

CHA Breeding, Calving, and Disposal Codes

Cow Codes – Only one of the following breeding or disposal codes can be recorded.

1xx – Breeding Codes (remaining in herd)

- 100 Calved
- 101 Cow exposed & open, bull not fertile
- 102 Cow exposed & open, bull fertile
- 103 Dry (calved but did not wean a calf)
- 104 Cow lost calf but raised foster calf
- 105 Cow changed to later period
- 106 Cow used as embryo donor cow
- 107 Cow used as recipient
- 108 Cow not exposed
- 109 Aborted or otherwise lost calf before due date
- 110 Bred Commercial

2xx – Disposal - Died

- 201 Illness
- 202 Injury/Accidental
- 203 Calving Difficulty
- 204 Old Age
- 205 Disease

3xx – Disposal – Culled

- 301 Sold as breeding animal
- 302 Calf performance/productivity
- 303 Limited marketable value (Low Production Value)
- 304 Old age
- 305 Infertile or Open
- 306 Cow calved but did not wean a calf
- 307 Calving difficulty
- 308 Aborted
- 309 Prolapsed
- 310 Reproductive disease
- 311 Poor body condition (unthrifty)
- 312 Poor udder-teats
- 313 Bad feet
- 314 Structurally unsound
- 315 Poor temperament
- 316 Injury
- 317 Illness
- 318 Genetic defect
- 319 Cancer eye, lumpjaw, etc.
- 320 Leased
- 321 Missing or stolen

Calving Ease codes

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| U | Unassisted | E | Easy pull |
| H | Hard pull | S | Surgery/Caesarean |
| M | Malpresentation | | |

Calf Codes – Only one of the following calf disposal codes can be recorded.

4xx – Disposal

- 401 Aborted/Premature
- 402 Stillborn/Fullterm
- 403 Died at Birth (Defect)
- 404 Died at Birth (Other)
- 405 Died Before Weaning (Disease)
- 406 Died Before Weaning (Other)
- 407 Died After Weaning & Before Yearling (Disease)
- 408 Died After Weaning & Before Yearling (Other)
- 409 Culled – Physical Defect
- 410 Culled - Fertility
- 411 Culled – Performance/Productivity
- 412 Culled – Temperament
- 413 Culled – Other
- 414 Sold – For Breeding Purposes (Transferred)
- 415 Sold – For Slaughter/Feeder
- 416 Sold – Commercial
- 417 Unknown

Looking for Weaning/Yearling Group Codes?

The Management Group (Grp) does not use a specific coding system. It is much simpler: **different numbers mean different groups**. Use any number to indicate groups i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, ect. It is important to assign any calves that were raised on a foster dam, “fitted for show”, or any calves that were sick, injured, orphaned etc. a separate management group as they cannot accurately be compared to the others. Although the computer system still automatically splits calves into separate contemporary groups by sex, weigh date (those weighed more than 1 week apart), creep, ET or twins, **all calves need to be identified in groups by you the breeder.**

Body Condition Scores (BCS)

Thin

- 1 - Severely emaciated; starving and weak; no palpable fat detectable over back, hips or ribs; tailhead and individual ribs prominently visible; all skeletal structures are visible and sharp to the touch; animals are usually disease stricken. Under normal production systems, cattle in this condition score are rare.
- 1.5 - Emaciated; similar to BCS 1, but not weakened; little visible muscle tissue; tailhead and ribs less prominent.
- 2 - Very thin; no fat over ribs or in brisket; backbone easily visible, slight increase in muscling over BCS 1.5.

Borderline

- 2.5 - Borderline; individual ribs noticeable but overall fat cover is lacking; increased musculature through shoulders and hindquarters; hips and backbone slightly rounded versus sharp appearance of BCS 2.

Optimum

- 3 - Moderate; increased fat cover over ribs, generally only the 12th and 13th ribs are individually distinguishable; tailhead full but not rounded
- 3.5 - Good; back, ribs, and tailhead slightly rounded and spongy when palpated; slight fat deposition in brisket.

Fat

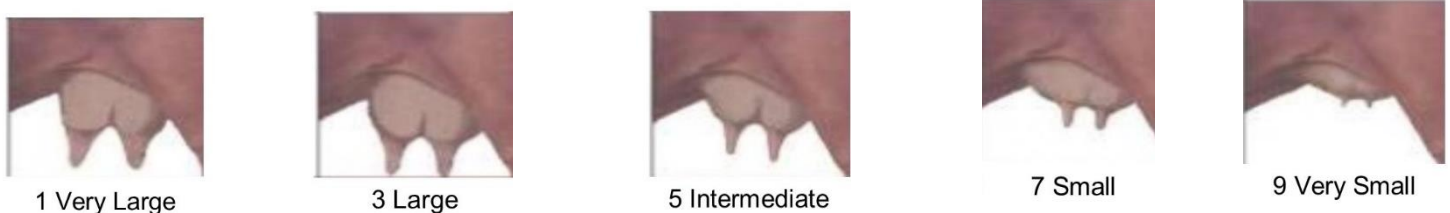
- 4 - Fat; cow appears fleshy and carries fat over back, tailhead and brisket; ribs are not visible; area of vulva and external rectum contain moderate fat deposits; may have slight fat in udder
- 4.5 - Very fat; squared appearance due to excess fat over back, tailhead and hindquarters; extreme fat deposition in brisket and throughout ribs; excessive fat around vulva and rectum and within udder; mobility may be restricted.
- 5 - Obese; similar to BCS 4.5 but to a greater degree; majority of fat deposited in udder limits effective lactation. Under normal production systems cattle in this condition score are rare.

Udder Scoring

Udder Suspension



Teat Size



The udder score is a 2-digit code, with the first digit representing the udder suspension and the second digit representing the teat size. Udders should be scored within 24 hours of calving (at the same time birth weights are taken). Although the scoring system is subjective, it does serve to objectively describe differences in udder quality and thus can be useful in genetic evaluation. Any combination of scores is possible. Udders should be scored on the weakest quarter. Scoring is relatively simple. **Just remember the scale is from 1 to 9, with any number in between (2,4,6, & 8 also acceptable).** This change will enable our data to be more easily combined and compared with other countries' udder scores when building Udder & Teat EPDs.