



Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems Checklist

Audit the Program against the following Program requirements:

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – OIE’s Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems

- (1) Identify animal welfare scheme program documents and sections that address each criterion.
- (2) Explanations and/or comments must be provided to provide enough evidence of conformance or non-conformance, as applicable.

OIE’s Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems Criteria	Applicant Reference Document	Conform (Y/N?)	Objective Evidence/Findings/Remarks
1.0 Biosecurity and Animal Health			
1.1 Cattle health programs SHOULD address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identification of sick or injured cattle b. Appropriate cattle health monitoring c. Appropriate vaccination and treatment protocols for prevention and treatment of cattle diseases d. Treatment and care of chronic, injured or non-ambulatory cattle e. When services of a veterinarian should be sought f. Humane euthanasia plans 			
1.2 Producers SHOULD regularly monitor morbidity and mortality rates.			
2.0 Stocking Density, Housing, Environment and Protection			
2.1 Stocking density SHOULD be managed such that crowding does not adversely affect the ability of cattle to lie down, rest, move freely without the risk of injuries move freely to access feed and water, or socialization.			
2.2 Confined cattle SHOULD have access to proper lighting and ventilation for effective heat dissipation and to minimize risk of disease.			
2.3 Concrete flooring, SHOULD be maintained to prevent injury or lameness in cattle.			
2.4 Cattle SHOULD be protected from predators.			
2.5 Whenever possible, exposure of cattle to sudden or loud noises SHOULD be minimized.			
3.0 Nutrition: Feed and Water			
3.1 Cattle SHOULD be provided access to appropriate nutrition that meets their physiological needs based on weather, age, physiological status, body condition scores and others. Care should be taken to prevent digestive upset of cattle, micronutrient deficiencies or toxicities.			

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3.2 Cattle SHOULD have access to water that meets their physiological requirements and meets water quality and safety standards.			
4.0 Management			
4.1 Producers SHOULD develop and document breeding programs to enhance cattle health and well-being.			
4.1.1 Pregnant cows and heifers SHOULD be managed during pregnancy so as to not become too fat or too thin, except in the presence of unavoidable environmental conditions.			
4.2 Beef cattle producers SHOULD document their weaning program including age of calves and weaning method implemented.			
4.3 Husbandry practices and procedures SHOULD be documented. Care should be taken to minimize pain and stress to the calf. These practices could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Castration b. Dehorning/disbudding c. Ovariectomy d. Weaning 			
4.4 Routine tail docking SHOULD not occur.			
4.5 In intensive farming systems, cattle SHOULD be inspected at least once a day			
4.6 Equipment for handling and restraining beef cattle SHOULD be maintained and used in a way that minimizes the risk of injury, pain or distress.			
4.7 Races, chutes and pens SHOULD be free from sharp edges and protrusions to prevent injury to cattle.			
4.8 Mechanical and electrical devices used in housing facilities SHOULD be safe for cattle.			
5.0 Personnel Training			
5.1 All people responsible for beef cattle care SHOULD be trained in accordance with their responsibilities to understand and address cattle husbandry, behavior, biosecurity, general signs of disease, indicators of poor animal welfare and euthanasia.			
6.0 Emergency Plans			
6.1 Where the failure of power, water and feed supply systems, beef producers SHOULD have contingency plans to cover the failure of these systems.			
6.2 Plans SHOULD be in place to minimize and mitigate the effects of conditions such as heat stress, cold stress, drought, blizzard, fire and flooding on cattle health and well-being.			
7.0 Euthanasia			
7.1 Euthanasia SHOULD be practiced to relieve cattle suffering.			

Note: When this checklist is complete, print to ADOBE and add to the audit documentation.

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