American Humane™ Farm Program

American Humane Certified™

Beef Cattle

Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool Introduction



The American Humane Farm Program (American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards) is the product of over 140 years of applied experience in farm animal welfare. Since its beginning in 1877, American Humane has had a long history with the humane treatment of farm animals. In its work to improve the treatment of working animals and livestock in transit, American Humane has been involved in almost every major advancement in improving the welfare of animals, including an instrumental role in the enactment of the 28 Hour Transportation Law. In 1916, the U.S. Secretary of War asked American Humane to help with the rescue of horses and other animals on the battlefields of World War I. The program that followed became Red Star Emergency Services program, which continues to this day to rescue and shelter animals involved in disasters throughout the country.

Given its history, it was natural that American Humane would create the first farm animal welfare audit program. In 2000, AH pioneered the first third party audit and certification program in the United States to encourage and support the humane treatment of animals used for food. Organized as the Free Farmed[®] certification program, the first *Animal Welfare Standards* were based on the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' *Welfare Standards*, the Federation of Animal Science Societies' *FASS Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching*, and the governing principles first developed by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC) known as the "Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare":

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury, or disease
- Freedom from fear and distress
- Freedom to express normal behaviors

Since its origins, American Humane's farm animal welfare standards have been and continue to be a living document. The standards and the audit process are continually reviewed and updated, using the expertise of the American Humane Scientific Advisory Committee. This committee of internationally renowned animal scientists and veterinarians advances new science and regularly evaluates the standards to ensure that the American Humane Certified™ program incorporates the best and current knowledge of humane practices.

American Humane collaborates with institutions and organizations on independent research in animal behavior as well as new handling and housing applications. The program incorporates the practical, hands-on experience of farmers and ranchers, and ensures that new technology and knowledge from veterinarians and animal research experts are shared with producers. Third-party audits help to educate, encourage, and support producers in adopting humane practices. The program promotes clear, reasoned communication with consumers and retailers about the meaning and value of humanely raised food and the benefits not only to animals but also to people.

Note: Please refer to Appendix C of the full **Animal Welfare Standards** for a list of additional References consulted in the development of these standards.

Core Criteria

Items that are essential to the "Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare" are scored higher than other questions in the audit. "Core Criteria" are scored either 25 or 50 points and must be satisfactorily addressed in order to pass the audit. These items are listed below (refer to *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool* following for full descriptions):

M1: Company Policy

The Company Policy must be available to all workers, in their native language. Personnel must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, the Company Policy.

M2: Employee Code of Conduct

An Employee Code of Conduct must be available to all personnel, in their native language. Workers must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, this Code of Conduct.

M11: Herd Health Plan

A Herd Health Plan (HHP) must be available at the main office. The HHP must document the activities affecting animal health for the year's cycle of production.

M17: Colostrum for Calves

For both heifer and bull calves it is vital that each new-born calf receives adequate, quality colostrum from its dam, from another fresh cow, or from a frozen or dried colostrum source as soon as possible after birth, and no later than within the first 6 to 8 hours of life.

M20: Weaning in Ranch Settings

Calves must be weaned with consideration given to limiting stress on the animals, for example, by weaning them into a familiar environment, by using fenceline weaning and plastic nose tabs, and/or by mixing them with heifers during the weaning process. <u>Freshly weaned calves must never transported.</u> The vocalizations of freshly weaned calves must never be heard in a transport environment.

M22: Handling Aids

Sticks and flags must be used only as benign handling aids (i.e., as extensions of the arm). Sticks must not be used for hitting, beating, or poking the cattle. <u>Electric prods must not be used except where animal and/or human safety is in jeopardy and it is the means of last resort.</u> Electric prods must not be carried by stock-keepers as a matter of course. Handlers must use tails gently if necessary to direct the animal's movement.

M29: Non-Ambulatory ("Downer") Cattle

Care must be taken to avoid causing unnecessary pain or distress to a sick or injured animal that is unable to move. Moving by means that can cause further physical or psychological damage is prohibited. Refer to the North American Meat Institute (NAMI) guidelines for acceptable methods of moving non-ambulatory cattle.

M30: Segregation and Care of Sick or Injured Animals

Provisions must be made for the segregation and care of sick and injured animals. Any animal suffering from illness or injury must be segregated and treated without delay, and veterinary advice must be sought when needed.

M32: Identification

Cattle marking must be performed by trained personnel quickly, expertly, and with the proper equipment in a manner that avoids unnecessary pain and distress.

M46: Monitoring of Air Quality for Enclosed Environments

Where cattle are housed in an enclosed environment, dust and ammonia be maintained at acceptable levels. *Note: Provisions must be made to ensure that aerial contaminants do not reach a level at which they are noticeably unpleasant to a human observer.* Inhalable dust must not exceed 10 mg/m³. Ammonia levels must be monitored by the producer and maintained ideally at less than 10 ppm, but should never exceed 25 ppm.

M48: SOPs for Husbandry and Other Procedures

Where necessary, producers must use only approved, humane husbandry procedures accepted by the American Humane Certified™ program. Husbandry procedures must be performed at the earliest possible age. These practices must not be performed on sick or injured animals. All of these practices must be performed by designated, trained and competent personnel or the herd veterinarian using appropriate, well-maintained equipment in a way which minimizes suffering and optimizes recovery. Procedures include supernumerary teat removal, disbudding/ dehorning, castration, and other surgical procedures.

M52: Euthanasia Policy

A Euthanasia Policy must be available which includes provisions for humane and timely euthanasia.

FW1: Body Condition Score

All cattle whether in ranch conditions or at the feedlot must be fed a wholesome and appropriate diet for their age and species and which is fed to them in sufficient quantity so that they sustain full health and normal reproductive capability over their maximum foreseeable lifespan. Body Condition Score (BCS) must be assessed during regular observation periods such as weaning, 30 days post-weaning, 90 days before calving, at calving, and at the beginning of breeding season.

FW3: Freshness of Feed

Troughs must be kept clean and stale food removed on a daily basis. Automatic feeding equipment must be kept clean and free of stale feed and be maintained in good working order. All stored feed must be free of bird or rodent feces and vermin.

FW6: Access to Water

All cattle, including calves older than 1 day and cattle in confinement, must be provided with continuous access to an adequate supply of clean, fresh drinking water each day, except when otherwise required by the attending veterinarian.

E5: Environmental Safety

There must be no physical features of the environment which cause recurring injuries to cattle.

E16: Ammonia

When cattle are kept in an enclosed environment, provisions must be made to ensure that aerial contaminants do not reach a level at which they are noticeably unpleasant to a human observer as specified by Environmental Protection Agency and OSHA standards for particulates. Ammonia levels measured by the auditor should be less than 10 ppm but must not exceed 25 ppm.

E19: Lying Area

Cattle must have access at all times to a lying area which is well-drained or well- maintained with dry bedding, and which is of sufficient size to accommodate all cattle lying down together in normal resting posture. For floor or ground area and feeder space recommendations, see Supplement, Table 1 at the end of the *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool*.

E39: High Heat and Humidity Conditions

Cattle must have the opportunity to thermoregulate. The combination of high temperature and humidity can contribute to heat stress. When cattle show signs of moderate to severe heat stress, such as head bobbing or open-mouth panting, immediate remedial actions must be taken to provide relief.

Core Criteria

(Note: see the Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool for full descriptions.)

E42: Tail Condition

E43: Electric Prod Use

E44: Cattle Exiting the Squeeze Chute

E45: Vocalizations during Handling

E46: Incidence of Cattle Running into Gates or Fences

E47: Incidence of Slips and Falls Score

E48: Lameness/ Locomotion Score

E49: Leg Condition Score

E50: Coat Condition

E51: Mud Score

T16: Space Allowance during Transport

During transport cattle, must have sufficient room per the FASS transportation space guidelines. Additional space must be provided to allow the cattle to spread apart during hot weather. Cattle must have sufficient head clearance to stand comfortably without touching the ceiling of the transport equipment. For partial loads, the transport vehicle must be sub-divided to account for the size of the group being transported.

T24: Slaughter

The American Humane Certified[™] program adheres to the **Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines and Audit Guide** published by the North American Meat Institute Foundation for humane slaughtering and processing practices.

Slaughter practices and facilities must be audited annually to demonstrate compliance with NAMI humane slaughtering and processing practices as part of this audit, unless audited by an outside audit group.

Pass/Fail Audit Items

The following items must be satisfied in order to pass the audit. Failure of these items will result in failure of the audit, and may result in the farm or ranch being suspended from the program.

P/F 1: No Instances of Willful Acts of Abuse

P/F 2: Body Condition Score

P/F 3: Lameness/ Locomotion Score

Audit Scoring

Score Process

There are 136 audit items for 1432 total points possible on the *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool for Beef Cattle*. 31 audit items, totaling 900 points, are related to Core Criteria items on this audit- these Core Criteria questions have score values of 25 or 50 points. In order for a farm to be certified by the *American Humane Certified™* program, each site must meet an audit score of 85% based on the score of Total Points Achieved versus Total Points Achievable score. Additionally, there are 3 Pass/Fail audit items. These three audit items MUST be addressed satisfactorily in order to pass the audit.

Since not every audit item may apply to every farm, some items will be considered Not Applicable (NA). It is necessary to remove these NA questions from the overall count. An example of this process has been provided below:

a.) Tot	al Points P	Possible	b.) Total NA's	c.) Adjusted Points Achievable	d.) Total Points Achieved	Overall Audit Percentage
Items	Value	Points	Example	Example	Example	
5 26 31 74	50 25 10 3	250 650 310 222	(core) (core) 1 @ 10 4 @ 3	250 650 300 210	250 650 290 201	
A.) Tot	al Points F	Possible =1432	B.) Total NA's	C.) Total Points	D.) Total Points Achieved =1391	D./C. = Overall Audit Percentage Example= 1391/1410=98%

- Step 1- Count the Total Points Possible for all items on the scored Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool.
- Step 2- Count the number of Total Not Applicable (NA) audit items. Subtract the Total NA's from the Total Points Possible for all items. This will give you the Adjusted Points Achievable for the audit.
- Step 3- Count up the Total Points Achieved in the audit. These are the audit items that were in conformance.
- Step 4- Divide the Total Points Achieved by the adjusted Total Points Achievable to find the Overall Audit Percentage.
 - Each site must have an Overall Audit Percentage of 85% or above and each of the Pass/Fail items must be addressed satisfactorily in order for a site to pass the audit.

Non-Conformances

All welfare issues identified with a loss of points during an audit are discussed in the exit interview by the auditor and will be described on the *Non-Conformance Report*. The *Non-Conformance Report* will list out the non-conformances found by the auditor and must be signed by both the manager and auditor. All corrective actions agreed upon at the exit interview must be corrected even if your farm receives certification.

Corrective Action Plan

A Corrective Action Plan is submitted online to American Humane within 10 days of the Non-Conformance Report date. The Corrective Action Plan describes the items identified through the audit process and the corrective actions that will be taken by the producer.

Corrective Action Completion

The Corrective Action Plan is completed within 90 days and a Corrective Action Completion form is submitted online with supporting documentation. Producers are subject to a re-audit at the discretion of the American Humane Certified™ program after plan completion. Variances are permitted through submission to the American Humane Certified™ program and upon approval. Producers are encouraged to report to the American Humane Certified™ program on their progress on corrective actions throughout the correction period.

Farms in the American Humane Certified™ program are expected to maintain high welfare standards throughout the term of their certification. If it is determined after an audit that a farm in the American Humane Certified™ program has fallen out of compliance, the farm is immediately suspended from the program. Suspended farms must verify correction of the non-conformances and pass a new audit before being reinstated. The American Humane Certified™ program reserves the right to perform spot checks at any time during the certification period.

