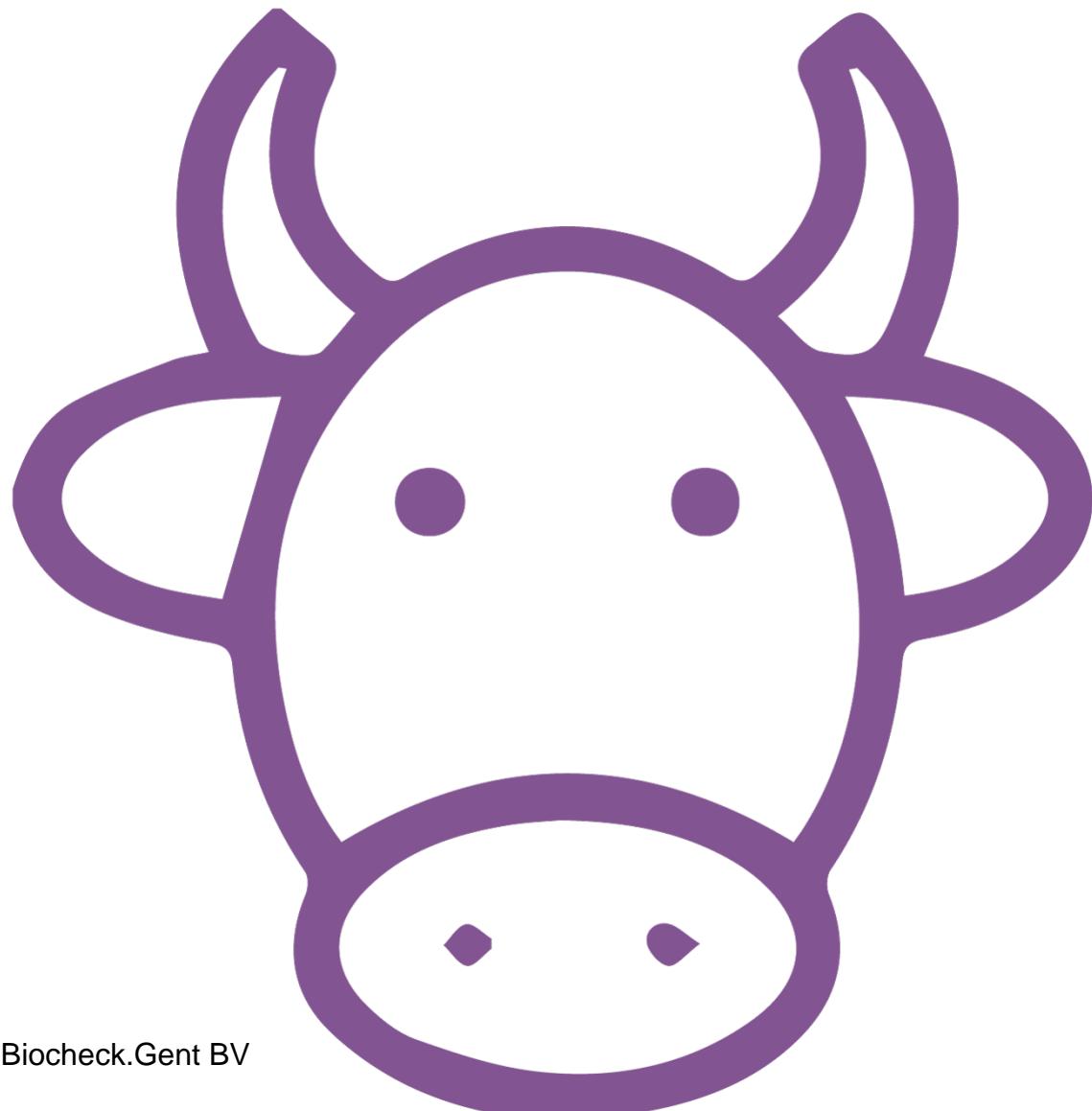


## **BIOCHECK CATTLE**

### **Dairy-source beef cattle production**



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## ~. Farm characteristics

I. How many years of experience in keeping cattle does the person in charge have?

.....

II. Who actively performs the farm work with the cattle?

*Employees are part of the permanent staff, whereas the contractors are temporary staff.*

*Check any that apply.*

- The farm/herd owner
- The family member(s)
- The employee(s)
- The contractor(s)

III. How many calves younger than three months are there on the farm? *(required)*

.....

