

## Be concerned with safety, it pays off!



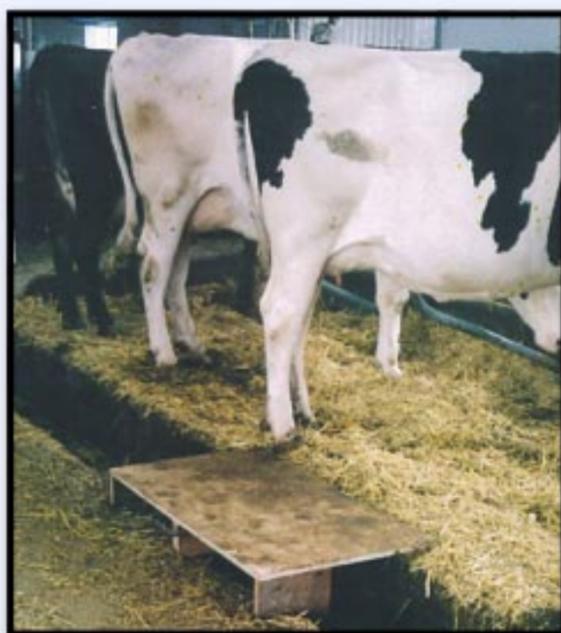
The contest [Let's all be safe with your cows on the farm](#), conducted in collaboration with the *Conseil provincial des CAB*, was tremendously successful this spring with a large number of producers participating in the two parts of the contest to get a chance to win a gift certificate applicable to CIAQ's products and services.

### Part 1 - "The good ideas"

The winners selected for this part of the contest told us how they had improved safety on their farm concerning the handling of animals. They are :

**1<sup>st</sup> prize** **Ferme P.S. Collin inc.** in Saint-Esprit who earned a 400 \$ gift certificate.

**Serge Collin** thought of a simple and economical solution to flush the level of the central alley with the stalls to make the A.I. technician's work easier (photo 1). Made from a plywood board, this removable platform can be easily built by any hobbyist handyman.



**2<sup>nd</sup> prize** **Ferme des Hautes Terres** in Saint-Rémi-de-Tingwick, owned by **Mathieu Martel** and **Valérie Houle**, who received a 200 \$ gift certificate.



"For our beef cattle, we produced a very versatile care and handling cage with a really simple design . The back gate closes on the animal and he is restrained, thanks to a self-blocking head fastener" explains Valérie Houle.

We also received other good ideas such as :

- use a cable with a safety hook to isolate the animal from the rest of the group,
- make a funnel with a removable gate,
- add a man pass in the pens that don't have one to avoid having to straddle the gates,
- use the isolation area for cows to be inseminated,
- spread abrasives on humid floors,
- make sure that the owner or an employee are present at the time of manipulations,
- give proper training to employees and
- eliminate dangerous animals.

Several participants wrote us : "Before, I used to tie only the cows to be inseminated in my free-stall pens. Now, I tie them all. This makes it much easier for technicians to identify the animals and makes their work much safer".

### Part 2 - "Spot the mistake"

All participants in the contest had to identify the mistake related to safety in the pictures presented. The winner is **Ferme JIEF** in Saint-Jacques who earns a 200 \$ gift certificate.

Our thanks to all the breeders who participated in the contest and we hope that by sharing with you the good ideas of our winners, we will have allowed you to take advantage of them on your farm. Your safety and that of our employees is important to us!