American Humane Farm Program



American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool Beef Cattle

➤ Auditor note: the following information should be completed in full (unless N/A) and reported to the American Humane Certified™ program with submission of the audit.

AUDITOR:	AUDIT DATE: From:	То:	AUDIT SCORE:	
LICENSE HOLDER:				
PRODUCER:	LICENSE MANAGER:			
Address:	Address: Email:			
City:	City: Office #:			
State:	State: Cell #:			
ZIP:	Alt #:			
Country:	Fax #:			
AUDIT FARM LOCATION:				
AUDIT FARM:	FARM MANAGER:	STOCKPER	SON:	
Address:	Email:	E	mail:	
City:	Office #:	Off	ice #:	
State:	Cell #:	C	Cell #:	
ZIP:	Alt #:		Alt #:	
Country:	Fax #:	F	Fax #:	
CATTLE SUPPLIER: TRA	ANSPORTER:	PROCES	SOR:	
NAME:	NAME:	NAM	IE:	
Address:	Address:	Addres	ss:	
City:	City:	Ci	ty:	
State:	State:	Sta	te:	
ZIP:	ZIP:	Z	IP:	
Country:	Country:	Count	ry:	
Contact:	Contact:	Conta	ct:	
Contact #:	Contact #:	Contact	#:	

FARM DATA:

(Audited location only)

MAIN PREMISES SECONDARY PREMISES

(Only if applicable)

FOR SECONDARY PREMISES ONLY:

Type of Housing: Type of Housing: (barn / outside / both) (barn / outside / both)

Audited Housing Space (ft²): Audited Housing Space (ft²): (Only if applicable) (Only if applicable)

Audited Grazing Space (acres):

(Only if applicable)

Audited Grazing Space (acres):

(Only if applicable)

Calves Bought: Calves Bought:

Calves Sold: Calves Sold:

Stockers Bought: Stockers Bought:

Stockers Sold: Stockers Sold:

Finished Stock: Finished Stock:

For more locations, provide the same details as above for other sites on a separate attached piece of paper.

Name of Producer Group if under Forward Contract (OPTIONAL):

List of Quality Assurance Programs:

FOR MAIN PREMISES ONLY:

Audit Notes

- ➤ The American Humane Certified[™] standards are written to cover facilities in varying geographic and temperature regions and facilities utilizing different systems. Therefore, not all sections in these standards apply to every facility. Farmers must comply with any local, state or federal mandates for handling and processing Beef cattle that affect the environment or safety of their product.
- ➢ If an outside company is used for other processes such as marking/ identification or slaughter, documentation must be available showing that the individuals are properly trained in these areas. This can be accomplished through training documents and/or the Certificate of Conformances.
- If the auditor observes willful acts of abuse towards the animals during the course of the audit, s/he must suspend the audit and notify the manager, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. An investigation will be made to assess the incident and to determine whether remedial actions are required. If the incident is determined to be severe, the producer may be placed on probation from the program. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies which to the satisfaction of the American Humane Certified™ program affectively remedy the issue, and the site must pass a follow-up audit. (See also "Pass/Fail Auditor Observations" at the end of the audit.)

Office Records/ Management

A high degree of caring and responsible management and stockmanship is vital to ensure good animal welfare. Managers and stockman must be thoroughly trained, skilled, and competent in animal husbandry and welfare and must have a good working knowledge of their system and the livestock under their care.

The following records and documentation must be made available to the auditor at the time of the audit. These are to be maintained in the form of a Farm Manual. Ranches may use their own forms for records or they may use the template forms which are provided in Appendix A of the full **Animal Welfare Standards for Beef Cattle**.

Company Policy & Employee Code of Conduct

		Selection	Score
M 1	Company Policy The Company Policy must be available to all personnel, in their native language. Personnel must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, the Company Policy, which must include as a minimum: □ Emphasis of the company's commitment to providing an environment which promotes high standards of animal welfare; □ The implementation of a "zero-tolerance" policy which states that willful acts of abuse towards the animals will not be tolerated and, upon the discretion of the company, these actions are grounds for immediate dismissal. Acts of abuse include but are not limited to:	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25
M2	Employee Code of Conduct An Employee Code of Conduct must be available to all personnel, in their native language. Personnel must sign and date that they have been provided a copy of, and that they understand their responsibilities under, this Code of Conduct, which must include as a minimum: All personnel are expected to handle the cattle in a positive and compassionate manner at all times; Each worker has the responsibility for and is expected to contribute to upholding high standards of animal welfare at all times as they perform their own duties; In addition to the worker's assigned duties, each also must be cognizant that the basic requirements such as adequate feed, water, and environment must be provided to the cattle at all times, and a supervisor must be notified if any of these basic necessities are lacking; and All personnel have access to the Animal Welfare Incident Report or a similar company document or company protocol (such as an 800 number) for reporting incidences. Personnel must complete and submit this document or otherwise report whenever they observe incidences related to animal welfare that cause them concern.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25

Office Records & Documentation

М3	Records of Production Comprehensive production records must be available for at least one year in electronic, graphic, or tabular form for each species, recording performance parameters including but not limited to: ☐ Animal movement logs (incoming and outgoing stock); ☐ Numbers and ages (i.e. calf, heifer, etc.) of mortalities (with reasons stated, if known) and date; ☐ Numbers and ages of cull cattle (with reasons stated) and date; and ☐ Numbers and ages of downer cattle and date.	Yes No N/A	/10
M4	Site Checklists Records must be available for at least one year for each site with the following information for all cattle previously and currently maintained on that site: Numbers of calves bought and calves sold; Numbers of stockers bought and stockers sold; Numbers of finished stock; Total square feet of bedding / loafing area; Number of free-stalls or bedded (loafing) area; Total square feet available to livestock; Total grazing acres available where applicable; and Site capacity in relation to age, weight, feeding and drinking, and bedding space.	Yes No N/A	/10
M5	Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) SOPs must be available in regularly updated, comprehensive written instructions, in workers' native language, relating to daily, weekly, and monthly activities and procedures. Examples may include but are not limited to: O Protocols for routine inspections of animals; O Protocols for routine inspection, maintenance and cleaning of equipment; O Any biosecurity protocols (if applicable, e.g. maintaining fences, checking rodent bait, etc.); O SOPs for Calves & Weaning; O SOPs for Handling; O SOPs for Handling of Sick or Injured Animals; O SOPs for Identification; O SOPs for Identification; O SOPs for slaughter; and O Any additional procedures to maintain compliance with any applicable local, state, and federal regulations. Auditor note: mark "Yes" if SOPs for miscellaneous activities and procedures are available; mark "No" if they are not.	Yes No N/A	/10

М6	An Emergency Response Plan must be available at the main office. This plan must include: Contingency plans and precautions to cope with severe events/ emergencies in order to safeguard the welfare of the animals, and the procedures to be followed by responsible personnel in the event of severe events/ emergencies such as fire, floods, storms or other severe weather, interruption of power or water, interruption of supplies, etc. Procedures to ensure that responsible individuals (and alternates, if necessary) can be notified. This should include primary and alternate contact numbers for the individual(s) responsible for reacting to emergencies, i.e. stockpersons/ managers, family members, and/or owner as appropriate. Note: it is recommended to provide contact numbers for at least three responsible stockpersons and/or family members when possible, and a "telephone tree" to ensure that all responsible parties may be contacted if necessary.	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/10
	Note: The ERP should also include emergency contact information and numbers, i.e. site address and other relevant information, contacts for fire department, local utilities, etc.		
Nutrit	ion, Lighting, & Herd Health Plans		
	Nutrition Plan		
	A Nutrition Plan must be available at the main office. This plan includes:		
	Certification or proof that the diet has been developed in consultation with a qualified cattle nutritionist OR in consultation with the veterinarian or other qualified individual using commercially mixed feed.		
M 7	Demonstration that the diet conforms to the following requirements (such as a letter from the nutritionist/ other qualified individual or other evidence which confirms the following):		
	☐ The diets for each age group have been developed in accordance with the nutritional guidelines provided by the most recently published National Research Council (NRC) standards;	☐ Yes ☐ No	/10
	Feedstuffs do <u>not</u> contain ruminant-derived protein sources with the exception of milk and milk products;	□ N/A	
	☐ Growth hormones/ growth promoters including but not limited to beta agonists are not used as additives to the feed in the <u>stated</u> <u>formulation</u> for the <u>stated producer</u> ; and		
	In-feed antibiotics or anti-parasitic agents are not used in the <u>stated</u> <u>formulation</u> for the <u>stated producer</u> , except and unless for permitted therapeutic reasons as prescribed by the attending veterinarian and as documented in the Herd Health Plan.		

	The Nutrition Plan must also include:		
	Specifications for a diet that is adjusted as appropriate to the age and breed of the cattle in order to promote balanced nutrition. In all cases, nutritional maintenance through feeding of quality forage, mineral concentrates, etc. must be provided to maintain good health.		
М8	Cattle must not be maintained in an environment that is likely to predispose them to nutrient deficiency. Managers must be aware of any mineral deficiencies to correct these as appropriate.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
	Specification that changes in the type and quantity of feed must be introduced gradually in order to limit the risks of digestive problems such as acidosis.		
	Adult cattle must be provided with a supplemental source of fiber to promote rumination. The fiber must be of such quality and length as to stimulate rumination and help avoid acidosis by aiding in proper digestion.		
	The Nutrition Plan must also include:		
	Feed records that have been retained for at least one year, including:		
	Identification of feed mill and whether major or minor source of feed; and	☐ Yes	
М9	☐ Feed constituents/ feed concentrates (minerals/amino acids, etc.) used at each site.	□ No □ N/A	/3
	 A written record of the feed ingredients, and the inclusion rate of compound feeds and feed supplements; 		
	Records from the feed supplier with a statement of compliance that feed ingredients meet all FDA requirements for feed safety.		
	Lighting	☐ Yes	
M10	Adequate lighting, whether natural or artificial, fixed or portable, must be available to enable cattle and facilities/equipment to be thoroughly inspected at any time.	□ No □ N/A	/3

	Hord L	lealth Plan		
		en Herd Health Plan (HHP) must be available at the main office. This plan		
	must in			
		Certification or proof that the HHP has been developed in consultation with the herd veterinarian:		
		The herd veterinarian must sign and date the HHP; andThe HHP must be annually updated;		
		Records of vaccination protocols and any vaccinations;		
		Records of treatment protocols and any treatments, including:		
		Identification of the animal(s);		
		The type of treatment and reason for the treatment;		
		Dates of treatment;		
		The types/route of administration and quantities of medications used;		
		Details of the therapeutic use, defined as treatment, prevention and control,		
		as allowed by current laws, of any antibiotics (including ionophores),		
		antiparasitics, and antifungals, which includes the requirements that	Yes	
M11		antibiotics, antiparasitics, and antifungals must only be used therapeutically	No	/25
		as prescribed by the herd veterinarian;	N/A	
		Therapeutic use must be for individual animals OR for specific groups of		
		animals only when specified by the herd veterinarian through determination that the entire group is at high risk of contracting disease;		
		Therapeutic use is in conformance with the latest edition of the FDA		
		Judicious Use of Antimicrobials for Beef Cattle Veterinarians and		
		complies with withdrawal periods;		
		Records of any surgical procedures;		
		Tolerance levels for overall herd performance;		
		Causes of morbidity and mortality where known; and		
		Targets for other aspects of herd health.		
		Neither beta-agonists nor antibiotics (except ionophores) may be used to		
	_	increase feed efficiency or growth.		
	policy.	Treatment must never be withheld to maintain an antibiotic-free production Animals must be given appropriate treatment, including antibiotics, if		
	prescri	bed by the flock veterinarian, regardless of antibiotic-free production policy.		

