



## **Extended Length Continental Cattle Crate**

**Model 309g**

**Hoof Trimming Attachments**

**Model 339g-800**

**Instruction Manual  
& Operating Guide**



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## Safety Notes and Warnings

- Ensure the operator in charge of the Continental Cattle Crate is an experienced stock person who can maintain a high standard of animal welfare.
- Ensure that there is sufficient space in the area designated for the crate to allow the operator to work safely and efficiently.
- The adjoining Race and Penning to the crate should be of sufficient build for the safety of both animals and operators.
- Open one side door at a time.
- Always make sure the area in front of the yoke doors is clear when animals are entering and exiting the crate.
- Should an animal become distressed whilst in the crate and a fast release is required, increase the yoke width before opening the doors as this will relieve any pressure from the neck and can facilitate easier opening of the yoke doors.
- When handling bulls or animals with a neck size larger than it's head, always use a head halter and tie it to our optional bolt on Head Restraint (No 339g-600). Never rely on the neck yoke only.



# Introduction and Intended Use

The Ritchie Extended Length Continental Cattle Crate was designed for, and intended to be used by, the agricultural industry purely for the handling of Cattle. The Crate is designed to give maximum safety and to minimise stress in both the animal and the operator.

**The crate should only be used by an experienced stock person, who can maintain a high standard of animal welfare.**

- The crate has a fully automatic yoke with auto reset facility.
- Easy adjustable neck yoke widths, which allows easy handling of calves to bulls.
- Complete access to both sides of the animal.
- Ratchet type rump bar operation.
- Complete with sliding rear gate and aluminium 5 bar tread-plate floor.

**Deviations from the intended use should not take place without the notice and approval of David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd.**

## Specifications

External Length .....	3.30m
External width .....	1.06m
Internal width .....	0.76m
External height .....	2.06m
Internal height .....	1.71m
Weight .....	720kg

An optional Electronic Weigh Platform can be fitted if required - ask your local Ritchie dealer.



