

Individual measures	Guidance on sampling
<p>1. Mobility 2. Cleanliness 3a. Body Condition (adult cattle only)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed on 20 randomly selected animals from the beef herd. Individual measures do not need to be assessed on the same animals. If the herd is made up of more than one group (e.g. suckler cows and fattening animals) sample animals proportionally across groups. Selected animals may be of any sex or age. 3 or more cattle out of the 20 to be assessed jointly with the stockperson (record assessor's score only). In addition to the 20 cattle sample assess all breeding bulls within the herd. Care should be taken when assessing breeding bulls. Scoring should be based on visual assessment only from a safe distance. Do not touch the bulls or try to encourage them to walk.
Herd measures	
<p>4. Hair loss, lesions and swellings 5a. Animals with respiratory signs 6. Cattle needing further care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed across all groups on farm, including cows, calves, fattening animals, bulls, the hospital pen and animals due to leave the farm. Tally the number of animals affected.
Records measures	
<p>3b. Caesarean and assisted calving's 5b. Pneumonia treatments 7. Disbudding, dehorning and castration 8. Mortality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From records (including herd health plan and annual health and performance review) and discussions with the farmer.

1. Mobility

Individual measure

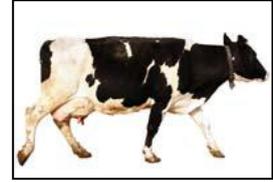
Sample: 20 animals selected at random (3 or more assessed jointly with stockperson) plus all breeding bulls

Assess using the AHDB Dairy mobility scoring method. Observe animals individually, ideally allowing them to make between 6-10 uninterrupted strides. Watch from the side and/or the rear.

Scoring:

0/1 = Good/Imperfect mobility

Walks with even weight bearing and rhythm on all four feet, with a flat back; long fluid strides possible; or steps uneven (rhythm or weight bearing) or strides shortened; affected limb/s not immediately identifiable



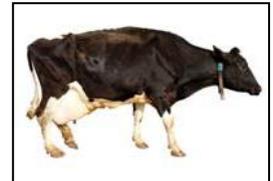
2 = Impaired mobility

Uneven weight bearing on a limb that is immediately identifiable and/or obviously shortened stride (usually with an arch to the centre of the back)



3 = Severely impaired mobility

Unable to walk as fast as a brisk human pace (cannot keep up with the healthy herd) and signs of impaired mobility (score 2)



Images kindly supplied by AHDB Dairy

2. Cleanliness

Individual measure

Sample: 20 animals selected at random (3 or more assessed jointly with stockperson) plus all breeding bulls

Visually assess one randomly selected side of the animal and behind, only including the hind quarters to coronary band and udder (or equivalent area on male animals):

Scoring:

0 = Clean

No dirt or only minor splashing present

2 = Very Dirty

An area of dirtiness (i.e. layer or plaques of fresh or dried/old dirt) amounting to forearm length (40 cm) in any dimension. Do not include staining to the coat.



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3a. Body condition

Individual measure

Sample: up to **20 adult animals** selected at random (**3** or more assessed jointly with stockperson) plus all breeding bulls

Visually assess the tail head and loin area of cattle based on the Defra condition scoring method, viewing the animal from behind and from the side. Manual assessment can help distinguish borderline scores but is not expected.

Scoring:

Thin = Defra score 1 or 2

Tail head

- Deep cavity with no fatty tissue under skin or shallow cavity with some fat under skin but pin bones prominent
- Skin supple/fairly supple and coat condition may be rough.

Loin

- Spine prominent. Vertebra may be identified individually
- Horizontal processes can be indentified individually with either sharp or rounded ends.

The following list should assist in making a confident decision with cows in BCS 1/2:

- Horizontal processes give a prominent shelf-like appearance to the loin
- Outline of the hook bone is prominent with no or only some fat padding
- Outline of the pin bone is prominent with no or only some fat padding
- There are folds of skin in the depression between the tail head and pin bone
- Thurl is sunken and curved in.



Images kindly supplied by NADIS

Moderate = Defra score 2.5 to 3.5

Fat = Defra score 4 or 5

Tail head

- Completely filled and folds and patches of fat evident or almost buried in fatty tissue.

Loin

- Cannot see horizontal processes and the loin area, has a completely rounded appearance.

The following list should assist in making a confident decision with cows in BCS 4/5:

- Back is solid and straight
- Hook bones are rounded with obvious fat padding or bones are/may not be visible because they are buried in fat
- Pin bones are rounded with obvious fat padding or bones are/may not be visible because they are buried in fat
- Ribs are covered with a thick layer of fat
- Thurl is filled in.



Images kindly supplied by NADIS

3b. Caesareans and assisted calving's**Records**

Record the number of caesarean births and assisted calving's in the previous 12 months.

Record the total number of cows calved in the previous 12 months

4. Hair loss, lesions and swellings**Herd measure**

Assess the whole herd and tally the number of animals seen with

- **Hairless patches** (bald area/bare skin visible) $\geq 2\text{cm}$ diameter or
- **Lesions** (areas of skin damage e.g. wound or scab) $\geq 2\text{cm}$ diameter or
- **Swellings** (abnormal enlargement which is a prominent / pronounced extension away from the body) $\geq 5\text{cm}$ in diameter anywhere on the body.

Comment if hair loss, lesions or swellings are occurring on a particular area of the body within a group and identify which group. Visually assess from a distance not exceeding 2 m.



Hairless patch $\geq 2\text{ cm}$ diameter



Lesion $\geq 2\text{ cm}$ diameter



Swellings $\geq 5\text{ cm}$ in diameter

5a. Animals with respiratory signs**Herd measure**

Assess the whole herd and tally the number of animals with nasal and/or ocular discharge that are **also** seen/heard coughing or to be in respiratory distress (e.g. laboured breathing).

Record which group.

5b. Pneumonia treatments**Records**

Record the number of recorded treatments for Pneumonia in the previous 12 months (refer to the Red Tractor Annual Health and Performance Review sheet if available).

6. Cattle needing further care**Herd measure**

Assess the whole herd. Tally and comment on the number of any sick or injured animals that would benefit from further intervention. Further interventions could include further treatment, hospitalisation (i.e. removal from the main herd) or culling. **Do not include sick or injured animals already receiving suitable care.**

7. Disbudding, dehorning and castration**Records**

Record the proportion of non-polled animals that are disbudded or dehorned, the age at disbudding/dehorning and the use of analgesia and anaesthesia.

Record the proportion of male animals that are castrated, the age of castration and the use of analgesia and anaesthesia.

8. Mortality**Records**

Record mortality over the previous 12 months for the following groups (refer to the Red Tractor Annual Health and Performance Review sheet if available):

	Tally	Comments
Stillborn – 24 hours		
24 hours – 10 days		
10 days – weaning		
Weaning – first calving /point of sale		
Less than 30 months		
30 months +		
Total		

Record the number of cows (including heifers put to the bull), unweaned animals, weaned animals and breeding bulls on the farm over the previous 12 months. This may need to be an average if animals have been bought and sold over that time.

Record the average weaning age.