

Mobility score

Mobility score

Farm: A. Farm
 Date: 01/01/20
 Scorer: A. Farmer
 Total number of cows scored: 119

Score 0 and 1 Acceptable mobility	Score 2 Likely to benefit from treatment	Score 3 Very lame – treatment urgently required
Tally the number of cows	Record the IDs of any cows showing signs of Score 2	Record the IDs of any cows showing signs of Score 3
Group 1 Record and tally the number of cows scoring 0 or 1, i.e. 22	202 412 34 78 55 20 Note the IDs of cows showing signs of Score 2, i.e. 6	101 67 Note the IDs of cows showing signs of Score 3, i.e. 2
Number of cows: 22	Number of cows: 6	Number of cows: 2
Group 2 Record and tally the number of cows scoring 0 or 1, i.e. 27	22 29	412
Number of cows: 27	Number of cows: 2	Number of cows: 1
Group 3 Record and tally the number of cows scoring 0 or 1, i.e. 15	15 107 66 10 54 43 21 74 12 209 321 11	21 73 44
Number of cows: 15	Number of cows: 12	Number of cows: 3
Group 4 % of cows in the herd scoring 0 and 1 = no. of cows scoring 0 and 1 divided by the total no. of cows in herd x 100 i.e. 88 ÷ 119 x 100 = 74	36 667 62 48	16
Number of cows: 24	Number of cows: 4	Number of cows: 1
Total cows: 88	Total cows: 24	Total cows: 7
Mobility index		6%
% of cows in the herd scoring 0 and 1		74%

ahdb.org.uk/healthyfeetprogramme



How to score your herd

In general:

- 1 Check your herd, ideally at least once a month.
- 2 Choose a time and a place that will allow you to observe cows, ideally, on a hard, non-slip surface (e.g. concrete). Monitor each cow individually, allowing them to make 6–10 uninterrupted strides. Watch the cow from the side and the rear and, if possible, ensure the cow turns a corner as part of her test.
- 3 Record the identities of cows scoring 2 or 3 and schedule treatment with regular checks to ensure treatment is working.
- 4 Keep a tally of cows that score 0 and 1.
- 5 If you are uncertain about a cow's exact score, make repeat observations. If you are still unsure, examine her feet.

Key benefits of scoring





- 1 Every cow is regularly assessed for the early signs of poor mobility, prompting foot-trimming and action lists.
- 2 Mobility trends can be monitored to identify new problems at an early stage.
- 3 Provision of figures for benchmarking performance.
- 4 General foot health awareness is increased.
- 5 Motivates farm staff to improve herd mobility and therefore overall herd health.

Research shows early and effective treatment of lame cows consistently works to reduce lameness in a herd.

For further information on using the Mobility score, contact your local Knowledge Exchange Manager or email healthyfeet@ahdb.org.uk

The Register of Mobility Scorers (RoMS) is an independent, self-regulatory body that encourages the widespread use of standardised, independent mobility scoring conducted by trained and accredited scorers. Find out more about RoMS at roms.org.uk

Mobility score

Category of score	Score	Description of cow behaviour	Suggested actions
Good mobility			
	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walks with even weight-bearing and rhythm on all four feet, with a flat back • Long, fluid strides possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action needed • Routine (preventative) foot trimming when/if required • Record mobility at next scoring session
Imperfect mobility			
	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps uneven (rhythm or weight-bearing) or strides shortened; affected limb or limbs not immediately identifiable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could benefit from routine (preventative) foot trimming when/if required • Further observation recommended
Impaired mobility			
	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven weight-bearing on a limb that is immediately identifiable and/or obviously shortened strides (usually with an arch to the centre of the back) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamé and likely to benefit from treatment • Foot should be lifted to establish the cause of lameness before treatment • Should be attended to as soon as practically possible
Severely impaired mobility			
	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to walk as fast as a brisk human pace (cannot keep up with the healthy herd) • Lamé leg easy to identify – limping; may barely stand on lame leg/s; back arched when standing and walking • Very lamé 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This cow is very lamé and requires urgent attention, nursing and further professional advice • Examine as soon as possible • Cow will benefit from treatment • Cow should not be made to walk far and kept on a straw yard or at grass • In the most severe cases, culling may be the only possible solution

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Group 1		
Number of cows:	Number of cows:	Number of cows:
Group 2		
Number of cows:	Number of cows:	Number of cows:
Group 3		
Number of cows:	Number of cows:	Number of cows:
Group 4		
Number of cows:	Number of cows:	Number of cows:
Total cows: %	Total cows: %	Total cows: %
Mobility index		
% of cows in the herd scoring 0 and 1		%

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