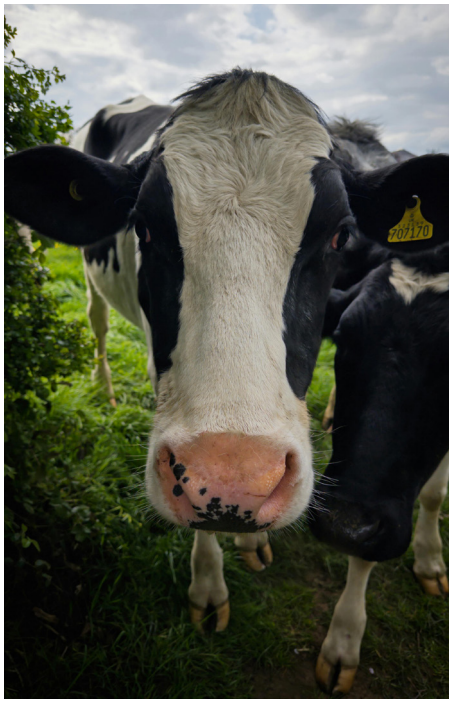


Farm management

Stock Management

To minimise any disease transmission impact, carry out your farm routine from young to old: start the working day with the most vulnerable animals in your herd, such as the calves, and finish with the highest risk animals, such as sick or quarantined animals.

Wash hands and clean boots between different sheds.



Dead Stock

If the cause of death is unknown, contact your vet to discuss arranging a postmortem.

Always wear gloves and overalls when handling deadstock.

Remove dead stock immediately from livestock housing or pasture.

Store dead stock separately from other animals and people whilst awaiting collection, ideally at the perimeter to avoid the dead lorry entering the premises. Clean and disinfect the collection area once the carcass is collected.



Sick Pen and Quarantine

Early detection and treatment of sick animals help reduce spread to healthy animals.

It is also a legal requirement to isolate TB reactors and TB inconclusive animals.
The quarantine should not share airspace, water or feed troughs, or facilitate nose-to-nose contact with healthy cattle in the herd. Ideally, it should be an independent structure.

There should be a foot dip and hand-washing facility or disinfectant gel at the entrance.

Clean and disinfect between use.

Keep records to track problem animals and facilitate long term management decisions.

Clear signage to minimise access to high-risk areas is also advisable.

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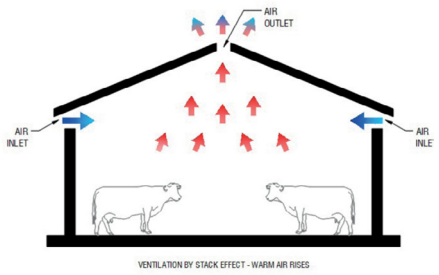
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Cattle Housing: comfy cows are healthy cows







Housing

Group animals based on age and stage of production. Maintain these groups throughout the production cycle. Avoid holding back non-thriving stock.

Clean and disinfect housing, feed and water troughs between batches.

Do not house youngstock with adults. Ideally, work from the youngest to the oldest animals.

Ensure adequate ventilation to maintain a critical temperature between-5°C and +25°C. Outside this temperature range, cows will use energy to keep warm/cool which will reduce their ability to fight infection.

Do not overstock. Ensure there are:

1. 10% more cubicles than cows or 7.5m2 per cow in a straw yard.
2. Minimum 60cm but preferably 90cm feed rail per cow.
3. Minimum of 1 water trough per 20 cows ensuring 10% of the herd can drink at any one time.

Provide adequate nutrition to avoid negative energy balance which could result in immune suppression.

Ensure the building layout allows for continuous cow flow. This reduces stress which, in turn, helps maintain good immunity.

Engage consultants for advice where necessary.

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