

## CAFRE Housing Assessment

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

<u>3 good points</u>	<u>3 things to do better</u>	<u>3 key areas to focus on</u>
1)		
2)		
3)		

### 1: Horn quality & hoof shape

Parameter	Notes
What is routine trimming protocol	
Are there foot checks for heifers	
<b>Diet: is acidosis likely?</b>	
1) Feeding system i.e. easy feed/TMR/OPF/IPF	
2) Total concentrate fed per annum/max kg fed per meal ( $\leq$ 5kgs)	
3) Pre-calver and fresh cow management i.e. transition feeding/feeding post calving	
4) Feed barrier space per cow, total length of feed barriers (650-700 kg cow, simultaneous feeding 0.65-0.7m/ad-lib feeding 0.28-0.3m)	Total length of feed barrier 1 =  Total length of feed barrier 2=  Total length of feed barrier 3=

5) Forage intake (kg/DMI) <9kgs Av 10kg DMI 11kg +	
6) Grass/silage quality	ME= CP= DM= Intake factor= NDF= PH=
7) Alternative forage type & quality	ME= CP= DM= Starch%=
8) Number of push-ups	
9) Supplementation of ration i.e. biotin/additional min & vit	
Are heifers pre-conditioned to concrete/ or cubicles before calving	
Management of first lactation and fresh calved cows in the herd (heifer integration into herd/time on straw/fresh cow group)	

## 2: Infection pressure

Parameter	Notes
Clean floors? Dry/clean feet i.e. caking of manure	
Cubicle bed cleanliness?	
Floor area per cow? 2 row or 3 row cubicle design? For a lying & standing area provide at least 7.5sq m per cow on a two row arrangement/for a three row arrangement this reduces to 6.5sq m. The total standing area, excluding cubicles should be at least 4sq m per cow.	House 1=L      W House 2=L      W House 3=L      W House 4=L      W
Slurry pooling? Walk everywhere the cows go	
Scraping policy? Tractor/auto scraper? Frequency? Partial/fully slatted floors?  Tractor scrape min ×2/day when cows	No of times scrapped/day=

being milked	
Automatic scraper every 2hrs i.e. between 4am- 10pm	
Ventilation/airflow i.e. no of cob webs	
<b>Footbaths</b>	
1) Design/ease of use	Comments
Pre wash L=3m 0.2m depth Post wash L 3-4m (ideally 4m) 0.2m depth	Pre wash                      Post wash L=                                      L= W=                                      W= D=                                      D=
Location of footbath? i.e. Sharpe turn	
Footbathed pre or post milking?	
Level of slurry pooling at footbath exit?	
2) Calibration	How much water do you put into bath/depth?
1L of treatment solution per cow Solution depth at start of footbathing 12cm/ solution depth at end of footbathing 10cm To ensure solution losses are below 20%, keep liquid level 8cm or below the lip of the bath	How much solution do you put in bath? i.e. 5% 10 kg or litres
	Comments i.e. any top ups during milking
3) Frequency (dependant on disease level)	
4) Longevity (bath contamination)	
5) Chemical	
6) Correct animals i.e. dry cows & heifers	Do you footbath dry cows?
	Do you footbath pre-calving heifers

### 3: Forces on feet

Parameter	Notes
Cubicle comfort. 550/700/800kg cow/length of bed open front 2.1/ 2.3/2.4m/ closed front 2.4m/ 2.55/ 2.7m/ head to head 4.2/ 4.6/4.8m/ Width 1.15- 1.2m	L(solid front)= L (head to head)= Bed length (from brisket board) = Height of neck rail= Neck rail diagonal= Cubicle width=
Rubber matting cubicles	
1 lying space per cow (5% more cubicles than cows)	No of cows in house=  No of cubicles=
Are there cows waiting to lie down (standing not eating)  ≥85% of the cows in the cubicles are lying down (sample i.e.count 1 row of cubicles)  <b>NB:</b> should be ideally taken after peak feeding or 2 hours before milking	Tally of cows in cubicle=   Tally of cows lying down in cubicle=
<10% of cows with hock sores/swellings (damage to hock indicates hard cubicle surface)	No of cows with hock swelling=
Dead ends in house	
Slippery passages? Grooved? Abrasive concrete? Cows walking confidently?	
Sharpe turns/narrow passageways/parlour exits i.e. 90 degree turns	
Uneven slats or floor surfaces? Sharpe edges, steps or broken concrete	
Bulling cows removed	
Time budgets: time in collection yard/away from feed during milking (<1hr)	How long are your cows standing in collection yard?
Space in collection yard 1.6- 2sq m/cow (heads up or down)	L= W= No of cows max in yard=
Backing gate used	
Stones on concrete	

How far cows walk during grazing	
Summer tracks used? condition	
Gateways/water troughs-condition	

#### 4: Early effective treatment

Parameter	Notes
Are cows easily identifiable?	
How detect lameness?	
Do you mobility score?	
How long before treating lame cows?	
How often cows trimmed e.g. preventative or corrective	
Who treats?	
What training? Blocks/bandages applied	
How treat: digital dermatitis/white line/sole ulcer/sole bruising/foul	
Can relevant hoof diseases be recognised accurately (show DairyCo sheet with diseases blanked out)	
Records kept i.e. to identify new/recurring cases	
Condition of knives/ grinder training	
Foot crush? Is there one? Condition? Easy to use? Good light? Everything to hand? One man job	
How are lame cows managed i.e. straw yard/feed/water	