# Preparation for Use

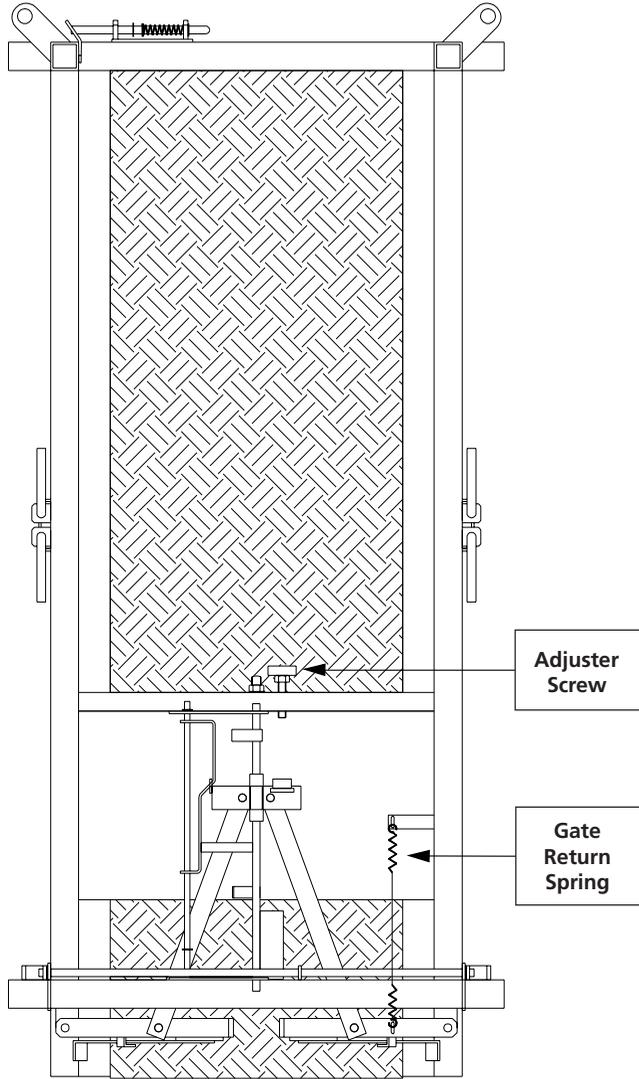


Fig 1



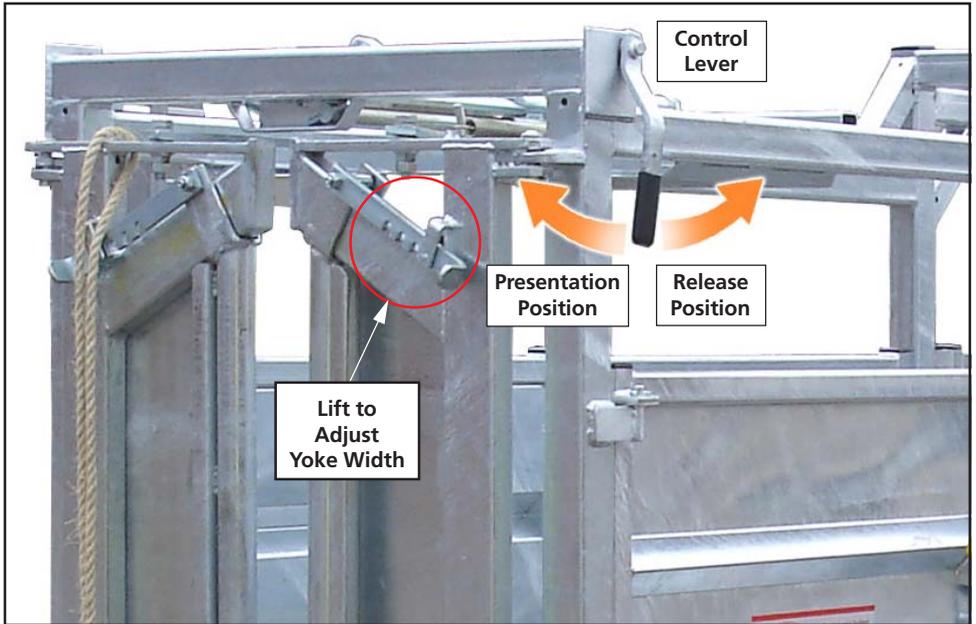


Fig 2

## Setting Up:-

To move the crate by loader or forklift, place the forklift tines either below the floor or below the top horizontal members on the side of the crate, Fig 3.

When moving take care to ensure the crate does not slide when travelling over rough terrain.

Select a level site where the handling is to be carried out. Position the crate on firm and level ground and ensure that there is sufficient area all around to operate the crate safely and efficiently.

Remove the rump bar from its transit position, Fig 4.

Before handling cattle, operate the yoke doors through the operating sequence a few times to familiarise yourself with it, Fig 2) and also to ensure that the system is running free, if not oil the mechanism, (page 14-15).

Also operate the yoke width adjustment mechanism to familiarise operating, Fig 2 and also to ensure the doors are running freely.

Hurdles can be added to form a race-way into the Continental Cattle Crate by attaching to the hurdle lugs provided, Fig 3.



## Operating Instructions

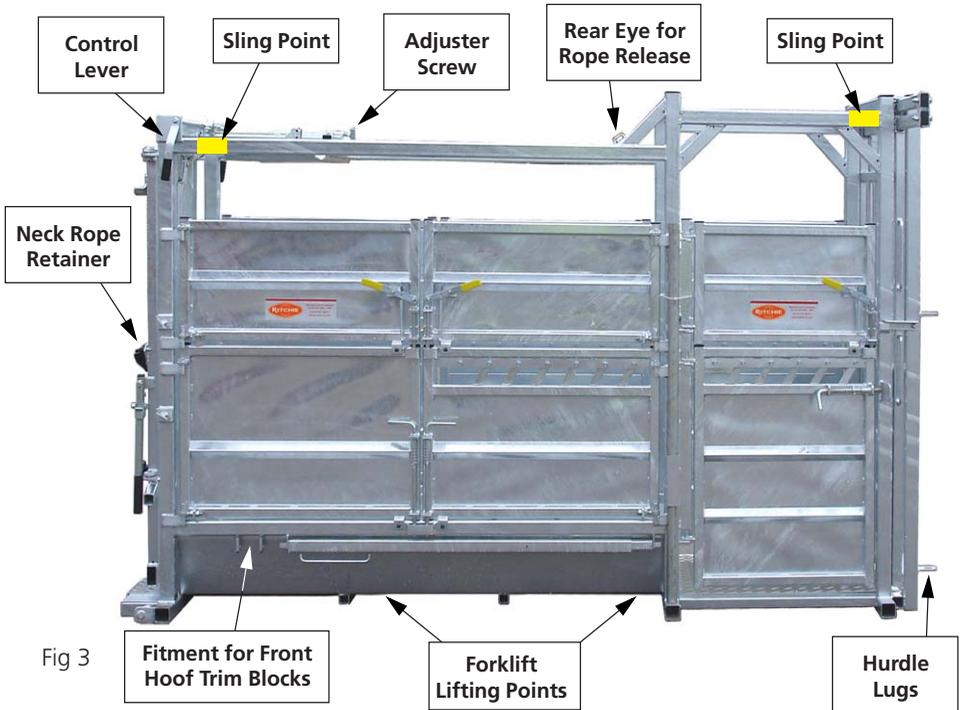


Fig 3

Adjust the width of the yoke doors whilst in the locked position to suit the size of cattle to be handled. Ensure that the yoke will not be too tight on the neck of the animal as this may reduce the blood supply to the head and result in animal collapse, see Fig 2.

To prepare the yoke doors for holding an animal, push forward the control lever and allow the yoke doors to return to the presentation position, Fig 2.

Turn the adjuster screw if required (see Fig. 1) to vary the presentation width of the yoke. This will not alter the width of the yoke in the locked position.

Herd the animal into the crate ensuring the animal pushes far enough forward to secure the self-locking catch.