	The He	rd Health Plan must also include:		
		Management plans for the prevention of physical maladies;		
		Although foot problems are rare in extensively raised beef cattle, attention		
		must be given to the condition of the feet of breeding cattle depending on		
		their pasture or pen conditions:		
		 If a problem is identified, a foot care plan must be implemented as 		
		specified in the HHP, using methods that are appropriate to the		
		condition or the animals and the individual farm,		
		Action plans for the mitigation/ prevention of recurring injuries to suggest that		
		there is a common cause and that is attributable to physical features of the		
		environment or handling procedure;		
		Practical measures that are in place to prevent or control external and internal parasitic infestations;		
		Procedures to be followed in the event of an outbreak of abnormal behavior,		
	_	including appropriate and immediate changes in the system of management.	Yes	
M12		If abnormal behavioral activities develop repeatedly and inhibit normal	No	/10
		functioning of the animal in any particular pen, a program of modification and	N/A	
		enrichment must be agreed upon together with the farm veterinarian. This		
		excludes the repeated rubbing of brushes designed for that purpose.		
		 For observation purposes the following possible repetitive abnormal 		
		behavioral patterns may include repeated rubbing in the absence of		
		disease, tongue rolling/aerophagia, bar biting/chewing, pica		
		(licking/chewing solid objects), eating soil/sand/dirt, navel sucking,		
		ear sucking, urine drinking, and/or persistent bellowing. Observations are made over an extended period of time.		
		 Excessive mounting within feedlots may be indicative of Buller Steer 		
		Syndrome (BSS). In this case the buller steer must be removed from		
		the pen. Although the precise cause of BSS is not known studies		
		indicate high stocking densities are a contributing factor; and		
		The program adopted and followed for the prevention and control of		
		organisms that cause food safety concerns.		
		erformance Parameters		
	–	Tolerance limits for herd performance must be established. The herd must		
		be continually monitored for herd performance parameters including: production diseases, infectious diseases, and injury as a result of housing/		
		husbandry/ and handling.		
		This includes, for example: metabolic disorders (hypocalcaemia,		
		hypomagnesaemia, ketosis, displaced abomasum, laminitis, bloat,		
		acidosis), septicemia, enteritis, problems at calving, repetitive		
		physical injury, respiratory diseases, body condition, and/or non-	Yes	
M13	_	ambulatory animals.	No	/10
141.10		The causes of morbidity and mortality where known and other aspects of	N/A	710
		herd health: all sudden deaths, disease outbreaks, and incidences where	14/7-4	
		cattle are humanely euthanized must be recorded and investigated in consultation with the herd veterinarian when necessary.		
		Where any herd performance parameter falls below the tolerance limits		
		established by the producer and the herd veterinarian in the Herd Health		
		Plan, or if the numbers of casualty or culled animals exceeds the parameters		
		in the HHP, the veterinarian must be informed and management practices		
		adjusted or a program of mitigation adopted until the problem has been		
		resolved.		

Biosecurity Plans

M14	Biosecurity Plan, Structural/Access The structural biosecurity plan must be available and include as a minimum the maintenance of perimeter fencing for the exclusion of other livestock. For off-range facilities, such as feedlots if applicable, structural biosecurity must include policies and procedures for the exclusion of unapproved visitors and the management of approved visitors.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
M15	Biosecurity Plan, Operational The operational biosecurity plan must be available and include as a minimum: Biosecurity precautions that are taken to prevent the introduction of disease when new animals are brought to the cow/calf operation. This should include control methods/ health certificates/ or quarantine of the new animals away from other cattle for 15 to 30 days or other time by instruction of the herd veterinarian: Managers must be provided appropriate treatment and vaccination records by vendors when new stock is brought onto the site, Isolation facilities must be provided to observe and test new animals before integration with the rest of the herd, and/or the new stock must be appropriately treated (for endo/ectoparasite control), and Hired bulls must only be used when no alternative is available. The hired bull must be screened for its potential disease status prior to its introduction; and Protocols to avoid cross-contamination (such as shovels not used for both manure and feed, etc.). For off-range facilities, such as feedlots if applicable, structural biosecurity must include policies and procedures which include but are not limited to: Maintenance of pest control methods and protocols such as baiting and trapping; Bulk feed and emergency water sources are covered and protected, and other potential attractants of pests, rodents, mold, etc. are removed; Facility/ equipment cleaning/sanitizing protocols and schedules; and (if applicable) restrictions on access of domestic or wild animals.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10
M16	Waste Disposal Plan Each location must maintain a Waste Disposal Plan which detail protocols for the safe and proper disposal of medical waste, sharps, carcasses, and other waste that poses a potential threat to animal and human health and safety.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10

SOPs for Calves & Weaning

М17	Colostrum for Calves For both heifer and bull calves: ☐ It is vital that each new-born calf receives adequate, quality colostrum (2-4 quarts) from its dam, from another fresh cow, or from a frozen or dried colostrum source as soon as possible after birth, and no later than within the first 6 to 8 hours of life. ☐ The frozen or dried colostrum source must supply a minimum of 100 grams of IgG per dose. ☐ Records must show that purchased calves have received colostrum as set out above.	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/25
M18	 Thermal Environment Proper precautions must be taken to prevent and manage hypothermia in young calves. While healthy young calves can tolerate low air temperatures, newborn animals, calves that have been transported or deprived of food, and sick calves are all particularly susceptible to hypothermia. ☐ Hypothermia and additional stress must be avoided in well-ventilated, unheated buildings by the use of thick, dry bedding and by preventing drafts. ☐ Sick individuals must be provided artificial heat if ambient conditions warrant. ☐ If calving on pasture, pastures must provide cows with a dry calving environment and access to natural or artificial shelter as weather conditions dictate. 	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/3
M19	Where there is a high risk of infectious disease, consideration must be given to the individual quarantining of calves for the initial rearing period up to as much as 5 weeks.	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/3
M20	 Weaning in Ranch Settings □ Calves must not be weaned earlier than 3 months of age. It is recommended that calves be allowed to suckle for up to 6 months of age. □ Calves must be weaned with consideration given to limiting stress on the animals, for example, by weaning them into a familiar environment, by using fenceline weaning and plastic nose tabs, and/or by mixing them with heifers during the weaning process. □ Calves must be weaned and vaccinated no sooner than 30-45 days prior to being transported. □ Freshly weaned calves must never be transported- the vocalizations of freshly weaned calves must never be heard in a transport environment. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25

SOPs for Handling

5 0. 5	101 Hallaning		
M21	Cattle must be handled quietly at all times, and efforts must be made to accustom/ familiarize the cattle to contact with stockpersons (handlers). At no time are the cattle to be yelled at or screamed at. Cattle must be handled with the least amount of force needed. In all cases care, must be taken to avoid unnecessary pain or distress.	Yes No N/A	/3
M22	Use of Handling Aids ☐ Sticks and flags must be used only as benign handling aids (i.e., as extensions of the arm). ☐ Sticks must not be used for hitting, beating, or poking the cattle. ☐ Electric prods must not be used except where animal and/or human safety is in jeopardy and it is the means of last resort. ☐ Electric prods must not be carried by stock-keepers as a matter of course. ☐ Handlers must use tails gently if necessary to direct the animal's movement. ➤ Note: See "P/F1" below also.	Yes No N/A	/25
M23	 Cattle must not be driven unless the exit or the way forward for the lead cow is clear. Cattle must not be rushed or run along alleyways, passageways, or through gateways. 	Yes No N/A	/3
M24	A cattle-handling unit must be available, comprised of a collecting system and a method of restraint, appropriate to the type, temperament, and numbers of stock to be managed.	Yes No N/A	/3
M25	Use of Restraints Cattle must not be closely restrained (i.e. tethered or stanchioned) except in the following circumstances, and then for not more than 4 hours. Cattle must not be deprived of water for more than 2 hours and sooner if the cattle are outside and/or if conditions are hot. Close restraint is permitted only for the following circumstances: o For the duration of any examination, routine test, blood sampling, veterinary treatment. o While they are being fed. For the purpose of marking, washing, or weighing. While facilities are being cleaned. During artificial insemination. During hoof-trimming. Awaiting loading for transportation.	Yes No N/A	/3
M26	 Immobilization of Cattle □ Tranquilizers (chemical immobilizations) may be used only when mechanical restraint is not an option (such as to immobilize an aggressive animal), and are only to be administered by the farm veterinarian and only at his or her discretion. □ Tranquilizers must not be used in any situation where the animal may injure itself, such as near open water, on steep slopes, etc. □ The animal must be closely monitored until it has recovered and is no longer at risk of injury to itself or from other individuals. □ Electric immobilization is not permitted for use under any situation. 	Yes No N/A	/3
M27	Use of Dogs Dogs, including working dogs, must be properly trained, must not cause injury or distress to cattle, and must be kept under control at all times.	Yes No N/A	/3

SOPs for Care & Handling of Sick or Injured Animals All efforts must be made to ensure the rapid diagnosis, immediate treatment, and optimized recovery for any sick or injured animal. ☐ If an animal does not respond to treatment, it must be humanely euthanized. ☐ Yes **M28** /3 ☐ If an animal is in severe, uncontrollable pain, it must be humanely and ☐ No immediately euthanized. □ N/A ☐ No live animal may leave the farm unless it can walk unassisted, except as noted below. Non-Ambulatory ("Downer") Cattle ☐ Care must be taken to avoid causing unnecessary pain or distress to a sick or injured animal that is unable to move. Moving by means that can cause further physical or psychological damage is prohibited. *Refer to the North* American Meat Institute guidelines for acceptable methods of moving nonambulatory cattle. Non-ambulatory animals (and ambulatory animals) must not be moved by hoisting by chain, dragging, or lifting without complete body supportdoing so is considered a willful act of abuse. See P/F1 also. The use of hip-lifters is permitted only for emergency, short-term assistance. Cattle must not be left unattended when hip-lifters are in use. Hind-leg hobbles ("splitters") may be used only when necessary to prevent cattle from becoming non-ambulatory. ☐ Yes Medical breakthroughs in the treatment of cattle have made it possible to assist **M29** No /50 downer cattle to regain health and productivity. N/A ☐ Where the farm veterinarian determines that a downer animal may be successfully moved with limited levels of pain and distress, and where the veterinarian determines that the downer is a good candidate for treatment, it may be humanely transported from the farm to a medical facility using approved methods. ☐ If the farm veterinarian determines that an animal cannot be successfully transported or treated, it must be euthanized humanely and immediately. ☐ The transportation, treatment or euthanasia of the animal must be documented in the health care records in the American Humane Certified™ Farm Manual. Refer to UC Davis "Care for the Downer Cow" for additional recommendations. Reference: Stull, Berry, Reynolds, and Payne. 2008. Care for the Downer Cow. (Small placard published by UC Davis.) Segregation and Care of Sick and Injured Animals Provisions must be made for the segregation and care of sick and injured animals. Any animal suffering from illness or injury must be segregated and treated without delay, and veterinary advice must be sought when needed. ☐ If the animal does not respond to treatment or is in severe pain or suffering, and the veterinarian determines that the animal is unlikely to recover, that animal must be euthanized humanely and immediately. ☐ Yes ☐ If used, hospital/ isolation pens must be maintained in a clean condition and **M30** 125 ☐ No be of a size which is appropriate for the age, size, and breed of the animal. N/A Animals in hospital pens must be able to stand up, turn around, lie down. rest, and groom themselves without hindrance. ☐ Water and feed must be readily accessible even to non-ambulatory animals. Urine and feces from hospital pens for sick and injured animals must be disposed without the risk of spreading infection to other stock. Pens must be constructed to facilitate effective cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and the possible removal of a carcass from the area.

