cows 10 times as often as workers in other countries. These injuries are preventable. Good training in low-stress handling techniques can keep workers safe and cows calm.

Move a cow safely by knowing these zones:



When moving a cow

Do:

- Start cow movement by slowly approaching the cow's pressure zone.
- Give a cow time and space to react to you.
- Walk at a speed that keeps you out of the cow's flight zone.
- Approach slowly, considering your angle to influence the direction she moves.
- Establish routines. Cows will learn to go where you'd like with less prompting.

Don't:

- Enter the flight zone or blind spot.
- Startle the cow with sudden movement or noise.
- Use violence or lose your patience.

Did you know?

Cows are the number two cause of agricultural injury in Wisconsin. These injuries are not restricted to the farm; they can happen anywhere cows and people interact.



The cow is always right.

Cow movements are predictable. If a cow is not moving where you want her to go, reconsider your approach.

Watch out

Individual animals may have smaller or larger pressure zones. Pay attention to each cow's responses and work accordingly.

Resources

Download the Mooving Cows game

animalwelfare.cals.wisc.edu/mooving_cows

Check out UW-Extension's information on cow handling

dairy.extension.wisc.edu/article-topic/animal-handling