Locate the rump bar/close the rear gate (whichever preferred). The rump bar can be used to help force a reluctant animal forward in the crate.

A neck rope is provided which can be used to go over the top of the neck to help restrict vertical head movement. A simple rope retainer is fitted to allow easy gripping of the rope, Fig. 3.

A side door may now be opened to offer access to the side of the animal for treatment.



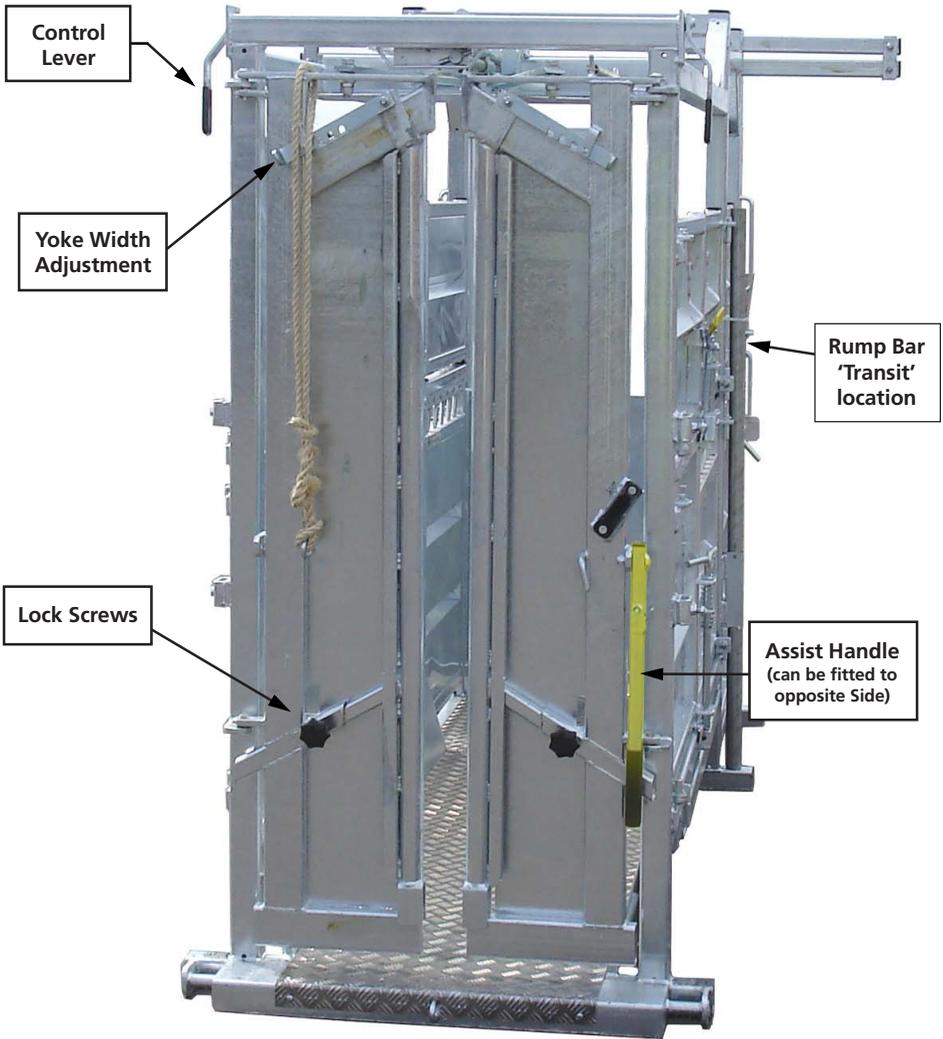


Fig 4

To release the animal pull the control lever back or alternatively use a rope (see Fig. 4). The animal can only travel forward and cannot reverse. If you require to reverse the animal through the crate push the control lever forward.

Should an animal be reluctant to leave the crate when the catch is released, the assist handle can be used to force open the yoke doors, Fig 4.



## Access to the animal

The Extended Length Continental Cattle Crate offers complete access to both sides and the rear of the animal.

With the animal in yoked position, a side door can be opened for access to the rear of the animal, Fig 5.

Note that the side door opens two ways and can be used to close off the front part of the crate, as shown in Fig 6.

All side doors are split which allows the upper section only to be opened or both halves together as required, Figures 7 & 8.



Fig 5

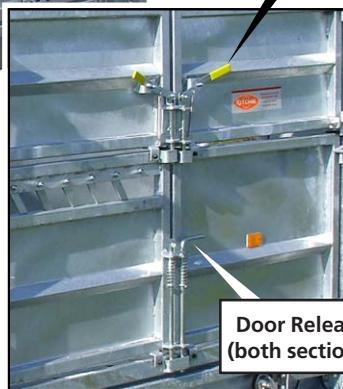


Fig 6



Fig 7

Door Release  
(top section)



Door Release  
(both sections)

Fig 9



Fig 9



The Rear Sliding Gate is designed to slide open both to the right and left hand sides of the crate, Fig 10. When preparing for transit - slide the door into the centre (closed) position and fit the transit pins provided, Fig 11.