SOPs for Identification

M31	Where neckbands, tail-bands, ear tags, leg-bands, or RFIDs are used for identification purposes, they must be fitted with care and adjusted as required to avoid unnecessary pain or distress (for example by being too tight, etc.)	Yes No N/A	/3
M32	Cattle marking must be performed by trained personnel quickly, expertly, and with the proper equipment in a manner that avoids unnecessary pain and distress. The following methods of identification are NOT permitted for use in cattle identification: Brands, jaw-brands, and ear-notching. Any surgical alterations for identification, such as ear-splitting, wattling (cutting strips of skin from the animal), etc. Livestock markers for the temporary marking of livestock (i.e., crayons, chalk, and paints) must be especially developed for that purpose and must be non-toxic. Method(s) of identification used.	Yes No N/A	/25

Records of Stockperson Training

The continuing education of personnel who have day-to-day contact with the cattle is one of the most important ways to ensure behaviors that support and promote animal welfare. It is important to have documentation confirming personnel training in aspects of herd welfare appropriate to the level of operation.

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	Training Documentation Note: applies to all training in this section "Records of Stockperson Training"		
М33	Stockpersons must be provided training at orientation, as well as yearly updates/ refresher courses (and opportunities for continuing education and professional development) and specialized training in aspects of animal welfare appropriate to the level of operation. For all training of personnel: ☐ Training must be presented in the workers' native language. ☐ Training may include company SOPs, videos, manuals, classroom settings, online instruction, etc. as appropriate. ☐ Training must include 'hand's on' experience and evaluations. ☐ Training must include review of the <i>American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards</i> . ☐ Training must clearly define what is expected of each stockperson so that each is fully aware of their duties and responsibilities. ☐ Training records must be signed by both the trainer and the trainee, and include the training topic and date of: orientation, yearly update/ refresher course, or specialized training.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10

	Training for All Stockpersons Prior to being given responsibility for the welfare of livestock, all stock persons must be properly trained. As a minimum, the training program for all stockpersons in direct contact with the animals must include the following topics:		
M34	□ Training and validation in the safe, correct and approved methods of cattle handling and use of cattle-handling units in a manner which minimizes unnecessary stress to the cattle, including: □ Understanding the behavioral characteristics of cattle and the likely stress factors that cattle may be subjected to, how cattle react towards other cattle, towards man, and to strange noises, sights, sounds, and smells; □ Using visual fields (i.e. cattle have a wide field of vision but have a blind spot behind them, which handlers should avoid entering) and flight zones (an imaginary area which if handlers enter will make the animal want to move away. Handlers control an animal's movement by understanding the flight zone); □ Lighting (as cattle prefer to move from the dark into the light); and □ When and how to use such things as sticks and other implements; Knowing the normal behavior of cattle and of the herd and to recognize the signs that indicate good health and welfare so that in the eventuality of an impending problem arising they are able to recognize it at the earliest stages; □ Recognizing readily apparent behavioral actions of the cattle which indicate an inability of the animals to thermo-regulate (such as heavy panting and head-bobbing) and the actions that must be taken to provide relief to the cattle, especially when immediate actions are required; □ Having a basic knowledge of what constitutes proper nutrition in cattle; □ Having knowledge of normal body conditions in cattle and the necessary steps to be taken if problems arise; □ Recognizing the signs of abnormal behavior and fear; □ Recognizing deviations from normal cattle activity; □ Understand the physical and environmental requirements for cattle throughout each season and especially during breeding, calving, weaning, etc.; □ Having a basic knowledge of the signs of common diseases, illnesses, and injuries and knowing when either direct action is required or when the responsible personnel must be notified; and □ Knowing the procedures to be f	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/10

M35	Specialized Training of Stockpersons Documentation must be available for the training of stockpersons who are responsible for performing specialized duties, with emphasis on animal welfare, minimizing pain and distress to the animals, and optimizing health. Specialized training includes but is not limited to: the specific training in routine monitoring of individual cattle health; recognizing unusual conditions or behaviors; recognizing signs for the early detection of injuries and lameness, sickness, and disease and the appropriate and timely remedial actions to be taken, either by the direct action of the stockperson or through the notification of the responsible personnel; specific training for personnel responsible for any equipment which impacts animal welfare, such as crowd gates, squeeze chutes, restraining equipment, downer handling equipment, etc., including: proper use of the equipment, performing routine maintenance to ensure that the equipment is kept in good working order, percognizing common signs of malfunction, and knowing actions to be carried out in the event of equipment failure; understanding the fundamental principles of cattle breeding and genetics; training in the processes during breeding, particularly the selection of suitable bulls, semen, and embryos for use in heifers; training in procedures for calving and the care of the newborn calf; training in the functional anatomy of the normal hoof, and its care and treatment; and training in the functional anatomy of the normal teat and udder.	Yes No N/A	/10
М36	Prior to performing procedures that have the potential to cause suffering (e.g. injections, oral-dosing, foot-trimming, disbudding/ dehorning, castration, identification, etc.), the stockperson must be able to demonstrate to the trainer that they are proficient in performing those procedures, with emphasis on animal welfare, minimizing pain and distress to the animals, and optimizing recovery. Further training includes but is not limited to: □ Specific training in recognizing cull and downer cattle, determining whether an animal needs to be euthanized and who is responsible for making the decision, and determining whether transport of downers is appropriate; □ specific training and certification of the approved stockpersons' proficiency in approved techniques for euthanasia; □ specific training and certification in approved husbandry procedures and protocols; and □ training in the proper methods of marking/ identifying cattle in a manner that	Yes No N/A	/10
M37	avoids unnecessary pain and distress. Training of Outside Workers Workers outside of the ranch's control, such as foot trimmers, transport companies, etc., must be familiar with and conform to all requirements in these standards related to their duties, including but not limited to approved handling and moving of cattle including downers, approved protocols for the transport of cattle, and performing their duties proficiently and in a manner that minimizes undue stress to the animals etc. Documentation must be available confirming the qualifications of any outside employees, such as training records, a Certificate of Conformance, etc.	Yes No N/A	/10

Inspections of Livestock

•	Daily inspections encompass the monitoring of animals' body condition and		
	feed/water consumption; signs of lameness; condition of the coat and leg; cleanliness of the animals; and any signs of disease. All cattle must be inspected		
	and monitored regularly to confirm animal health and for the early detection of		
	injuries and early signs lameness, sickness, and disease so that appropriate and		
	timely actions may be taken.		
M 38	timely actions may be taken. For indoor housing, managers must inspect their livestock including all facilities (i.e. calving areas, hospital pens, bull pens, etc.) at least daily. For open range or pasture, efforts must be made to track the location of the herd and check on its condition not less than once per week or more often during extreme weather, or as soon as possible after a severe weather event such as a blizzard. During calving, more frequent inspections must be performed, including inspections of heifers for signs of impending parturition. Weather conditions must be taken into account when determining frequency of monitoring during calving season, i.e. for inclement weather, rates of inspections must increase. It is recommended that first calf heifers be kept in separate pastures from the adult cow herd. Records must be kept on file for a minimum of one year of the following circumstances at a minimum: records of mortalities, including the date, the age of the animal and the cause if known; and records of culls, including the date, the age of the animal and the reason for culling. Carcasses must be removed away from live animals as soon as practical after discovery, and disposed of promptly thereafter. The stockperson performing the inspections must proceed in a careful, deliberate manner to avoid frightening the animals unnecessarily, and must follow a path that allows them to see each animal.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10
	During inspections or at any other time, if the stockperson observes any animal which appears to be behaving in an unusual manner, the stockperson must immediately notify the responsible personnel who will determine whether remedial actions are required.		

	Producer Observations and Scoring Records must be on file for a minimum of one year showing that properly trained farm personnel have performed the following health observations and scoring, at least monthly for feedlots and twice per year for ranches, and including but not limited to:		
M 39	 □ Body Condition Scoring; □ Cattle Exiting the Squeeze Chute; □ Vocalizations During Procedures; □ Slips and Falls Scoring; □ Lameness/ Locomotion Scoring; □ Leg Condition Scoring; □ Coat Condition Scoring; and □ Mud Scoring. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10
	These records must be filed as part of the Herd Health Plan. Where scoring falls outside of the acceptable limits noted in the Herd Performance Parameters, records must document the actions taken and that subsequent scoring was within acceptable limits.		
	Note: Specifications for sample size and performance criteria are listed in the 'Environment' section.		
	Auditor note: Where scores have been identified be outside of acceptable parameters, records must show that a program of corrective action was implemented and maintained until scores returned to acceptable levels.		
M40	When welfare issues are noted during inspections, i.e. when herd performance data are outside of the limits defined in the HHP, then the rate of inspections must be increased until parameters return to acceptable levels.	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/10

Inspections & Maintenance of Equipment

	• •		
M41	Equipment Inspections and Maintenance Stockpersons must inspect all equipment on which the livestock rely on a daily basis, such as water troughs and feeding facilities and whether the equipment is manual or automatic. Stockpersons must also perform routine, scheduled maintenance as defined in the SOPs. Where a defect is found (whether on inspection or at any other time): It must be rectified immediately; or If the defect cannot be rectified immediately, the stockperson must follow the measures as specified in the SOPs or take other actions in order to safeguard the animals from suffering unnecessary pain or distress as a result of the defect. These measures must be maintained until the defect has been rectified. Routine maintenance must be performed per the equipment manufacturer's recommendations.	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/3
M42	Inspections and Maintenance of Water Systems Water systems must be inspected and maintained daily to confirm that clean, fresh water is readily available to the cattle: Water availability must be checked daily; Water delivery must be monitored to make sure water is provided at all times; that is, the water delivery system must keep pace with the demand of the maximum number of cattle who are able to drink at the same time; All water sources must be checked for contaminants such as elevated levels of feed, algae, manure, nitrates, pathogens, etc.; and Samples of water must be taken and recorded periodically to ensure that water quality is acceptable for cattle. State or local water quality requirements must be followed.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
M43	Inspections and Maintenance of Water in Range/Pasture Conditions In addition to the above, where cattle are kept primarily on pasture: During the winter, the water source must be kept clear of ice; The area around the water troughs must be managed to avoid excessive wetting and, if necessary, water troughs must be placed on concrete aprons to limit mud or sodden ground; Periodic review of streams and ponds must be done and corrected where deemed incompatible with the animals' ability to stay hydrated; The potential contamination of rivers, ponds, or streams with cattle feces must be considered; and Local, state, and federal laws regarding cattle access to running or still water resources must be followed. Note: The type of terrain and the weather conditions will dictate where water resources must be located. Wherever possible, troughs and gateways must be sited away from the bottom of slopes and dips in the ground. This will ensure better drainage and will allow areas of deep mud to be avoided. If necessary, troughs should be placed on concrete aprons.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

M44	 Inspections and Maintenance of Auxiliary Power Supply: Where the cattle are dependent on either mechanical ventilation or electricity for water and feed: □ An auxiliary power supply (such as a standby generator), must be available and tested and maintained at least yearly or per manufacturer recommendations. □ The auxiliary power supply must have sufficient capacity to operate critical equipment such as fans, water pumps, and lights for at least 24 hours. ➤ Auditor note: An auxiliary power supply is not required on ranches where the cattle are not dependent on either mechanical ventilation or electricity for water and feed. For these settings only, this item should be marked "N/A." 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
M45	 Ventilation & Environmental Controls for Indoor Facilities 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10
M46	 Monitoring of Air Quality for Enclosed Environments Where cattle are housed in an enclosed environment: □ Ammonia levels, measured monthly at the height of the animals at multiple locations in the house, are ideally less than 10 ppm but in any case, must not exceed 25 parts per million. □ Inhalable dust must not exceed 10 mg/m³. □ If a monthly test result exceeds either limit, a program of mitigation must be adopted with records kept, and testing must be performed weekly until level return to acceptable limits. Note: Provisions must be made to ensure that aerial contaminants do not reach a level at which they are noticeable unpleasant to a human phaginary. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25
M47	 which they are noticeably unpleasant to a human observer. Inspections and Maintenance of Fencing All fencing must be regularly inspected and maintained and be free of sharp projections, protuberances, and other surfaces that may cause injury to the animals. Electric fences must be designed, installed, used, and maintained so that contact with them does not cause more than momentary discomfort to the cattle. 	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/3

SOPs for Husbandry and Other Procedures Note: All local and/or state regulations must be followed.