IV. How many calves aged between three and six months are there on the farm? *(required)*

.....

V. How many calves older than six months are there on the farm? *(required)*

.....

## A. Purchase of animals

1. What is the duration of one production cycle (incl. the empty period) on your farm (in months)? (required)

*One production cycle is the period during which cattle are reared.*

.....

2. What is the maximum duration between the start and finalisation of filling one barn for one production cycle in weeks? (required)

*One barn equals one compartment in which the animals can't come into contact with animals from another compartment.*

.....

3. How many transports does it take on average to fill one compartment for one production cycle? (required)

*One compartment is equal to one unit in which the animals can't come into contact with animals from another compartment.*

.....

4. Where did you purchase your cattle in the last 2 years? (required)

*The same origin: the same farm of origin, where the cattle are born.*

Select one option.

- A single supplier who houses animals from the same origin
- A single supplier who houses animals from different origins
- From a veal company, salesperson, or through markets
- From multiple sources

5. Before the cattle arrive on your farm, is contact between them and animals from other farms possible (e.g. during transportation or holding)? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**6. When cattle are bought from another farm, is the supplier's health status known before purchase? (required)**

*A herd/flock with a known health status is a herd from which it is known if it is free from specific diseases or not. If the herd/flock is free from specific diseases, it guarantees that the products (animals) originating from this herd are also free of these diseases.*

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

**7. Are the cattle tested for specific diseases before being added to your herd (i.e. entry protocol or other tests for e.g. *Salmonella*)? (required)**

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

**8. Are all new cattle put into quarantine when arriving on the farm? (required)**

*Quarantine is a period and place in which you isolate/separate animals in an area physically separated from other animals already part of the farm herd/flock. A separate pasture can also act as a quarantine area.*

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never/no quarantine available

**9. Are the cattle separated into high- and low-risk groups based on a risk classification? (required)**

*Risk classification: e.g. housing calves of the same farms or of similar health statuses together.*

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

## B. Transport of animals and removal of deadstock

10. Do external transport vehicles and transporters have access to any of the animal holding areas and is direct contact with your animals possible when loading the animals (incl. pastures and open-air runs)? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

11. When cattle are delivered to the farm, are only the animals that are supposed to be delivered to your herd in the transport vehicle? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

12. Is the transport vehicle that picks up the cattle empty on arrival at the farm? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

*If "Sometimes" or "Never" is chosen, go to question 14.*

13. Is the transport vehicle on the inside always cleaned and disinfected before loading animals? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- It's cleaned and disinfected
- It's only cleaned
- No
- I don't know

14. Are cattle loaded from a separate loading area or directly from the barn/animal holding area? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Separate loading area with no direct air contact with animal compartments
- Separate loading area but air contact with animal compartments is possible
- Directly from the barn/animal holding area

*If "Directly from the animal holding area" is chosen, go to question 16.*

15. Is the loading area cleaned and disinfected after use? (required)

Select one option.

- It's cleaned and disinfected
- It's only cleaned
- No
- I don't know

16. Is it possible for the cattle to return to the barn/animal holding area (e.g. by walking back or by being placed back) after they have been in the transport vehicle? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

17. Is there a dedicated deadstock storage space? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No
- Not relevant, deadstock is immediately processed

If "No" or "Not relevant, deadstock is immediately processed" is chosen, go to question 20.

18. Is the deadstock storage space enclosed to prevent vermin, pets or wild animals from accessing the deadstock? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- Sometimes/partially
- No

19. Is the deadstock storage space cleaned and disinfected after each use? (required)

Select one option.

- It's cleaned and disinfected
- It's only cleaned
- No

20. What happens with the deadstock? (required)

Select one option.

- Deadstock is stored and collected by a rendering company
- Deadstock is buried
- Other

If "Deadstock is buried" or "Other" is chosen, go to question 22.

