










# Welfare assessments tools to use on farm

 16 January 2018

## OPTIMAL DAIRY SYSTEMS



### Scoring cleanliness

Score	Clean	Flank (including tail)	Lower hind leg	Udder
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No dirt or only minor fresh or dried splashing present</li> </ul>			
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An area of dirtiness (ie layer or plaques of fresh or dried dirt) at least palm size (10 x 15cm)</li> </ul>			
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An area of dirtiness (ie layer or plaques of dried dirt) amounting to at least forearm length (40cm) in any dimension.</li> </ul>			
<b>Factors that may affect cleanliness</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cubicle cleanliness</li> <li>Cubicle comfort</li> <li>Amount and type of bedding</li> <li>Manure consistency and health of the herd</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequency of:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ alley cleaning</li> <li>□ running of automatic scrapers</li> <li>□ cleaning of crossover alleys</li> <li>□ cleaning of collecting yard</li> </ul> </li> <li>Space allowance per cow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cubicle cleanliness</li> <li>Cubicle comfort</li> <li>Amount and type of bedding</li> <li>Cleanliness of alleys</li> <li>Amount of hair on udder</li> <li>Manure consistency and health of the herd</li> </ul>



EuroDairy UK partner AHDB has a number of welfare assessment tools for farmers to use as part of their management.

These tools are available for assessing leg swelling, hair loss and lesions, cleanliness and body condition and are available [here](#).

Welfare assessments can be used to:

- Assess the level of welfare achieved for an individual animal, farm or farm assurance scheme (e.g. Red Tractor)
- Help improve farm assurance standards
- Identify and monitor welfare problems and solutions on a farm
- Strengthen farm management through self-assessment, feedback and benchmarking
- Provide more reliable and direct assurance of animal welfare throughout the food chain, including to consumers

### Research Themes

EuroDairy drives the engine of innovations on 4 main themes at dairy farms: animal care, biodiversity, resource efficiency and socio-economic resilience. Find more info on these dairy topics here!

[Biodiversity](#)

[Resource Efficiency](#)

[Socio-Economics](#)

[Animal Care](#)



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