	Husbandry Procedures		
	Where necessary, producers must use only approved, humane husbandry procedures accepted by the American Humane Certified™ program. Husbandry procedures must be performed at the earliest possible age. These practices must not be performed on sick or injured animals. All of these practices must be performed by designated, trained and competent personnel or the herd veterinarian using appropriate, well-maintained equipment in a way which minimizes suffering and optimizes recovery.		
	Auditor note: Check only the boxes that are applicable:		
	Teat Removal:		
	 Removal of supernumerary teats is not permitted unless their presence interferes with the suckling of the regular teats. In these cases, removal of supernumerary teats must be performed within 4 months under local anesthesia. If removal of supernumerary teats is necessary for calves or heifers older than 4 months of age, the procedure must be performed under local anesthesia by a veterinarian. 		
	Note: The removal of supernumerary teats is a rare procedure for beef cattle.		
	Disbudding/Dehorning:		
M48	☐ The cautery paste method of disbudding is permissible for use only for calves less than 7 days of age.	Yes No	/25
	☐ The hot iron method of disbudding is permissible for use only for calves less than 30 days of age and must be performed under local anesthesia.	N/A	,_0
	After 30 days of age, if dehorning is determined to be necessary, the procedure must be performed by a veterinarian under local anesthesia, and the calves must be given NSAID treatment for post-procedure pain management. Efforts must be made to avoid dehorning older cattle unless they prove to be dangerous to herd-mates or human handlers.		
	Note: The use of polled breeds minimizes the need to disbud.		
	<u>Castration</u> :		
	☐ Castration must be performed at the earliest possible age. Castration through the application of a band (rubber ring) to restrict blood flow to the scrotum is permissible after 24 hours of age and up through 4 days of age.		
	Where this is not possible, after 24 hours of age and up to 2 months of age, castration through use of a Burdizzo clamp, or surgical castration performed by the veterinarian under anesthesia, are permissible.		
	☐ After 2 months of age, castration must be performed surgically by the veterinarian under local anesthesia with provisions made to control bleeding.		
	Surgical Procedures:		
	Surgical procedures such as Caesarian-sections must be performed by a qualified veterinarian.		
M49	Induction of parturition must not be used as a routine management procedure, but is only permissible per a veterinarian's recommendation.	Yes No N/A	/3
M50	Non-veterinarians performing per-rectum pregnancy detection must have received appropriate training.	Yes No N/A	/3
M51	Calving aids must only be used to assist a delivery and not to produce a calf as quickly as possible. Before any type of calving aid is used, the cow must be examined to ensure that the calf is of a size where natural delivery can be reasonably expected without causing undue pain and distress to either the dam or the offspring.	Yes No N/A	/3

Euthanasia PolicyThe Euthanasia Policy includes provisions for routine euthanasia (culls). Euthanasia and disposal of carcasses must be consistent with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

	Euthai	nasia Policy		
	A Euth	anasia Policy must be available which includes provisions for humane and		
	timely	euthanasia. This policy must include:		
		Only properly trained farm personnel or the herd veterinarian are to perform euthanasia. A trained handler should demonstrate proper use of the euthanasia equipment to the auditor. Training records which identify: the names of the stockpersons who have undergone training; the name of the trainer; the specific method(s) of euthanasia covered in the training; confirmation that the trainees' competence in performing the procedure was validated by the trainer, including proper techniques and proper use of any equipment; and the date(s) that the training occurred. Procedures stating that: If there is any doubt as to whether euthanasia is required: the veterinarian or properly trained personnel must be called at an early stage to advise whether treatment is possible; OR If the veterinarian or properly trained personnel determine that an animal is in severe, uncontrollable pain, then the animal must be		
		promptly and humanely euthanized to prevent further suffering. For euthanasia equipment: records showing that equipment has been		
	_	maintained per the manufacturer's recommendations and that it is stored	☐ Yes	
M52		securely, protected from the elements, and kept clean.	☐ No	/50
		The approved methods of euthanasia that are to be used for each age group of animals and under what circumstances. These methods must be approved by, and comply with, the latest edition of the American Veterinary Medical Association's AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia .	□ N/A	,,,,
		Procedures stating that the persons performing euthanasia must verify that each animal has been properly euthanized through the absence of: o Breathing for five minutes; o A heartbeat for five minutes; and/ or o A corneal reflex (a blinking reflex upon touching the eye)		
		Logs stating the reason for euthanasia, the date, the competent personnel performing the euthanasia, numbers of animals euthanized, and the procedure used.		
		Procedures for the prompt, proper disposal of carcasses, and records of the name of the outlet through which all such carcasses are disposed, unless carcasses are disposed of on-farm, in which case records are kept of the disposal method. Disposal must meet all state, local, and/or federal regulations.		
		g stated here is intended to discourage the prompt diagnosis and priate treatment of any ill or injured animal.		

On-Site/ Food & Water

Livestock must have freedom from hunger, thirst, and malnutrition by ready access to fresh water and a diet designed to maintain full health and promote a positive state of well-being. Feed and water must be distributed in such a way that livestock can eat and drink without undue competition.

Food

					Selection	Score
FW1	Note: health	Conditi All car whole to the reprod Cattle veterin Body period calvin At the above than 3		/50		
	<u> </u>	Score	Appearance	Condition		
		1	emaciated	skeletal		
	-	2	poor	very thin with bony protuberance		
	-	3	thin	thin fat cover cut off for certification, under fails		
	•	4	borderline	light fat cover over ribs, muster, hip		
		5	moderate	light fat cover over all body parts		
		6	good	medium fat cover		
		7	very good	frame fat cover is balanced		
		8	fat	fat deposits, tailhead, dewlap		
	L	9	obese	excessive fat deposits, tailhead, etc.		
	A	than 7	7 and compare t Po Po	all cattle and calves with BCS less than 3 or greater to the total number of cattle and calves. Bercentage of cattle and calves with BCS of 3 or above the cattle and calves with BCS of 7 or less. F 2" below also.	÷.	

FW2	Feeder Space ☐ Feed availability and feeder space must be provided such that cattle do not need to compete for food. See Supplement, Table 1 at the end of this audit tool for Feeder Space recommendations. ☐ Extra trough space must be made available if a restricted diet is applied.		Yes No N/A	/10
FW3	 Troughs must be kept clean and stale food removed on a daily basis. Automatic feeding equipment must be kept clean and free of stale feed and be maintained in good working order. All stored feed must be free of bird or rodent feces and vermin. 		Yes No N/A	/25
FW4	Non-feed items/products (such as herbi- and pesticides, chemicals, machinery oil, etc.) must not be stored in the feed mixing or ingredient and supplement storage areas.		Yes No N/A	/3
FW5	Control practices must be in place to minimize access to poisonous plants and unsuitable feedstuffs.		Yes No N/A	/3
Water				
FW6	Access to Water □ All cattle, including calves older than 1 day and cattle in confinement, must be provided with continuous access to an adequate supply of clean, fresh drinking water each day, except when otherwise required by the attending veterinarian. □ The availability of water, which includes the flow rate of the water delivery systems, must meet the demands of the herd: □ at least 10% of the herd must be able to drink at any one time; □ the line of animals waiting to drink at water stations must be no more than three animals deep; and □ water tanks, troughs, etc. must be full when not being used, and must not completely drain when cattle are drinking. □ Waterers must be placed at a height appropriate to the size and age of the cattle.		Yes No N/A	/50
FW7	For indoor housing: Cattle must have access to water at all times. All waterers must be kept clean, and watering equipment is designed, constructed, placed, and maintained so that contamination of the animals' water is minimized. Water troughs must not leak resulting in wetting/fouling of the bedded areas. The area surrounding water tanks, troughs, etc. should be on concrete where possible.		Yes No N/A	/3
FW8	When cattle are kept primarily on pasture: Clean, fresh water must always be available, and must meet the requirements for 'Access to Water' noted above. During winter, the water supply must be kept clear of ice. The area around the water troughs must be managed to avoid excessive wetting/ sodden ground and mud. Local, state, and federal laws regarding cattle access to running or still water resources must be followed. If necessary, water troughs should be placed on concrete aprons to limit mud or sodden ground.	000	Yes No N/A	/3
FW9	Emergency Water Supply Provisions must be in place to ensure an emergency supply of suitable drinking water in case normal supplies fail (e.g., due to freezing, drought, power failure, well malfunction, etc.) for at least 24 hours.		Yes No N/A	/10

On-Site/ Environment

The environment in which livestock are kept must take into account their welfare needs and provide the best husbandry approaches; must meet all industry standards and governmental regulations; must be designed to protect them from physical and thermal discomfort, fear, and distress; and must allow them to perform their natural behaviors. All equipment and fixtures must be selected, installed, and maintained to optimize the well-being of the cattle. The animals must be protected from pain, injury, and disease, and their environment must be conducive to good health.

Sites

		Selection	Score
E1	A copy of the current <i>American Humane Certified™ Animal Welfare Standards for Beef Cattle</i> must be available on-site as a reference for all stockpersons.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
E2	Biosecurity, Structural/Access Structural biosecurity must be demonstrated at a minimum through proper maintenance of perimeter fencing for the exclusion of other livestock. For off-range facilities such as feedlots, if applicable, structural biosecurity must be demonstrated by: Any physical methods (i.e. secured or restricted access to facilities, signs posted at facility entrances, etc.) for the exclusion of unapproved visitors; Signs posted at the facility which provide instructions and information for approved visitors regarding biosecurity procedures; and Logging of all approved visitors. Non-farm personnel are not permitted on the site except by approval from site managers, and unless appropriate precautions have been taken to prevent contamination between farms.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
E3	Biosecurity, Operational For off-range facilities such as feedlots, if applicable, operational biosecurity must be demonstrated at a minimum by: The maintenance of pest and predator control methods such as baiting and trapping; If appropriate, the protection of bulk feed and emergency water sources, and the removal of other potential attractants of pests, rodents, and predators; and Evidence that facility/ equipment cleaning protocols and schedules are being followed.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10
E4	Emergency Contact Information Emergency Contact Information, in worker's native language, must be available at the main office. This must include: □ Emergency contact information and numbers, i.e. fire department, local utilities, etc. and site address; □ Primary and alternate contact numbers for the notification of individual(s) responsible for reacting to emergencies, i.e. stockpersons/ managers, family members, and/or owner as appropriate. Note: it is recommended to provide contact numbers for at least three responsible farm workers and/or family members when possible, and a "telephone tree" to ensure that all responsible parties may be contacted if necessary; and □ Procedures to be followed by those discovering an emergency such as fire, floods, storms or other severe weather, interruption of power or water, etc., and contingency plans and precautions to cope with emergencies in order to safeguard the welfare of the animals.	☐ Yes☐ No☐ N/A	/3

