Operator’s Manual

Safety related warnings and instructions follow this Alert Symbol and are used to get your attention so you may avoid serious injury or death to you and others. Read the Operator’s Manual in its entirety!
Congratulations on choosing “Priefert's Calf Table.”

Priefert’s unique, patented, two-stage pivot calf table utilizes specific leverage points; designed to maneuver a bigger calf with less effort. This Calf Table can help reduce the work of a typically tough job. The reversible feature allows it to be used in either direction.

As one of the best tilting tables on the market it can be a safer and more productive way to work calves weighing up to 450 lbs. Vertical bars are removable for access to virtually any part of calf’s body and includes a leg hobble feature to aid with castration.

Made with quality products, the Priefert Calf Table is designed to perform dependably and provide years of service.

REMEMBER SAFETY FIRST!

Be Alert - Eliminate unsafe habits and risky behavior, recognize hazards as they exist and read and follow these Operational Instructions to successfully operate the Priefert Calf Table.

READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION.

Follow all safety warnings and recommendations.

Additional information is provided in the Appendix at the end of this manual.

Using this manual:

This manual provides information necessary to safely and effectively operate your Calf Table. This manual also provides manufacturer’s recommendation of proper use and operation, as well as, instructions for reversal of the head gate for right side entry, or left side entry. Read these instructions completely prior to beginning assembly, and follow the recommendations to help ensure safe and efficient operation.

The information contained herein was current at the time of printing. These instructions are a compilation of engineering data and field experience, and are designed to help you with proper safety, operation and adjustments.

Your model may vary in design and configuration from those shown in this manual. There is a possibility that some illustrations in our manuals were of prototype models. Design of production models may vary in detail from those shown in our manuals.

Priefert Manufacturing maintains an ongoing program of continuous product improvement. Therefore, Priefert reserves the right to make improvements or modifications in design, or specification changes without incurring any obligation to replace said items on units previously sold.

Your Calf Table has an instructional DVD, and this manual available online in PDF format. Both have been designed to assist you in achieving optimal results with your Calf Table.

Terminology

“NOTE:” provides the operator a brief summary of information that will assist in operating the equipment.

“IMPORTANT:” denotes that the following content has significance in the operation or maintenance of the equipment.

“REMINDER:” provides information previously addressed, but important enough to address again for equipment or assembly familiarization.

Owner Assistance

If customer service or repair parts are required, contact Priefert Manufacturing to reach our trained personnel who will assist you with repair parts and equipment needed to service your Calf Table. The parts on your Calf Table have been specifically designed and should only be replaced with genuine Priefert parts. Therefore, should your Priefert Calf Table require replacement parts, contact our Support Center.

Customer Service

Priefert Manufacturing wants you to be satisfied with your new Calf Table. If for any reason you are not satisfied with the equipment, the following actions are suggested:

Contact your Priefert Ranch Equipment dealer and discuss any problems that you may be experiencing. Allow them the opportunity to assist in correcting any problems that you may be experiencing.

For further assistance contact:

Priefert Manufacturing
Attention: Customer Service
2630 South Jefferson
P.O. Box 1540
Mount Pleasant, Texas 75456-1540
1-800-527-8616

Web-site address:
www.priefert.com
sales.priefert.com
Livestock Safety

One of the most important issues for consideration when handling livestock is safety. Although considered domesticated animals, working with livestock carries with it an inherent risk of danger. It is important to understand that livestock have both instincts and habits, known as behavior patterns, that are based on actions that make them the most comfortable. These instincts and habits allow them to react to changes in their environment.

Many instincts and habits are strong and potentially dangerous. Using common sense, practicing caution, and understanding livestock behavior can greatly reduce a handlers risk and enable him or her to work safely with livestock. This article will detail some important livestock behaviors as well as precautionary measures recommended for working with livestock.