21. Can deadstock be collected by the rendering company without them entering the farm premises (e.g. along the public road)? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

22. Is deadstock manipulated with gloves, or are hands cleaned and disinfected after the manipulation of deadstock? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

23. Is all the material used for the manipulation of deadstock cleaned and disinfected after being used? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

## C. Feed and water

24. Are all feed storage facilities (e.g. ensilaged feed, feed mixer, concentrates, ...) protected from pets and vermin? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yes, from pets
- Yes, both from pets and vermin
- No

25. Are feeding utensils used for animal feed purposes only (i.e. there's no double use e.g. for manure)? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

26. How frequently is a bacteriological analysis of the animal drinking water performed? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yearly or more frequent
- Every two years
- Less frequent than every two years
- Never, I have a municipal water supply
- Never

*If "Never" or "Never, I have a municipal water supply" is chosen, go to question 28.*

27. At which location are the water samples for the bacteriological analyses taken? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- At the source
- At the last drinker
- Both at the source/storage tank and the last drinker (farthest away from the source)
- Other (e.g. drinker at the beginning of the line)

## D. Visitors and farmworkers

### 28. Does the farm follow a written biosecurity plan? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

### 29. Did the farmer and/or farmworkers receive training on biosecurity in the last five years? (required)

*Training can be a diploma, e-learning courses, workshops, or webinars. Internal personnel can also give training if they have received certified training on their end.*

*If you do not have any farmworkers, select answer option “Yes, both have received training on biosecurity” when the farmer has received training or select answer option “Neither of them has received training on biosecurity” when the farmer has not received training.*

Select one option.

- Both have received training on biosecurity
- Only one of them has received training on biosecurity
- Neither of them has received training on biosecurity

### 30. Are visitors obliged to notify their presence before entering the barn/shed (e.g. by signing a visitor's register)? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

### 31. Is there a separate space (e.g. a hygiene lock) available for changing footwear and clothes and washing hands/putting on gloves? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

### 32. Are there any farmworkers who also work at (or frequently visit) other ruminant farms? (required)

*Frequently: at least once a week.*

Select one option.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

33. Before being allowed to enter the farm, do **visitors and farmworkers** have to...? (required)

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Wear farm-specific clothes/bring clean clothes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wear farm-specific footwear/bring clean and disinfected footwear	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wash and disinfect their hands/use gloves	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

34. Before being allowed to enter the farm, do **work-related professionals** (e.g. veterinarian, hoof trimmer) have to...? (required)

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Wear farm-specific clothes/bring clean clothes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wear farm-specific footwear/bring clean and disinfected footwear/disposable overshoes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wash and disinfect their hands/use gloves	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean and disinfect their materials (select "Always" if not applicable)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## E. Vermin control and other animals

### 35. Is an insect control programme present on the farm? (required)

*Control programme: a regular protocol containing the control measures.*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

### 36. Is an effective pest control programme in place on the farm? (required)

*Select one option.*

- A professional pest control company is hired periodically
- The farm has established its own pest control programme
- Pest control is performed only if an infestation is noticed (e.g. via rodent trap)
- Cats are being used
- There is no pest control programme currently in place on the farm

### 37. Is a bird control programme present on the farm (e.g. netting, air inlets covered)? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- Partially
- No

### 38. Do your cattle have outdoor access? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 40.*

### 39. When your cattle go outdoors, do they have access to natural water bodies (e.g. brooks and ponds)? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

### 40. Is it possible for your cattle to come into direct contact with animals from other farms? (required)

*Direct contact: e.g. nose-nose contact with animals from the adjacent pasture.*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

41. Are there, besides your cattle, any other farm animals (cattle, poultry, pigs, llamas, ...) kept on your farm for farming purposes? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

42. Do pets (e.g. cats, shepherd dogs, ...) have access to the animal holding areas? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

43. Is manure from other farms being spread on farmlands within a 500-meter radius (0.3 miles) of your farm or pastures? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

## F. Disease management

44. Are sick cattle separated from the healthy cattle in e.g. a hospital pen? (required)

Select one option.

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

If "Never" is chosen, go to question 52.

45. Is equipment and material (e.g. buckets, thermometer, cleaning and feeding utensils, gastric tubes, ...) available specifically for the sick cattle in the hospital pen? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

If "No" is chosen, go to question 47.

46. Is this specific equipment always cleaned and disinfected before a new animal enters the hospital pen? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

47. Are the cattle in the hospital pen fully isolated from the rest of the herd? (required)

Full isolation: no direct or indirect contact is possible between the cattle in the hospital pen and other animals.

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

If "No" is chosen, go to question 49.

