

Rating Scale for Heifers Qualitative Behaviour Assessment

NAME of the observer:

Date:

Time of day:

Farm:

Breed:

Number of observation points	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Category of ages of the animals

Number of animals

Category of ages: 1= 0 to weaning (around 2 months); 2= from weaning to 6 mo.; 3= 6 to Breeding; 4= Breeding to Calving

Brief description of system and unit (e.g. indoor/outdoor areas, bedding, enrichment, lighting, feeding system, etc)

Number of the observation point	Short description
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

Please observe the animals in the unit for 10-20 minutes, and then assess their behavioural expression ('body language') by scoring the following terms:

Active Min. Max.

Relaxed Min. Max.

Uncomfortable Min. Max.

Min. Max.

Calm	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Content	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Tense	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Enjoying	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Indifferent	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Frustrated	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Friendly	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Bored	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Positively occupied	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Inquisitive	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Irritable	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Nervous	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Boisterous	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Uneasy	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Sociable	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Happy	_____	
	Min.	Max.
Distressed	_____	
	Min.	Max.