Livestock Behaviors

- Animals who are used to being around other livestock can become frightened and agitated when separated, becoming dangerous and difficult to handle.
- The maternal instinct is also very powerful. Many times these instincts are not evident in an animals behavior until shortly after giving birth. It is important to recognize these behavior patterns and use appropriate caution.
- Another behavior pattern that livestock may exhibit is a territorial instinct. Feed time is when this instinct is most readily observable.
- A valuable behavior is the instinct to follow the leader. Often times, all that is required is to begin one animal moving and the rest will follow.
- Livestock exhibit the most activity at sunrise and sunset. In contrast, livestock are the most inactive during night and at midday.
- The flight zone is one of the most important principles regarding livestock behavior and safe handling. It is an animals personal space. Livestock will react in a variety of ways according to a handlers activities relative to their flight zone. For example, livestock will face a handler and maintain a safe distance, when the handler is outside their flight zone. In contrast, livestock will turn away from a handler who enters their flight zone. Individual animals will have flight zones of varying size. Working from the edge of the flight zone will generally keep livestock calm and manageable.
- The point of balance is another important behavioral principle to understand. An animals point of balance is located at their shoulders. An animal will move depending on a handlers position relative to their point of balance. This principle can be used to calmly and easily encourage livestock through crowding pens, chutes, and squeezes. For example, when a handler stands behind the animals point of balance, the animal will move forward. When the handler stands in front of an animals point of balance, the animal will stop or back up. To encourage an animal forward, simply walk towards the animal, crossing the point of balance, and it will move forward.

Precautionary Measures

The following are precautionary measures that are recommended to anyone working with livestock.

- Be aware of signal words. A signal word designates a degree of level of hazard seriousness. 
  
  **NOTE:** Provides helpful information to the operator.
  
  **IMPORTANT:** Indicates failure to observe may cause damage to equipment.
  
  **WARNING:** Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury, and includes hazards that are exposed when guards are removed. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.  
  
  **CAUTION:** Indicates an imminently hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.  
  
  **DANGER:** Indicates an imminently hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury. This signal word is limited to the most extreme situations, typically for machine components that, for functional purposes cannot be guarded.  

Be alert. It is impossible to fully know or predict an animals actions. Always be aware of what is happening around you. This is particularly important when handling livestock at sunrise and sunset when livestock are most active.

Keep animals together. Livestock will be more calm and cooperative when in groups. When alone, they quickly become agitated and frightened making them dangerous and difficult to handle.

Carefully approach animals. Because of the placement of their eyes, cattle have approximately a 270 degree range of vision. Despite their range of vision, cattle have poor depth perception, and are unable to see behind them. To reduce risk, always announce yourself when approaching an animal.

Leave yourself an out. Never enter small enclosed areas with livestock. If unavoidable, always be sure there is always a fast and easy method of escape.

Avoid quick movements and loud noises. Livestock can startle and frighten easily. Move slowly and deliberately around livestock. Be careful not to create excess noise.

Be patient. When working with livestock in a crowding pen, chute, or squeeze, prodding an animal when it has no place to go is dangerous. Animals can react quickly and violently.

Respect livestock. Do not fear them. Underestimating an animal’s size, strength, and speed can result in serious injury. Always consider mature males to be dangerous. Be aware of animals who are sick, injured, or otherwise frightened.

Remember that livestock draw upon past experiences and treatment when reacting to a situation.
## Parts List

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS CTLC-P</td>
<td>CALF TABLE LEG CHAIN</td>
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**CAUTION:**
DO NOT OIL FRICTION LOCK. REPLACE LOCK WHEN NEEDED.

**CAUTION:**
KEEP HANDS CLEAN OF MOVING PARTS!
DO NOT USE TO TRANSPORT PERSONS OR ANIMALS.

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**NOTICE:**
Any alteration or modification of this product requires explicit permission and authorization. Any product not authorized by Priefert Manufacturing Company is not covered by warranty. All warranties are subject to reapproval as part of any product replacement. An unauthorized product modification is an act of fraud and may result in legal action.

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** Illustrated Items:**
- Table w/Headgate Reversed
- Parts w/Headgate Reversed

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**Contact:**
TALK TO A FACTORY REP
"call now"
1-800-527-8616

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**NS - ITEM NOT SHOWN OR NOT IDENTIFIED IN THIS ILLUSTRATION**

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**OP_Man-CT_v3a-0419**
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Section 1: Operation

Operation of the Priefert Calf Table (CT)
Refer to Figures 1-1 thru 1-10

1. Adjust floor width settings to the appropriate setting for the size calves you intend to work. The table has three different adjustment holes for width options to fit various calf sizes. (See Fig. 1-1)

To change width simply put the table in tilted position; remove the lynch pins that secure the side panel in place; lift and place side panel in desired hole location. (See Fig. 1-2)

Note: All calf tables are shipped to allow branding on the left side of the animal. Priefert calf tables are reversible. (See Section 2: Reversal Instructions, pg. 6)

2. Using chain or other acceptable means, secure calf table to alley or Squeeze Chute. Calf Table should hold position under rigorous use.