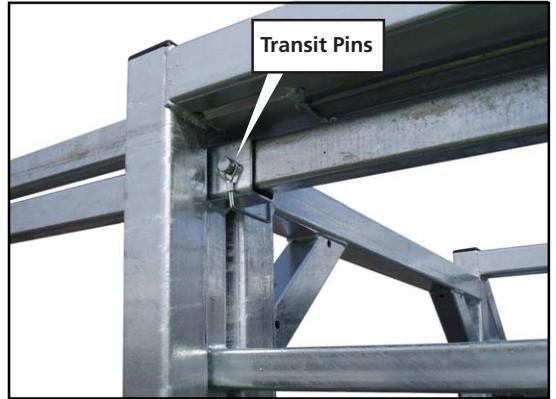


Fig 11



Fig 10



Fig 12

### Spring Loaded Bar

If a second door is to be opened the spring loaded bar (332g-A13) can be used to provide a simple barrier between animal and operator.

The spring loaded bar can be fitted in either of three positions as shown, Fig 12, (arrowed) and can be placed in the storage position when not in use, Fig 13.

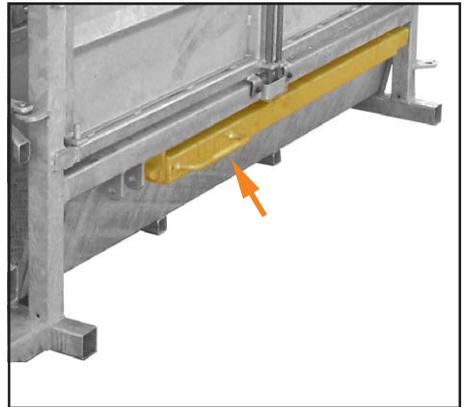


Fig 13



# Maintenance



Fig 14

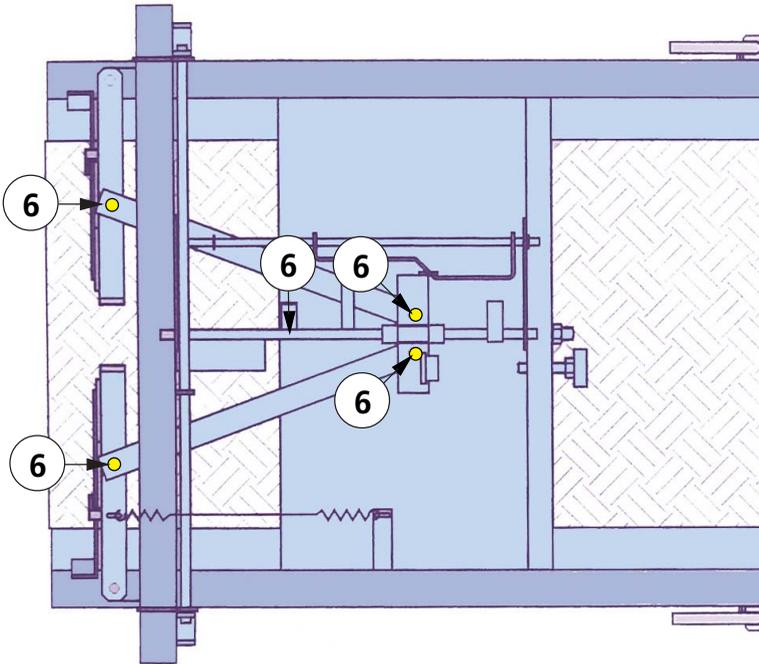


Fig 15

**Oil weekly when in use:-**

1. Operating handle pivots
2. Door pivots
3. Yoke door pivots
4. Assist Handle pivot

**Grease weekly when in use:-**

5. Door slides

**Oil Daily when in use:-**

6. Yoke Door mechanisms



## Optional Head Scoop

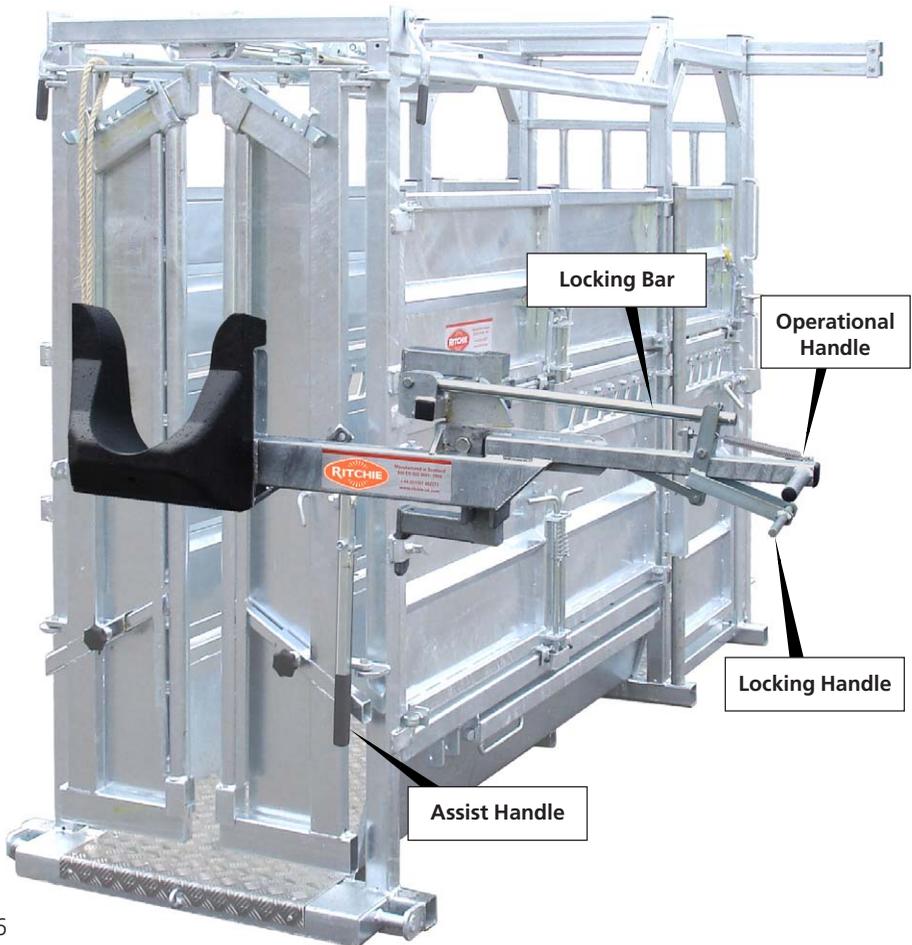


Fig 16

