

Farm Name: _____

Air Compressors

Building: _____ Area: _____ Date: _____

Note: The use of compressed air in the milking center is a relatively recent addition to the array of equipment employed to harvest milk. Compressed air is able to provide the pneumatic force to operate a variety of devices that have been developed to further automate milk harvest. Its primary advantages are the ability to deliver controlled force to assist animal movement without injury and elimination of potential sources of electric shock in a wet environment.

Examples of equipment on dairy farms that use compressed air as an energy source include:

- Holding area crowd gates.
- Parlor stall entry and exit gates.
- Parlor stall rapid exit “reels” and other gang exit systems.
- Control indexing and positioning brisket rails in parlor stalls.
- Operate dairy cattle sorting gates
- Operate milker claw detacher systems.
- Operate wash valves in some CIP systems.
- Operate “flush” valves for waste removal in parlor and freestall

The majority of electrical energy used to provide compressed air on the dairy farm occurs within the milking center, mainly in the milking parlor. The adaptation of compressed air operated equipment to the milking parlor has increased the total level of automation and allowed increased labor efficiency of milk harvest.

Air Compressor 1:

Voltage: 120v, 208v, 240v, 480v

Phase: single-phase, 3-phase

Horsepower: _____

Age of Pump (Yrs.): _____

Variable frequency drive: (yes, no)

Air Compressor 2:

Voltage: 120v, 208v, 240v, 480v

Phase: single-phase, 3-phase

Horsepower: _____

Age of Pump (Yrs.): _____

Variable frequency drive: (yes, no)