Environmental Safety

	oninental calcty			
E 5	Environmental Safety There must be no physical features of the external or internal environment that cause recurring injuries to cattle. Injury is defined as damage severe enough for the formation of granular scar tissue that is to an extent significantly greater than would be caused by accidental bumps and scratches. Excessive occurrence of the following may be indicators of a poor environment: neck calluses; knee and/or hock swellings/calluses; teat/udder injuries; broken tails; hematomas; chronic scar tissue; soft hooves; inter-digital infections; laminitis; abscesses; and/or bruised soles. The interior of any building, including the floor and all internal fittings/surfaces to which livestock have access, must be designed, constructed, maintained, and regularly inspected to ensure that there are no sharp edges or protrusions likely to cause injury or distress to the animal. This includes the provisions of adequate and safe holding and handling facilities (whether indoors or outdoors) as well as to transportation vehicles. Particular attention must be paid to handling pens. Floors must be made of non-slip material or must be maintained to reduce the risk of slipping (sand, mats, or other materials are applied when necessary). Floors must not be so rough as to cause hoof damage. Lesions and wounds on animals along with lameness are indicators of building conditions which needs immediate remediation. See also "Lameness/Locomotion Score" below.		Yes No N/A	/25
E 6	Except where preservatives with an insecticidal role are used, cattle or calves must not come into contact with toxic fumes from chemicals.		Yes No N/A	/3
E 7	All electrical installations must be inaccessible to cattle, well-insulated, safeguarded from rodents, properly grounded, and regularly tested for stray voltage.		Yes No N/A	/3
E8	 Building alleyways, passages, or gateways must be maintained in order to prevent injury to the animals. Passages such as gates or alleys must be of such a design and width, and so constructed, to allow two animals to pass freely (except in chutes or races). Chutes and races must be designed to prevent balking and permit cattle to move smoothly through the system in a single line. Care must have been taken to minimize, and ideally exclude, the number of blind alleyways in the buildings, in order to avoid the incidences of bullying by dominant animals. 		Yes No N/A	/3
E 9	Internal surfaces of housing and pens must be made of materials which can readily be cleansed and disinfected or easily be replaced when necessary.		Yes No N/A	/3
E10	Where used, euthanasia equipment must show no obvious signs of neglect, i.e. rust, dirt and grime, and must be stored in a secure location protected from the elements.		Yes No N/A	/3

Auxiliary Power Supply Auxiliary Power Supply: Where cattle rely on mechanical ventilation or electricity for water or feed, an auxiliary power supply, such as a standby generator, must be available and functional. ☐ Yes Auditor note: a stockperson must demonstrate that the auxiliary power E11 ☐ No /10 supply is available and functional. □ N/A > Auditor note: An auxiliary power supply is not required on ranches or other settings where the cattle are not dependent on either mechanical ventilation or electricity for water and feed. For these settings only, this item should be marked "N/A." Thermal Environment & Ventilation ☐ The thermal environment within buildings which cattle are housed must not be so hot or so cold as to cause distress. Pasture or range conditions must allow cattle access to features that ☐ Yes allow relief during severe thermal swings. E12 /10 ☐ No When cattle are kept in partially roofed units they must be provided with □ N/A effective shelter from the wind and a dry, comfortable lying area. Auditor note: the cattle must not show signs of either heat or cold stress. For all cattle, an assessment of their surrounding environmental temperature ☐ Yes and air movement (draft) must be undertaken, taking into account breed E13 ☐ No /3 hardiness, age of stock, foreseeable climatic conditions, and natural □ N/A shelter/shade. ☐ Effective ventilation of buildings must be provided, permitting air movement at low velocity while avoiding drafts and ingress of rain and ☐ Building ventilation must achieve a relative humidity below 80% when ☐ Yes ambient conditions allow. E14 /10 ☐ No System must provide adequate ventilation to remove the moisture produced by the stock and to reduce the number of airborne pathogens □ N/A being passed from animal to animal. ☐ A professional must be consulted to determine adequacy of design and to rectify ventilation problems, including modifications to the ventilation rates and/or equipment. Where the automatic equipment includes a ventilation system, the system must ☐ Yes contain additional equipment or means of ventilation (whether automatic or not) E15 ☐ No which, in the event of such a failure of the ventilation system, will provide /3 adequate ventilation so as to prevent the livestock from suffering unnecessary □ N/A distress as a result of the failure. **Ammonia and Dust in Enclosed Environments** When cattle are kept in an enclosed environment, provisions must be made to ensure that aerial contaminants do not reach a level at which they are noticeably unpleasant to a human observer as specified by Environmental ☐ Yes Protection Agency and OSHA standards for particulates. Specifically, ammonia E16 No /25 levels measured by the auditor in enclosed locations must not exceed 25 ppm. □ N/A

Auditor note: for all enclosed locations, ammonia levels are to be measured at the height of the animals. List location and result of

ammonia test in the "Notes" below.

Lighting For fully enclosed housing, artificial lighting must be provided as needed to ☐ Yes supplement natural light. The daytime light levels must be bright enough to E17 ☐ No /3 allow facilities and animals to be inspected and workers to perform their duties □ N/A without additional portable lighting (such as a flashlight, portable lamp, etc.) ☐ Yes Adequate lighting, whether fixed or portable must be available to enable the E18 ☐ No /3 cattle to be thoroughly inspected at any time. □ N/A Lying Area/Space Allowances Lying Area ☐ Yes Cattle must have access at all times to a lying area which is well-drained or E19 /25 well- maintained with dry bedding, and which is of sufficient size to No accommodate all cattle lying down together in normal resting posture. For floor □ N/A or ground area and feeder space recommendations, see Supplement, Table 1. A building or pen must provide adequate space such that all cattle at all times have sufficient freedom of sideways movement to be able to groom themselves ☐ Yes E20 without difficulty, and sufficient room to lie down and freely stretch their limbs /10 No and to rise. For floor or ground area and feeder space recommendations see □ N/A Supplement, Table 1. Hard-surfaced pens must be made from materials that are impervious to water and urine. ☐ Surfaces must be slip resistant (grooved or scored) but not abrasive to cattle's feet. Diamond grooves are preferred with a depth X length of 0.5 inches x 4 inches. ☐ Yes E21 /3 ☐ Hard-surfaced pens used for resting, recovery, or calving must be No properly bedded with moisture-absorbent bedding or rubber mats. □ N/A Manure-handling systems must be considered when using hardsurfaced flooring systems. Acceptable hard floors include grooved or unfinished concrete, partial concrete slats, plastic covered expanded metal, or rubber mats. Open-housed growing cattle must be grouped according to size and ☐ Where cattle are maintained in feedlots, open feedlots must be sloped to promote proper drainage away from resting/loafing areas, water supply, feed troughs/bunks, and fence lines. ☐ All local, state, and federal environmental regulations must be adhered ☐ Yes ☐ The following slope and space allowances are typical of Midwest **E22** /10 No feedlots: □ N/A Slope (%) Space per Animal (ft²) 2% 400-800 ft² 2-4% 250-400 ft² 150-250 ft² 4% Note: space and slope will change with drier or wetter climates, the seasons, and different soil types. The space allowance for cattle housed in groups must be calculated in relation

☐ Yes

No

N/A

/3

to the whole environment, the age, sex, live weight, and behavioral needs of the stock, taking account of the presence or absence of horns and the size of

☐ Cattle must remain reasonably clean. (See E51 "Mud Score")

☐ Every animal must have sufficient access to water and feed, a resting

E23

the group.

area.

E24	 When loose-housed, polled and horned cattle must not be grouped together, except where a social group exists. Precautions must be taken to prevent injury when mixing cattle. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3		
E25	Special holding areas must be available for use during calving season, especially for first calf heifers or cows experiencing calving problems. Yes No No N/A				
E26	All cattle must have freedom of movement to be able to groom themselves without difficulty and must be provided sufficient room to lie down, stretch their limbs, and to rise.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3		
Calvir	ng Environment				
E27	Calving pens or lots must have a bedded resting area, of such a size and with close access to a means of restraint (e.g., chute, head gate) as to permit a person to safely attend the cows and their calves. Cows must have free access to water; and Cows that are ready to give birth must be kept separate from the rest of the herd and from other species of livestock.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10		
E28	The heating and ventilation of the building (including insulation) must ensure that the air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative humidity, and gas concentrations are kept within limits which are not harmful to calves. > Auditor note: This is confirmed by no evidence of condensation, no odor issues, and no visible dust.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10		
E29	The dimensions of holding areas or indoor accommodations must be in conformance with Supplement, Table 1.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3		
E30	Internal surfaces of indoor calving and hospital pens must be constructed of materials which can be easily cleaned.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3		
Bull P	Bull Pens				
E31	 □ Bull pens must be sited to allow the bull sight, sound, and odor of other cattle and general farm activity. □ Individual accommodation for an adult bull of average size must include a bedded sleeping area and loafing area as noted in the Supplement, Table 1 at the end of the audit tool. □ Bull pens must be safe for the stockpersons tending them. Adequate restraining facilities and an escape route for stockpersons must be provided. □ The service area must have a non-slip surface. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/10		

Handling & Treatment Facilities

E32	 All handling facilities such as veterinary facilities and loading ramps must have non-slip flooring and must be constructed of materials which are easily cleaned. Internal walls of hospital boxes must be smooth and impervious to water and must be made of materials that are easily cleaned. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
E33	Alleyways and Gates Alleyways and gates must be designed and operated so as not to impede the movement of cattle. Alleyways and gates must be free from protrusions or other hazards which have the potential to injure the animals. When operating gates and catches, effort must have been made to reduce excessive noise which may cause distress to the animals, and if necessary, noise reduction mechanisms have been fitted to gates. Gates must open and swing smoothly, and close securely.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
E34	 Squeeze Chutes ☐ Hydraulic or manual restraining (squeeze) chutes must be properly adjusted for the size of the cattle. ☐ Regular cleaning and maintenance of all working parts is imperative to proper working of the system and safety of the cattle and handlers. ☐ Hydraulic restraint systems must have their pressure relief valves adjusted to avoid excessive pressure applied to cattle during restraint: The pressure level setting of the squeeze chutes must be set so that it automatically stops squeezing before the animals show any signs of distress such as bellowing, straining, or difficulty breathing. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
E35	Loading Areas □ Loading facilities must provide a ramp of no more than 20% incline. □ Loading ramps and tail boards must be fitted with fences or rails to prevent the cattle from slipping and falling off. □ Ramps may be of concrete or earth and, where concrete, are fitted with appropriately designed and spaced foot cleats/ battens, stair-steps, or other flooring surface that prevents slipping. □ A loading bay and/or ramp must have been provided, and must be well lit to enable animals to walk straight into or out of the vehicle on a level or slight gradient. Note: It is generally recommended that solid sides are used in races, chutes, crowding pens, and loading ramps to avoid distraction and balking in cattle. Solid sides provide the greatest advantages where there are many distractions, such as vehicles, moving equipment, and people walking by.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