The Head Scoop is available in left hand (323gl) and right hand (323gr) versions. This should be stated at time of ordering.

### Main Features

- The Head Scoop has been designed to control the head of cattle making routine tasks easier and safer.
- The unit prevents an animal from 'going down' in the cattle crate, and increases the efficiency of the handling process.
- The unit is easily removed when not required.
- Weight - 28 kgs.



## Setting Up

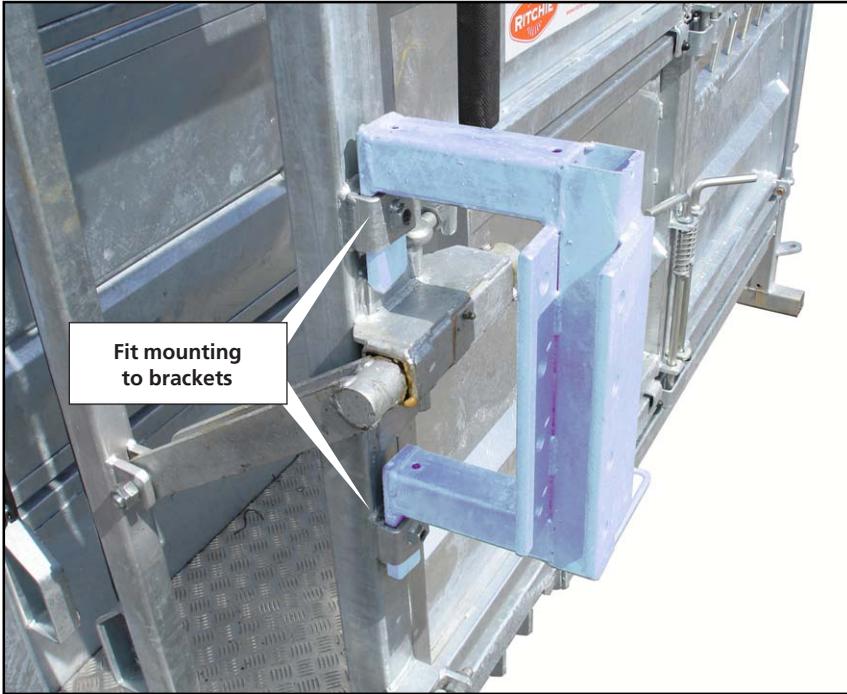


Fig 17

Fit the Head Scoop mounting to the brackets provided on the crate upright, Fig 17.

The Head Scoop can now be attached to the crate.

The bracket offers 3 height positions for the Scoop, Fig 18. Fit the head scoop to the mounting using two of the holes provided.

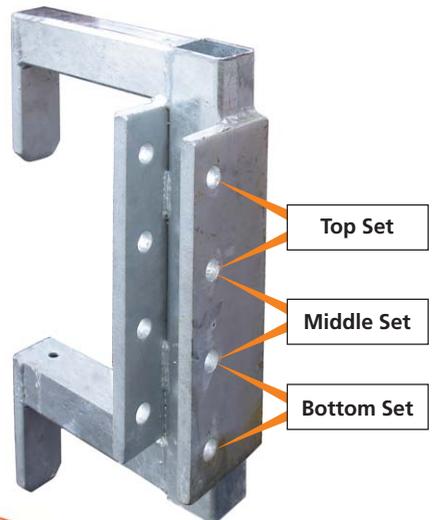


Fig 18



## Operating the Head Scoop

The scoop is designed to pivot from the vertical to the horizontal working position.



