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# OPERATING A BUCKET MILKER (COWS)

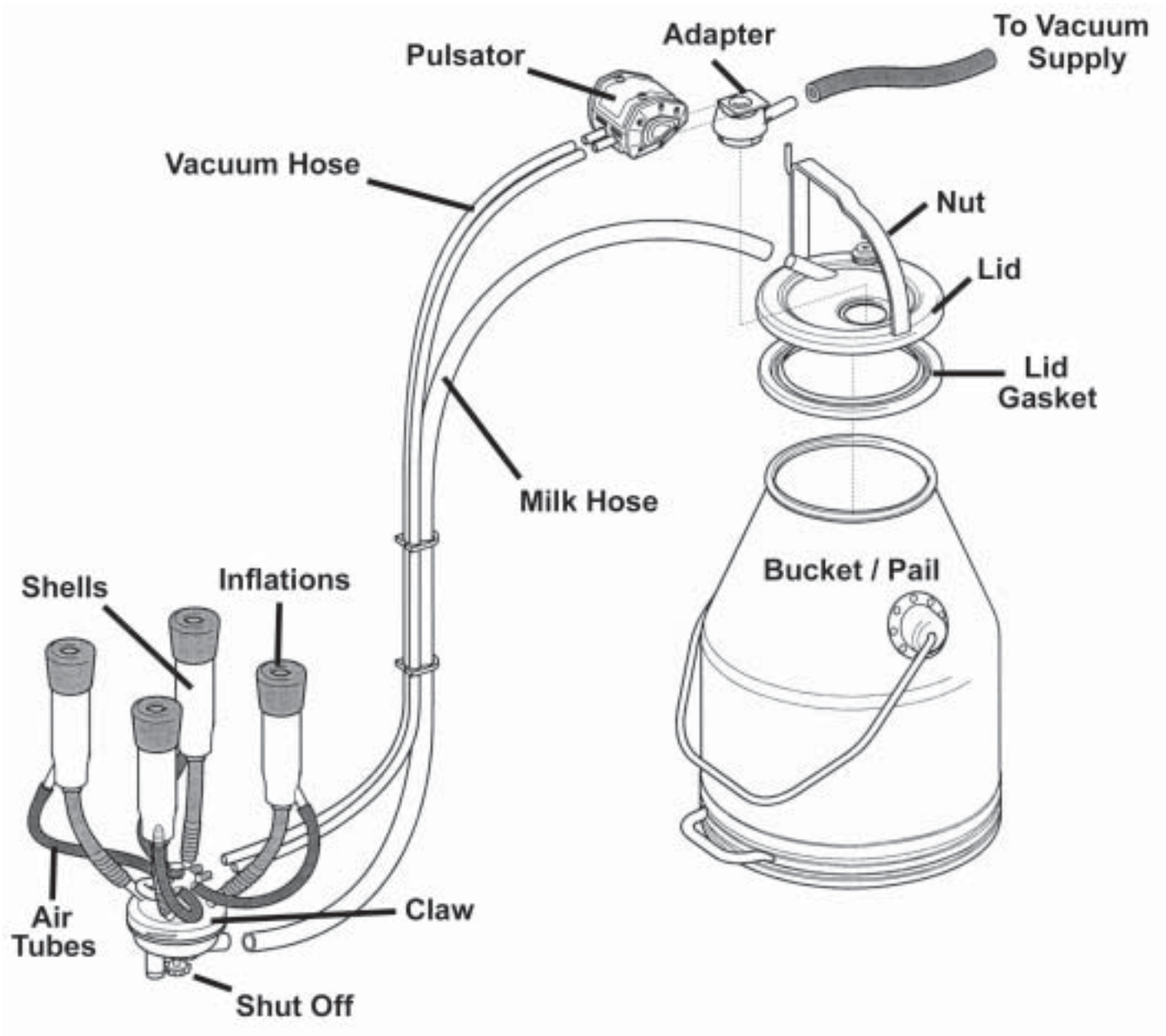
The following guidelines will assist the first time user in properly operating a pail type milker system.

Please note: Cow side practices and pre and post care of the animal is left solely up to the dairyman. Parts Dept. recognizes only the practices published by the National Mastitis Council, Milking Machine Manufacturers Council, and established 3A guidelines. Parts Dept. makes no claim as to the right and wrong way of using the above type of milking system. Parts Dept. only describes the function of how the piece of equipment was designed to work and has been proven to work in practical field applications. Parts Dept. will not be held accountable for any claims or damages.

Operating a pail milker requires minimal training and minimal equipment knowledge, *but does require proper equipment maintenance and the development of a special technique in applying the milking claw as opposed to hand milking or using suspended buckets.*

1. Using the 1/2" vacuum hose supplied, connect the adapter on the bucket lid to the vacuum system.
2. The vacuum supplied to the adapter on the lid supplies vacuum to both the bucket and the pulsator.
3. To always insure that a positive seal is maintained, the adapter gasket and lid gasket should always be kept clean and free of milk build up.
4. Vacuum levels to operate the bucket milker can be between 11" to 15" of mercury. Recommended levels are 14"Hg for Cows and 12"Hg for Goats. Buckets require a large volume of vacuum to completely satisfy their requirements, if vacuum levels are too low it will be harder to apply the milking unit.
5. When applying the milker unit (claw) the shut off on the claw must be opened to allow vacuum to be supplied to the unit, make sure the vacuum pump is running and you can hear air being drawn into the opening of the inflations. While holding the claw in your left hand, fold the shells and inflations down towards the ground so that the inflation "kinks" and cuts the vacuum off to the inflation. Once all 4 of the inflations are "kinked" and no air is able to enter the inflations through the inflation openings the pulsator will start pulsating this will indicate you are now ready to apply the milker unit. Begin placing the inflations on the animal one at a time while supporting the claw and applying slight upward pressure on the inflations already placed on the animal to help maintain their position until all 4 inflations are attached.
6. Cleaning of the bucket can be done both manually and CIP (Cleaned In Place). The claw can be CIP by submerging in a sink/bucket and drawing the rinse solution through the unit. This will also clean the milk hose from the claw to the bucket. The cleaning procedure of the bucket can be accomplished by using the existing solutions drawn through the claw and milk line and manually scrubbing the inside with a brush.
7. After the cleaning procedure is accomplished, the claw should be positioned so that it will drain any residual cleaning solution and the bucket should be turned upside down to ensure complete draining.
8. Inflations should be changed regularly (for rubber inflations every 1200 milkings or sooner if damage is apparent).
9. Milk tubing and pulsation line should be replaced every year to promote sanitary conditions and maintain flexibility.
10. The pulsator should be periodically cleaned. For BRK, HEART or Interpuls pulsators this is done by submerging the pulsator in water and cleaning with a soft toothbrush style brush, Use warm soapy water (mild dish soap is fine). To dry the pulsator, place it on the bucket on let it operate on the bucket for several minuets until dry. Do not attempt to dry when freezing conditions exist. **And remember BRK, HEART and Interpuls pulsators should ever be oiled.**
11. Pulsators should be rebuilt every 2500 hours of operation. All the parts that should be replaced are available in a kit from Parts Dept. This rebuild can be performed by the dairyman requires no special skills.

## Typical Bucket Set Up For Cows



*For the purpose of this tutorial we have shown a typical bucket set up for Cows*