3. Determine “locked” (for calves to remain standing) or “unlocked” position for tilting option. (See Fig. 1-3)

4. By pushing “away” on red side squeeze friction lock handle, operator should open table side-squeeze to its fullest width. (See Fig. 1-4)

5. By pressing “down” on red handle of friction lock with left hand and pushing “away” on red handle of headgate, open headgate wide enough to encourage calf to enter table (see Fig. 1-5).

6. Catch calf by the neck as its head passes headgate by pulling red handle on headgate toward operator. (See Fig. 1-6)

7. Operator should quickly pull side squeeze against calf until calf is adequately restrained.

8. Operator should pull on side squeeze handle to pull calf table over in its two-stage cycle. (See Fig. 1-7)

Because of Priefert’s patented two-stage pivot system, with practice, operator will soon catch the head, squeeze, and tilt with continuous motion.

9. In the fully tilted position, calves are easily accessible for branding, castration, injections, or other procedures where restraint is required.

10. Operator may remove side bars by pulling down against spring tension while pressing bar “toward” calf.

Note: Complete removal may be achieved by rotating bar so bottom swedge is aligned with slot.

11. Full access is now available for operator to give all shots and work calf with ease. (See Fig. 1-8)

12. Upon completion of work, operator can return calf for exiting by lifting and allowing two-stage pivot to assist return to standing position.

13. To release calf, operator should push on red squeeze handle to release side squeeze to fully open position. Next, push down on friction lock’s red handle and push head gate open to full release calf. Calf table is now positioned to next calf to be caught. (See Fig. 1-10)
Section 2: Reversal Instructions

Headgate Reversal
Refer to Figure 2-1 thru 2-10

All calf tables are shipped to allow branding on the left side of the animal. Priefert calf tables are reversible. It’s reversibility allows the freedom to utilize this in any handling configuration and provides the operator access for either side of the calf.

Removing Headgate

1. Remove the Cotter Pin from the Slip Rod and slide the rod out of the hole. (See Fig. 2-1)

2. Slide the other end of the Slip Rod out of the Latch handle to remove it from the assembly. (See Fig. 2-2)

3. Remove the Spring from the Latch handle, then remove the Latch handle from the Trigger box.

4. Remove the (2) ½” x 1” bolts attaching the Headgate Guide to the Headgate. Remove the Headgate Guide from the assembly. (See Fig. 2-3)

5. Remove the ⅝” x 3½” bolt and washer attaching the Headgate to the Calf Table Floor. (See Fig. 2-4) Remove the Headgate from the assembly, and move it to the other side of the Calf Table.

Note: The orientation of the Headgate remains the same in both Standard and Reversed configurations. Do not turn or rotate, simply move to opposite end of Table and assemble in inverse order of disassembly. (See Fig. 2-5)

Reversal Assembly

1. After relocating the Headgate to opposite end of Table, insert the ⅝” x 3½” bolt and washer into the bottom hole of the Headgate from where it was removed, and secure it to the Calf Table Floor.

2. Align the holes in the Headgate Guide with the holes in the Headgate and secure it with the ½” x 1” bolts.

Important: Headgate Guide attaches to the INSIDE during reversal due to structural design of Headgate. (See Fig. 2-6)

3. Insert the Latch Handle into the Trigger Box and attach the spring.

4. Slide the Slip Rod into the hole in the Latch Handle. Insert the Slip Rod into the hole at the bottom of the Headgate, and Secure it with the Cotter Key.
References


Suggested References

Priefert assumes no liability for the use or misuse of information provided in the following references:

TEAGASC, Agriculture and Food Development Authority,
http://www.teagasc.ie/newsletters/safety/farmsafetyguide.asp

Beef Cattle Handling: A Practical Safety Guide,
http://www.farmsafety.ca/pages/pages/manuals-dwnld.html

NASD, National AG Safety Database, Federal Laws and Regulations Affecting Farm Safety,

FEMA, Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association, Safety 4 Just Kids, 2008,
http://www/farmequip.org/safety
Includes AG Safety Links for additional information and materials.