Fig 19

**To engage** - With the equipment in the vertical position - squeeze the locking handle and pull the Scoop down slightly (about 10°), Fig 19. Release the locking handle and continue to rotate the scoop on its pivot until the desired working height is achieved. The apparatus will lock in this position until released.

**To release** - push the operational handle slightly in a downward direction before

squeezing the locking handle and rotating the scoop back to the vertical position.

**Note:** A slight downward push of the operational handle as noted above will facilitate easy release of the mechanism.

Operator's should familiarise themselves with the locking and release sequence by practicing a few times before admitting an animal.

## Adjustments and Maintenance

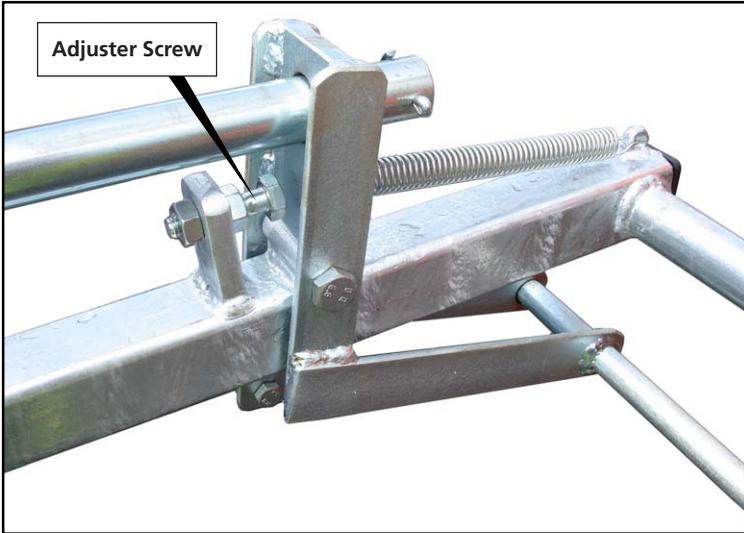


Fig 20

An adjuster screw, Fig 20, is provided to prevent finger entrapment between the operational handle and the locking handle. Lengthening the bolt provides additional finger space.

- Pivot plates should be greased weekly during operation, Fig 21.



