HEADGATE MAINTENANCE

- Headgate hinge pipes should be lubricated with a solvent-type lubricant such as diesel fuel or WD-40 when headgate is new and whenever they get dry. There are no grease zerks on the headgate. Make sure all decals are present and visible on the headgate. Make sure the operator of the headgate knows the decals’ locations and understands their warnings.

FRONT VIEW

- KEEP GATES IN TIME AND CABLES TIGHT! New cables will stretch out, so it is very important to keep them tight. The first 50-75 head through the gate will do most of the stretching, so that is the most important time to watch. For routine tightening, simply tighten all four cable nuts the same amount.

- Keep chain stop wing nut adjusted to only allow cow’s head through the headgate when headgate is opened backwards (catching position). Allowing the headgate to open any wider will let the cow’s shoulder(s) slip past the headgate, and cable breakage can occur.

- Always replace both cables at once. A new cable cannot be used with a stretched one. Keep the old one, and use it as a replacement when one of the new ones wears out. We recommend that you keep the old cable on while you replace the first new one. Cables are the same for both sides; there is no difference between left/right/top/bottom.
Steps for Replacing Top-Mounted Cables (Brazed on Bolts)

1. Put first cable bolt through bottom left cable ear and start the nut only enough to allow tolerance to start nut on other end. Wrap cable 1 ½ turns clockwise (from top) around left hinge pipe, spiraling upward, and route across to other side.

2. Bring cable around right hinge pipe 1 ½ time counterclockwise (from top) spiraling upward. Put cable bolt through top right ear and start nut.

3. Push 4 cable ends close to ears on both sides. Looking from the front, push the left gate back and pull the right gate forward to tighten and stretch the cable. Hold the gates in this position while you replace the second cable.

4. Put second cable bolt through top left cable ear and start nut. Wrap 1 ½ times counterclockwise (from top) around left hinge pipe, spiraling downward, then, route cable across headgate, keeping second cable towards you.

5. Wrap cable around right-side hinge pipe 1 ½ times clockwise (from top) spiraling downward, then put bolt through bottom right cable ear and start nut. You may have to use Vise-Grips. Clamp them on the bolt head of the cable and pry against the chain stop.

6. Tighten both cables fairly tight but not so tight that they bind and prevent the gates from swinging smoothly.

7. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO TIME THE GATES! If the gates are kept in time, the cables will have a much longer life. To time the cables, lock the gate closed, and push the vertical neck pipes back against the back flapper plate. If they don’t both touch the back flapper plate, adjust so that they do. To adjust, tighten the top nut on the side that does not touch, and loosen the bottom nut. Pull back and forth and forth a few times to work the cables. Close the gate very slowly and check to make sure the flapper plate comes off both neck pipes at the same time. If it hangs up on one, repeat the procedure. The gate should be in time both ways.

Steps for Replacing Bottom-Mounted Cables

Model G-22
Remove bottom shield. Install cables just at the top-mounted cable instructions show. Replace shield.

Models G-66, G-77, & G-777
Remove bottom shield. Install cables just at the top-mounted cable instructions show, but make ½ wrap around the hinge pipe instead of 1 ½. Replace shield. Replacement cables have 3/8” bolts on them, so the original 5/16” hole may have to be reamed out.