Wind Breaks, Sun Shade, & Sprinklers

E36	Cattle kept on pasture/ range grazing conditions must be provided with shelter, shade, and windbreaks to allow them the opportunity to thermo-regulate and to mitigate welfare risks in adverse weather. Shelter, shade, and windbreaks can be provided by geographical features such as well-drained hills and canyons, natural vegetation such as shrubs and tree belts, or manmade structures that are strategically placed to block prevailing winds.		Yes No N/A	/3
E37	All facilities must provide cattle with the opportunity to properly thermo-regulate. Cattle must be provided with adequate space to perform behavioral adjustments important to thermoregulation and have access to facilities or natural shelters or barriers. A one- or two-sided structure with a roof can provide shelter to cattle during periods of intense cold. Structures should be built with the open sides facing south or east (depending on prevailing winds) to maximize effects of solar radiation during the winter.	000	Yes No N/A	/3
E38	When cattle are kept confined in partially roofed units (open fronted shed, covered feeding areas, etc.) they must be provided with effective protection from the wind and a comfortable, dry lying area.		Yes No N/A	/3
E39	High Heat and Humidity Conditions Cattle must have the opportunity to thermoregulate. The combination of high temperature and humidity can contribute to heat stress. During hot weather, cattle must have access to heat abatement, which can include: Natural or artificial shade with space sufficient for all cattle, Access to buildings with space sufficient for all cattle, and Water cannons, sprinklers, or other similar devices. In all circumstances but especially in feedlots, cattle must be monitored for signs of heat stress, especially dark-colored and the heavier animals. When cattle show signs of moderate to severe heat stress, such as head bobbing or open-mouth panting, immediate remedial actions must be taken to provide relief. Also, see "Additional Considerations for Feedlots." Cattle not conditioned to extreme conditions may suffer heat stress and die. The provisions of shade can make a difference under extreme conditions. In the Southwest U.S., shades should be 12 to 14 ft. high and in the Eastern U.S. 7 to 9 ft. high. The amount of shade provided depends on the size and number of cattle. A rule of thumb for young stock is 7.5 to 13 ft² per animal and for adult cattle 19.4 to 27 ft² per animal. During periods of extreme heat the use of water can assist in preventing heat stress through evaporative cooling. Cattle can also be cooled by water cannon, sprinklers or other appropriate devices.		Yes No N/A	/25
E40	Winter/ Cold or Wet Conditions For winter/ cold or wet conditions, shelters and windbreaks must be provided to the cattle to mitigate wind chill and hypothermia and allow the cattle the opportunity to thermoregulate. Windbreaks can consist of natural tree belts, fences, or manmade structures that are strategically placed to block prevailing winds. Natural geographic features such as hills or canyons may be used in pasture range grazing conditions. Windbreaks are recommended in mounded south-sloping feedlots in the northern part of the U.S. A 10-ft. minimum is the recommended height and can cut wind speed by half for 150 ft. downwind, or a 13-ft. windbreak can cut the wind speed in half for 200 ft. downwind. Windbreaks can also serve as snow control during the winter months.		Yes No N/A	/10

	Addition	onal Considerations for Feedlots			
E41		Open dirt feedlots must be mounded to provide dry resting areas for cattle and must meet EPA Standards for control of dust.			
		During periods of prolonged wetness, mud must be managed so the depth of mud in the loafing area is not excessive or cause for difficult travel by cattle to and from feeding and watering areas. Mud over ankle depth must not be allowed to persist for long periods.			
		Cattle, especially dark and heavier animals, must be continuously monitored for signs of heat stress during period of extreme heat and humidity, and must be provided with immediate relief as needed. When cattle show signs of moderate to severe heat stress, such as head bobbing or open-mouth panting, immediate remedial actions must be taken to provide relief. Auditor note: Mud must not be deeper than the top of the hoof (or about 4 inches.) Auditor note: If any animals are displaying signs of moderate to severe heat stress, the manager must be notified and remedial actions must be taken immediately. Auditor note: The feedlot must be provided with adequate shade and shelter as noted in the rest of this section.	□ No	Yes No N/A	/10

Auditor Evaluations of Livestock

Auditor note: Unless noted otherwise, score all animals.

E42	Tail Condition No less than 98% of the cattle may have undamaged, unbroken tails. Broken tails sometimes result from accidents; however, cattle must not have damaged or broken tails that point to the use of excessive force by the handlers.	0	Yes No N/A	/25
E43	 Electric Prod Use ☐ Handlers must not carry electric prods as a matter of course, and electric prods must not be used in the crowd pen. ☐ 98% or more of the cattle must have been moved through the system without the handlers using an electric prod. ➢ Auditor Note: electric prods must only be used as a method of last resort when animal or handler health of safety is in jeopardy. ➢ Score one group as it is being moved. 	000	Yes No N/A	/25
E44	Cattle Exiting the Squeeze Chute Cattle must be exiting the chute calmly: 90% or more of the cattle must be observed to exit the chute at a walk or a trot. 98% or more of the cattle must not fall when exiting the squeeze chute. Note: The pressure level setting of the squeeze chutes must be set so that it automatically stops squeezing before the animals show any signs of distress such as bellowing, straining, or difficulty breathing. Note: Bars should not be closed against the animal's face. It should be possible to put fingers between the squeeze and the body. The animal should not be caught in the gate. Auditor Note: score one group of cattle as they are being moved through the squeeze chute. Score similar to a horse's gait for walks, trots, and runs. The animal is considered to 'fall' if its body touches the ground.		Yes No N/A	/25
E45	Auditor Note: electric prods must only be used as a method of last resort when animal or handler health of safety is in jeopardy. Score one group as it is being moved. Exiting the Squeeze Chute must be exiting the chute calmly: 1 90% or more of the cattle must be observed to exit the chute at a walk or a trot. 1 98% or more of the cattle must not fall when exiting the squeeze chute. The pressure level setting of the squeeze chutes must be set so that it adically stops squeezing before the animals show any signs of distress such as ing, straining, or difficulty breathing. Bars should not be closed against the animal's face. It should be possible to put is between the squeeze and the body. The animal should not be caught in the Auditor Note: score one group of cattle as they are being moved through the squeeze chute. Score similar to a horse's gait for walks, trots, and runs. The animal is considered to 'fall' if its body touches the ground. Izations During Handling No more than 3% of the cattle may vocalize within one second in direct response to being caught or upon entry to the squeeze chute or a restraining device. If more than 3% vocalize, the chute or restraining device must be adjusted lingly. This does not include vocalizations caused by a procedure, or actions in response to the animal being touched on the head or ear. Auditor Note: score one group of cattle as they are being moved through the squeeze chute or are being restrained. The presented that it as a mathod of the last resort walks or a method or animal being touched on the head or ear. Auditor Note: score one group of cattle as they are being moved through the squeeze chute or are being restrained.			
E46	Incidence of Cattle Running into Gates or Fences No more than 1% of the cattle are observed to run into gates or fences.		No	/25

E47	Incidence of Slips and Falls Score The incidences of slips and/or falls in traffic areas and handling area must be evaluated and scored per the method NAMI "Scoring of Slipping and Falling" (including the size of the sample set.) During handling in squeeze chute facility, loading trucks, or sorting: The incidence of falls (where the animal's body touches the ground) must not exceed 1%. The incidence of slips must not exceed 3% Auditor Note: score one group of cattle as they are being moved.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25
E48	Lameness/Locomotion Score Lameness/Locomotion Score must be scored for heavy, market-ready animals (cows and bulls): □ 95% of the herd must have a Lameness/Locomotion (L/L) Score 1 or 2 on a 5-point scale: 1. The animal walks with a normal gait. 2. The animal walks with normal gait but back is slightly arched. 3. A lame animal is still fully mobile and can keep up with the herd but is walking with obvious limp. 4. The animal is no longer able to keep up with the herd but is still mobile and walking with an obvious limp. 5. The animal walks with great difficulty and is not able to keep up with the herd. Note: Lameness/Locomotion Score is considered a Core Criterion as evidence of animal health. Unacceptable L/L may result in probation from the American Humane Certified program. See "P/F 3" below also. > Auditor note: Score all market-ready animals using sample with 95% confidence and 5% margin of error. —————————————————————————————————	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25
	"Keeping up with the herd" is assessed when the cattle are moved as a group from one location to another. Reference: Steven L. Berry, DVM, MPVM; Univ of Davis, CA, and Zinpro® Corporation 1997, in J Hulsen, Cow Signals		

	Leg Condition Score Leg Condition Score must be scored in confined feeding situations:		
	98% of the herd must have a Leg Condition Score of 0 or 1 on a 0 - 3-point scale:		
E49	 0 – No hair loss on hock 1 – Hock hair loss only 2 – Leg swelling but smaller than a baseball (cannot exceed 2% of the herd) 3 – Severe leg swelling larger than a baseball or open cuts with oozing (animals in this condition MUST be under the care of the herd veterinarian.) 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/25
	Cattle with leg conditions must be under treatment per the direction of the herd veterinarian in the Herd Health Plan.		
	> Auditor note: Score all cattle.		
	Reference: W.K. Fulwider, et al. Influence of Free-Stall Base on Tarsal Joint Lesions and Hygiene in Dairy Cows . Journal of Dairy Science, V.90 pp.3560-6.		
	Coat Condition 98% of the cattle must have no bald spots on their coat.	☐ Yes	
E50	Bald spots may be indicative of external parasites such as lice and ringworm. Affected animals must be treated without delay.	□ No □ N/A	/25
	Mud Score 90% of the cattle must have a Mud Score of 1 - 2 out of 4, scored using the Temple Grandin Cattle Mud Score for scoring:		
	 Clean animal with some mud on feet and ankles. Mud on legs above the knees. Sides and belly are clean. Belly of the animal has mud caked on it. Sides are clean. Belly and sides of the animal has mud caked on them. 		
F. 6.4	☐ 95% of calves must have a Mud Score of 1 - 2 using the same scoring.	☐ Yes	10 F
E51	Auditor note: Mud must be scored for all cattle and calves. Record all cattle and calves that do not have acceptable mud scores and compare to the total group size.	□ No □ N/A	/25
	Percentage of cattle with mud score of 1-2 out of 4. Percentage of calves with mud score of 1-2 out of 4.		
	Reference: Temple Grandin. 2011. Audit Form- Welfare of Cattle in Feedlots (Updated July 2011). Accessed December 12, 2011. http://www.grandin.com/beef.feedlot.welfare.form.html		

Transport

Auditor note: <u>This section must be scored for all audits</u>.

Transport SOPs

Animal transport systems must be designed and managed to ensure that animals are not caused unnecessary distress or discomfort. The transport of animals must be accomplished in the shortest time possible and handling must be kept to an absolute minimum. Personnel involved in transport, including outside employees, must be thoroughly trained and competent in their duties and must use appropriate equipment and vehicles.