**Note: Do not apply oil or grease to the Locking Bar, Fig 21. The bar must be dry in order to function correctly!**

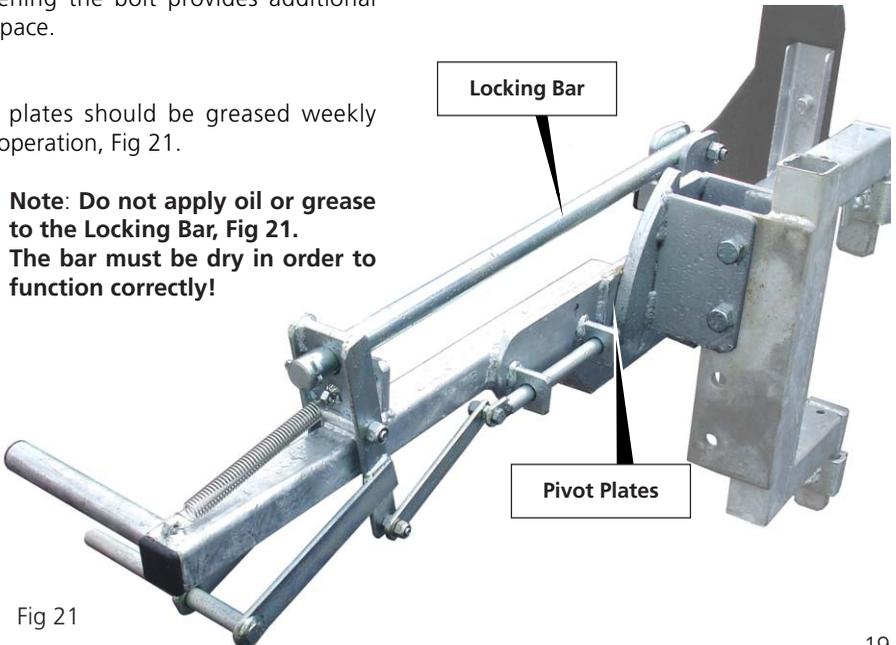


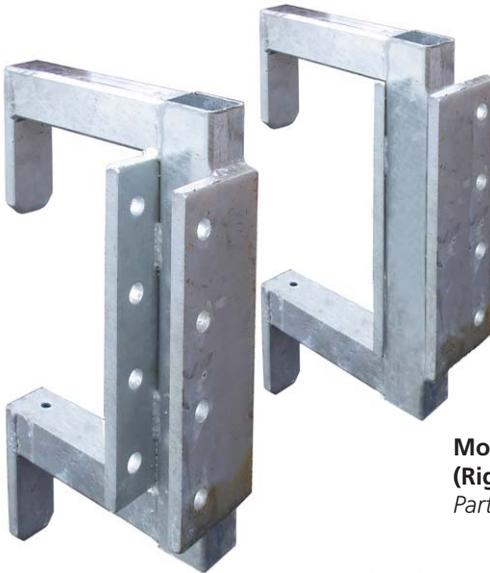
Fig 21



**Head Scoop**

*Part no. 323gl (Left hand)*

*Part no. 323gr (Right hand)*



**Mounting bracket  
(Right Hand)**

*Part no. 8764g*

**Mounting bracket  
(Left Hand)**

*Part no. 8765g*



# Hoof Trimming Attachments No. 339g-880

## Fitting of Rear Winch

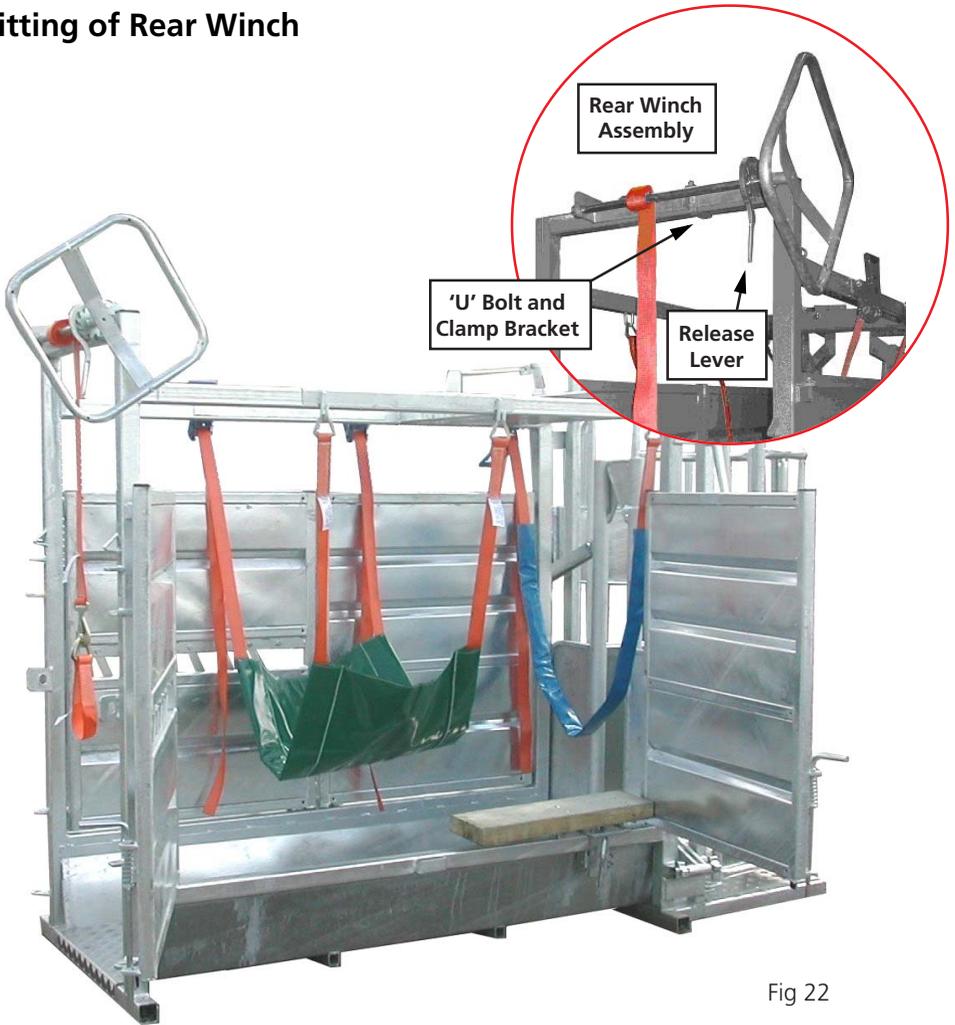


Fig 22

Position the rear winch assembly on top of the rear cross member of the Cattle Crate as shown, Fig 22, and secure in place using the 'U bolt' and clamp bracket provided.

Locate the wheel onto the end of the winch assembly shaft and secure with the bolt & nut provided. Rotate and check for freedom of movement.

Slide the plain end of the leg strap through the loop provided on the winch and turn the wheel allowing the web to wrap around itself and 'lift'. To release, turn the wheel to take pressure off the ratchet and pull the release lever on the winch assembly to lower. Use the short strap with rings at each end to position around the 'hock' to lift the leg.

## Positioning of the Belly Harness & Front Strap

Drop channels with open hooks on preferred side of the Crate as shown, Fig 23, and attach the straps using the open rings.

Channel with open hooks



Fig 23

Channel with ratchet assemblies



Fig 24

Position the channels carrying the ratchets on the opposite side as shown, Fig 24, feed the belly support onto the two straps and feed the ends through the ratchet buckles.

For the front strap, ensure the sleeve is fitted before feeding the end through the front ratchet buckle.

When entering an animal into the crate, remove the harness and front strap by lifting off the open rings and pulling the harness and front strap through to the opposite side of the crate.