Farm Safety Association, Guelph, Ontario, The Safe Movement of Agricultural Equipment on the Roadway,
http://www.farmsafety.ca/pages/manuals-dwnld.html
Limited Warranties:

Priefert Manufacturing Company, Inc., ("Priefert") 2630 South Jefferson, P.O. Box 1540, Mount Pleasant, TX 75456-1540, warrants for one (1) year from the purchase date to the original non-commercial, governmental, or municipal purchaser ("Purchaser") and warrants for six (6) months to the original commercial or industrial purchaser ("Purchaser") that the product purchased are free from defects in material or workmanship. Priefert will replace or repair, free of charge to the original purchaser any part(s) found, upon examination at our factory, to be defective under normal use and service due to defects in material or workmanship, provided that the original purchaser:

a. Notifies Priefert in writing of any defect in material or workmanship within the above specified warranty period.
b. Returns must be routed through an authorized Priefert dealer or distributor from whom the purchase was made.
c. Purchaser is responsible for cost of shipping.

In no event will Priefert be held liable under this warranty unless written notice is received and failure must have occurred within the warranty period. Genuine Priefert replacement parts and components will be warranted for 90 days from date of purchase, or the remainder of the original equipment warranty period, whichever is longer.

This limited warranty does not apply to any part of the product which has been subjected to improper or misintended use, negligence, alteration, modification, or accident, damaged due to lack of maintenance or use of wrong oil or lubricants, or repairs that have been made with parts other than those obtainable through Priefert, or which has served its usual life. This limited warranty does not apply to any expendable item such as blades, shields, guards, or pneumatic tires, or other trade accessories since these items are warranted separately by their respective manufacturers, except as specifically noted in your Operator's Manual.

Except as provided herein, no employee, agent, Dealer, or other person is authorized to give any warranties of any nature on behalf of Priefert. Only Priefert is authorized to make any representation to the purchaser concerning "normal" use and service for its product as described in the Operator's Manual, or in authorized printed materials or stickers affixed to the product.

If after examination of the product and/or part(s) in question; Priefert finds them to be defective under normal use and service due to defects in material or workmanship,

Priefert will:

1. Repair or replace the defective product or part(s); if Priefert has made several reasonable number of attempts in repairing the product and/or part(s) to conform to the warranty; then
2. Priefert will replace part(s) or product.
3. Purchaser is responsible for any labor charges exceeding a reasonable amount as determined by Priefert and for returning product and/or part(s) to the Dealer, whether or not the claim is approved. Purchaser is responsible for the transportation cost for the product or part(s) from the Dealer to the factory.

The choice of remedy shall belong to Priefert. Repair or replacement are the only remedies against Priefert under this limited warranty.

Limitation of Liability:

1. Priefert disclaims any express (except as set forth herein) and implied warranties with respect to the product including, but not limited to, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.
2. Priefert makes no warranty as to the design, capability, capacity, or suitability for use of the product.
3. This warranty shall not be interpreted to render us liable for injury or damages of any kind or nature to person or property. Priefert will not be liable for any special, incidental or consequential damages based upon breach of warranty, breach of contract, negligence, strict tort liability, or any other legal theory. Such damages include but are not limited to loss of crops, loss of savings or revenue, cost of capital, loss of use of equipment, facilities or services, down time, expense or loss incurred for labor, supplies, substitute machinery, rental, and claims of third parties including customers, and injury to property.

Supplementary:

1. Proper venue for any lawsuits arising from or related to this limited warranty shall be only in Titus County, Texas.
2. Priefert may waive compliance with any of the terms of this limited warranty, but no waiver of any terms shall be deemed to be a waiver of any other term.
3. If any provision of this limited warranty violates any applicable law and is held unenforceable, then the invalidity of such provision shall not invalidate any other provisions.
4. Applicable law may provide rights and benefits to purchaser in addition to those herein.