Selection

Score

T1	All individuals involved in the handling and transport of cattle, including outside employees, must be trained and knowledgeable about cattle behavior and animal welfare and in the proper protocols for transport, i.e. the Transport SOPs. This must be demonstrated through Certificates of Conformance (COCs) and documentation of appropriate training.		Yes No N/A	/3
Т2	Transport SOPs The producer shall maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Transport. The Transport SOPs as a minimum must: □ address steps that are taken to protect the animals during periods of inclement weather; and □ outline protocols and contingency plans to be taken in the event of an emergency, such as vehicle break-down, accidents, road closures, etc.		Yes No N/A	/3
Т3	 □ All animals must be examined and shown to be fit and healthy for transport. □ The following animals must not be transported, except in emergencies or for approved medical treatment: Animals which are unable to walk unassisted or stand on all four limbs. Fatigued, sick, or injured animals unless approved by the veterinarian for movement to a treatment facility. Pregnant cows that are expected to give birth within 21 days (unless for short distances and where special consideration has been made). Unweaned and newly-weaned (within 10 days) calves and their dams. 	000	Yes No N/A	/3
T4	 Cattle must not be kept in holding areas for more than 12 hours prior to loading. Feed and water must be available up to 4 hours prior to loading. 		Yes No N/A	/3
Loadi	ng & Transport of Animals			
Т5	Stock-keepers must know the behavioral characteristics of animals and how to handle animals during loading and unloading, including: using visual fields (i.e. cattle have a wide field of vision but have a blind spot behind them, which handlers should avoid entering) and flight zones (an imaginary area which if handlers enter will make the animal want to move away. Handlers control an animal's movement by understanding the flight zone); lighting (as cattle prefer to move from the dark into the light); and when and how to use such things as sticks and other implements.	000	Yes No N/A	/3
Т6	Handlers must use only the minimal amount of force to maintain control of the animals and ensure the welfare of the animals and of the handlers. When the welfare of the handler or of the animals is in jeopardy, sticks or electric prods may be used on the hindquarters of animals capable of moving, and only on cattle over the age of six months. Electric immobilization is not permitted for any reason.		Yes No N/A	/3

Т7	Noise levels, sudden movements, and flashes of light must be minimized during loading and transport.	Yes No N/A	/3
Т8	Every effort must be made to ensure that journeys are completed without unnecessary delays, that drivers are familiar with the route and are aware of any potential traffic problems, and that they plan their journey accordingly.	Yes No N/A	/3
Т9	Cattle must be loaded and unloaded using suitable and adequately-sized ramps, bridges, gangways, or mechanical lifting gear, operated so as to prevent injury or unnecessary suffering to any animal.	Yes No N/A	/3
T10	Ramps, bridges, gangways, and loading platforms must have a fence or rail on each side that is of sufficient strength, length and height to prevent any animal from falling or escaping; and is positioned so that it will not result in injury.	Yes No N/A	/3
T11	Loading and transport equipment must be kept in good repair and is free of projections and gaps that are of a size whereby the animal could become trapped.	Yes No N/A	/3
T12	 The flooring of the loading and transport equipment must be constructed to prevent slipping. The incidences of slips and or falls that occur during the loading and unloading process must be recorded and scored. Where slips or falls occur in excess of 1%, measures must be taken to mitigate the problem. 	Yes No N/A	/3
T13	Animals which are ambulatory, that is, capable of walking unassisted, must not be suspended by mechanical means, nor lifted or dragged by the head, horns, legs, or tails.	Yes No N/A	/3
T14	Non-ambulatory animals: may be moved from the farm only if a veterinarian determines that the animal can be successfully treated at a medical facility; and must be moved or hoisted in containers or slings in which their bodies are fully supported and which cause no pain or distress to the animal.	Yes No N/A	/3
T15	The transportation of any animal to a facility for medical treatment must be documented in the health care records in the American Humane Certified™ Farm Manual.	Yes No N/A	/3
T16	 Space Allowance in Transport During transport: □ Cattle must have sufficient room for all individuals. Space per animal must be provided in conformance with the transportation space guidelines in the latest edition of the <i>FASS Ag Guide</i>. □ Additional space must be provided to allow the cattle to spread apart during hot weather. □ Cattle must have sufficient head clearance to stand comfortably without touching the ceiling of the transport equipment. □ For partial loads, the transport vehicle must be sub-divided to account for the size of the group being transported. References: Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS). 2010. Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching, 3rd Ed. Table 5-2, p. 53. NAMI Foundation. 2012. NAMI Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines & Audit Guide. 	Yes No N/A	/25
T17	Transport vehicles must provide adequate ventilation while avoiding drafts.	Yes No N/A	/3
T18	For transport during cold weather, cattle must be protected from drafts and the ingress of rain and snow.	Yes No N/A	/3

T19	For transport during hot weather: □ Where possible, animals must be transported at night or in the coolest part of the day. □ Animals must be protected from direct sunlight. □ The transport vehicle must be equipped with a means to provide effective ventilation. □ The transport vehicle must have air-conditioning and/or the animals must be regularly sprayed with water to help them keep cool. □ The transport vehicle must not be kept stationary or parked in the sun for long periods. If it is unavoidable for the transport vehicle to be kept stationary, care must be taken to park the vehicle in shade, and inspections of the cattle must be increased to ensure the animals are not showing signs of heat stress.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
T20	Cattle must be inspected immediately after loading and thereafter a minimum of every 4 hours, or more often during inclement weather. If any animal shows signs of distress including cold or heat stress, immediate remedial action must be taken.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
T21	If an animal goes down in transport and cannot be successfully treated, it must be humanely euthanized on the spot or upon arrival at a medical facility per American Humane Certified™ standards.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
T22	 Where mortalities during transport are traceable to a single cause, prompt action must be taken to prevent further deaths, injury, or suffering from occurring. Where high levels of transport mortality (in excess of 1%) from any single source in any three-month period occur, a veterinary investigation must be performed, mitigating actions taken, and the results reported to the American Humane Certified™ program. 	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3
T23	All loading and transport equipment must be cleaned and disinfected after the completion of transport.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/3

Slaughter

T24	The American Humane Certified™ program adheres to the Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines and Audit Guide published by the North American Meat Institute Foundation for humane slaughtering and processing practices. Slaughter practices and facilities must be audited annually to demonstrate compliance with NAMI humane slaughtering and processing practices as part of this audit, unless audited by an outside audit group. Where slaughter practices and facilities are audited for compliance to NAMI by an outside audit group, documentation must be available which: identifies the auditor and audit group, name and location of slaughter facilities, the date of the audit, and the results of the audit including any non-conformances, the corrective action that was taken, and the date of completion of the corrective action. Complete the following to confirm compliance with NAMI humane slaughtering and processing practices: Name of auditor and audit group: Name and location of slaughter facility: Name and location of slaughter facility: Results of audit: List all non-conformances, corrective actions, and corrective action completion dates: The NAMI guide is available at animalhandling.org.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A	/50
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Pass/Fail Auditor Evaluations

P/F1	No Instances of Willful Acts of Abuse Throughout the course of the audit, the auditor must not have observed any farm personnel committing willful acts of abuse, which include but are not limited to: □ beating the cattle or breaking tails; □ slamming gates on the cattle; □ using the any type of prod inappropriately (on sensitive areas of the animal); □ using the electric prod when neither the welfare of the animal or of the handler is in immediate jeopardy; □ using electronic immobilization for any reason; □ driving the animals atop one another; and □ goading or dragging a downer animal. ▶ Auditor note: this item has no point value: □ A mark of "Yes" indicates that the auditor did NOT observe willful acts of abuse by farm personnel towards the animals. □ A mark of "No" indicates that the auditor believes that willful acts of abuse towards the animals have been committed. The auditor must document the incident observed and s/he must inform farm management, their audit company, and the American Humane Certified™ program immediately. Upon the discretion of the American Humane Certified™ program, the audit may be suspended. See below. ▶ Willful acts of abuse are severe non-conformances and will not be tolerated. An investigation will be made to assess the incident and to determine whether remedial actions are required. The American Humane Certified™ program reserves the right to place the producer on probation from the program if the incident is determined to be severe. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies that to the satisfaction of the American Humane Certified™ program affectively remedy the issue, and the site must pass a follow-up audit prior to being reinstated in the program.	☐ Yes ☐ No	1-
P/F2	At a minimum, at least 98% of the herd MUST have a Body Condition Score (BCS) of 3 or above on a 9-point scale. See FW1: "Body Condition Score" above.	☐ Yes ☐ No	/-

P/F3	At a m Score	inimum, at least 95% of the herd MUST have a Lameness/ Locomotion (L/L) of 1 or 2 on a 5-point scale. See E48: "Lameness/ Locomotion Score" above. Auditor note: this item has no point value: Mark "Yes" to this item if 95% or more of the herd have an L/L of 1 or 2 on a 5-point scale. Mark "No" to this item if less than 95% of the herd have an L/L of 1 or 2 on a 5-point scale, and see below: It is a severe non-conformance for a cattle operation to maintain more than 5% of the herd with unacceptable L/L scores. If this occurs, an investigation will be made to access the circumstances for the low L/L scores and the corrective actions that the producer proposes to take. The American Humane Certified™ program reserves the right to place the producer on immediate probation, or in extreme cases, suspension from the program. Producers who are placed on probation must implement changes to the management, training, and company policies that to the satisfaction of the	Yes No	1-	
		corrective actions that the producer proposes to take. The American Humane Certified TM program reserves the right to place the producer on immediate probation, or in extreme cases, suspension from the program.			

Audit Completion

To be signed at the end of the on-site audit:

Information in the completed *Animal Welfare Standards Audit Tool* and attached *Non-Conformance Report* and Farm Manual documentation is complete, correct, and has been verified by the auditor. All

•	terview must be corrected even if the farm receives
Farm Owner/ Manager	Date
Auditor	Date

American Humane Certified™ Notification of Non-Conformance

certification.



Form to be filled out by Auditor and signed at the exit interview. One copy should be left with Producer and one copy should be retained for American Humane. Auditor: Producer Name: Building ID: Farm Name: On Farm Contacts: Manager Caregiver Others Cell Phone: Email: The following non-conformances were found during the American Humane Certified™ audit on . Within 10 days, you must submit a Corrective Action Plan that includes the corrective action to be taken, and the person responsible for the correction, and the date the correction will be completed. After correction, submit a Corrective Action Completion Report with supporting documentation to the American Humane Certified™ program. Documentation may include pictures, copies of daily reports, training records, veterinary health plan adjustments, etc. Producers/ managers are encouraged to submit progress reports as corrective actions are taken. All corrections must be made within 90 days and reports should be submitted electronically. Notes should include each non-conformance item (for example: FW3, H12) and details of infraction. Attach additional pages as needed. Auditor signature: Date: I, the undersigned, agree to submit a Corrective Action Plan within 10 days. All corrections will be made within 90 days. I will submit a Corrective Action Completion Report and agree to additional audits to maintain

Producer signature: ______ Date: _____

Supplement

Table 1. Floor or Ground Area and Feeder Space Recommendations for Cattle

						1
Area or space a, b, c	Calves (400 to 800 lb)	Finishing Cattle (800 to 1200 lb)	Bred heifers (800 lb)	Cows (1000 lb)	Cows (1300 lb)	Bulls (1500 lb)
	(ft ²)	(ft ²)	(ft ²)	(ft ²)	(ft ²)	(ft ²)
Floor or ground area						
Open lots (no barn)						
Unpaved lots with mound (includes mound space)	150-300	250-500	250-500	200-500	300-500	500
Mound space, 25% slope	20-25	30-35	30-35	40-45	40-45	50-60
Unpaved lot, 4-8% slope, no mound	300-600	400-800	400-800	350-800	350-800	800
Paved lot, 2-4% slope	40-50	50-60	50-60	60-75	60-75	100-125
Barns (unheated cold I	nousing)					
Open front with lot	15-20	20-25	20-25	20-25	25-30	40
Enclosed, bedded pack	20-25	30-35	30-35	35-40	40-50	45-50
Enclosed, slotted floor	12-18	18-25	18-25	20-25	22-28	30
	(in)	(in)	(in)	(in)	(in)	(in)
Feeder space when fe	d					
Once daily	18-22	22-26	22-26			
Twice daily	9-11	11-13	11-13			
Free choice grain	3-4	4-6	4-6			
Self-feed roughage	9-10	10-11	11-12			
Feeder space when fe	d					
Once daily, limited feed access				24-30	26-30	30-36
Twice daily, limited feed access				12-15	12-15	
High concentrate diet, ad libitum				5-6	5-6	
High forage diet, ad libitum				12-13	13-14	

^aPrimarily based on MWPS (1987) and adapted from *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching*, FASS (1999).

^b Values are on a per animal basis in a pen environment.

^c In favorable (e.g., dry) climates, area accommodations may be less than indicated in this table.