The rear channels carrying the Belly harness can be moved 'front and rearwards' to suit each individual animal.

## Fitting the Front Hoof Blocks

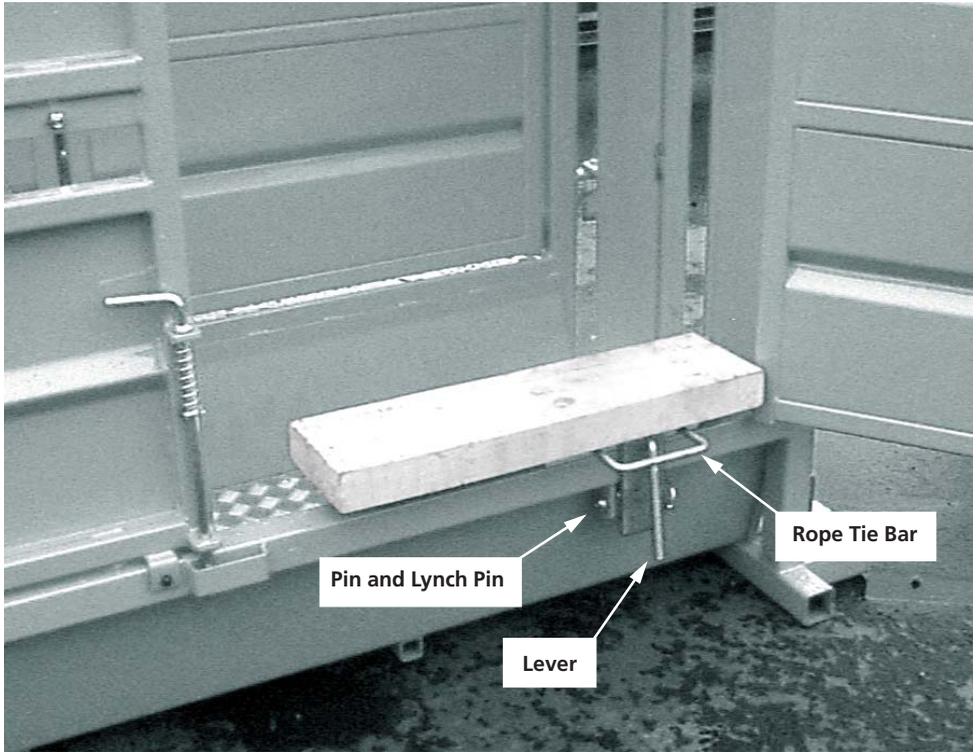


Fig 25

Attach the left and right hoof block assemblies using the pin and lynch pin provided, Fig 25.

To operate the hoof block, the side door of the crate must be opened to allow access, and the block can then be pivoted upwards and locked into position using the lever incorporated.

A rope tie bar is provided to assist tying the leg securely.

When the hoof blocks are not being used, the block assembly can be pivoted through 90 degrees, which allows the side doors of the crate to be opened.



# Component Parts



**Bracket**  
Part No. 338G/16



**Bracket**  
Part No. 338G/33



**Handle Assembly**  
Part No. 339G/515

**Clamp Plate**  
Part No. 339G/513



**Clamp**  
Part No. 339G/518



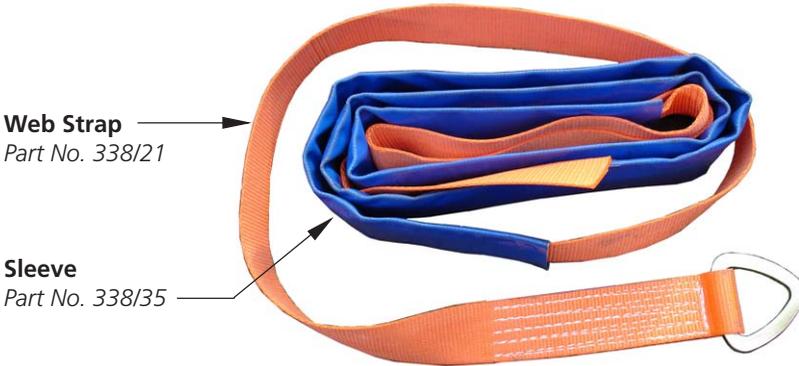
**Winch Assembly**  
Part No. 339G/516





**Bracket / Ratchet Assembly**  
*Part No. 338G/26*

**Bracket / Ratchet Assembly**  
*Part No. 338G/34*



**Web Strap**  
*Part No. 338/21*

**Sleeve**  
*Part No. 338/35*



**Belt Looped**  
*Part No. 339G/519*

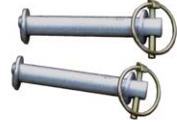


**Belt Hooked**  
*Part No. 339G/520*





**Wood Block Support**  
*Part No. 338G/24*



**Attachment Pins**  
*Part No. 338G/18 (x2)*



**Wood Block Support**  
*Part No. 338G/25*

**Web Strap**  
*Part No. 338G/21 (x2)*



**Belly Canvas**  
*Part No. 338G/22*







*the perfect partner*

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