

PERFORATED RUBBER MATTING ON THE MILKING FLOOR

Task Description:

In the parlour / rotary milking systems the milker stands on a floor of concrete or tiles for several hours. The floor is not flexible and therefore hard to stand on. Furthermore, it might even be slippery



Milking parlour with a floor of tile



Rotary and parlour milking system with a floor of concrete



Comments from the employee:

- 'It is not comfortable to stand on a hard concrete floor for many hours'*
- 'You get very tired in your feet, legs and lower back'*
- 'Often the floor gets slippery during milking – once I slipped and broke my ankle'*

MSD risks:

- The work involves standing on a hard surface which is physically demanding for the lower extremities and the lower back
- The milker is exposed to a demanding work load for several hours during milking

Exposed areas:

- Lower back
- Hips
- Knees
- Feet

Solutions:

- Installation of a perforated rubber matted floor on the existing floor of concrete or tiles in the parlour / rotary milking system



A perforated rubber matted floor in a milking parlour and in a rotary milking system

Comments from the employer after installation of a rubber matted floor:

- 'The milkers complain less about aches and pains after milking the cows'*
- 'The floor is very comfortable to stand on and is more easy to keep clean'*
- 'The economic investment is well covered by the obtained comfort for the milkers'*

Comments from the ergonomist:

- 'A perforated rubber matted floor in the parlour or rotary will decrease the physical load on the lower extremities – furthermore it is non-slippery - assuming the milker has suitable footwear'*