48. Before entering the hospital pen, do workers have to take the following measures? (required)

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Change into hospital pen-specific clothes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Change into hospital pen-specific footwear	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wash hands/use gloves	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

49. Is the hospital pen emptied of animals and bedding material after each use? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

If "No" is chosen, go to question 51.

50. Is the hospital pen ... before each new introduction of sick cattle? (required)

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Cleaned	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disinfected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dried	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

51. Are the sick cattle consistently handled/visited after the healthy cattle? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

52. Can a unit of sick cattle be completely separated from the other cattle in the event of a disease outbreak? (required)

Select one option.

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

53. Is a register with the animal health data being kept? (required)

Register: a (preferably electronic) document in which detailed information on health status, past illnesses and the treatments of the cattle are stored in an accessible way so that it can be used in decision-making for the sick cattle.

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

54. Are there written protocols for vaccination, disease treatment and hygiene procedures? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- Partially
- No

## 55. What happens to the disease carriers that are detected? (required)

*Disease carrier: an animal that has been infected for a period longer than 3 weeks and which therefore may spread the infection to other animals. E.g., Salmonella, Mycoplasma, BVD.*

*Delayed elimination: the animal is kept for a certain amount of time after diagnosis of a disease.*

*Check any that apply.*

- Removal from the herd (always)
- Removal from the herd (sometimes)
- Separation from healthy animals (always)
- Separation from healthy animals (sometimes)
- Nothing (always)
- Nothing (sometimes)
- Delayed elimination (always)
- Delayed elimination (sometimes)

## 56. Concerning the use of injection needles for treatments by the farmer/farmworkers, what is the strategy followed? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Single-use needles
- Reusable needles (separate per age group)
- Reusable needles (no separation per age group)
- Reusable needles that are disinfected in between groups

## G. Suckling calf management

57. Are milk-feeding buckets with multiple teats reused between calves during the same feeding session? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

58. Are the feeding buckets (incl. teats) cleaned after each feeding? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

59. How many calves (number of animals) are usually in one group pen? (required)

.....

60. Is the housing empty of animals and bedding material after each use? (required)

Select one option.

- Yes
- No

If "No" is chosen, go to question 62.

61. Is the housing ... before each new introduction of calves? (required)

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Cleaned	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disinfected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dried	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## H. Weaned calf management

62. How many weaned calves (number of animals) are usually in one group pen? *(required)*

.....

63. Is the housing empty of animals and bedding material after each use? *(required)*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 65.*

64. Is the housing ... before each new introduction of weaned calves? *(required)*

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Cleaned	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disinfected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dried	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## I. Adult cattle management

65. How often a year is the adult barn cleaned? *(required)*

.....

66. How often a year is the adult barn disinfected? *(required)*

.....

## J. Working organisation and equipment

### 67. Are the cattle grouped per age category in the barn? (required)

*E.g. grouping into animals less than 3 months old and over 3 months old.*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No
- N/A, there's only one age group present on the farm

*If "No" or "N/A, there's only one age group present on the farm" is chosen, go to question 73.*

### 68. Has a full separation (i.e. no direct or indirect contact) between age groups been established? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 70.*

### 69. Are ... between age groups? (required)

	Always	Sometimes	Never
Compartment-specific clothes worn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Compartment-specific footwear worn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hands washed/gloves worn	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 70. Is there clearly marked/identified and separate equipment (e.g. drinkers, feeders) available for each age group? (required)

*E.g. identification by different colours.*

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- Yes, but not marked/identified
- No

### 71. Are animals from different age groups mixed or regrouped (i.e. older animals into groups of younger animals)? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

72. Which working sequence is used by the farm workers in normal circumstances? (required)

*Select one option.*

- From youngest to oldest animals
- From oldest to youngest
- Another working sequence
- There is no working sequence
- There are separate workers for different age groups

73. Are the barns divided into compartments? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

*If "No" is chosen, go to question 75.*

74. What is the maximum age difference between cattle of the same compartment (in weeks)? (required)

.....

75. Is there any equipment shared with other farms that enter the barn and/or has contact with your cattle? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Yes
- No

*If "No" is chosen, go to the end of this survey.*

76. What measures do you take before this shared equipment enters your barn or comes into contact with your cattle? (required)

*Select one option.*

- Cleaning and disinfection of the equipment
- Only cleaning of the equipment
- None