

# Manual for type classification of COWS

## Linear traits

18 linear traits are defined by the World Holstein Friesian Federation (WHFF).

These traits are scored on a scale from 1 to 9, except for Stature which is measured in centimeters. The scores for the linear traits describe how the cow looks. In some way the scores show a picture of the cow. The scores are not appraising the looks of the animal.

<b>1</b>	<b>ST - STATURE</b>
	Measured from top of the spine in between hips to ground.
<b>2</b>	<b>CW – CHEST WIDTH</b>
	The distance between the top of the front legs, measured from the inside of the legs.
	<i>narrow (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>wide (9)</i></span>
<b>3</b>	<b>BD – BODY DEPTH</b>
	Distance between the top of spine and bottom of barrel at last rib – the deepest point. Independent of stature.
	<i>shallow (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>deep (9)</i></span>
<b>4</b>	<b>AN - ANGULARITY</b>
	The spring and angle of the ribs.
	<i>coarse (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>open (9)</i></span>

<b>5</b>	<b>BC – BODY CONDITION</b>
	The covering of fat over the tail head and rump.
	<i>poor (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>fat (9)</i></span>

<b>6</b>	<b>RA – RUMP ANGLE</b>
	The angle of the rump structure from hooks (hips) to pins. Score 3 = level.
	<i>high (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><i>level (3)</i></span> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><i>sloped (9)</i></span>

<b>7</b>	<b>RW – RIMP WIDTH</b>
	The distance between the most posterior point of pin bones.
	<i>narrow (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>wide (9)</i></span>

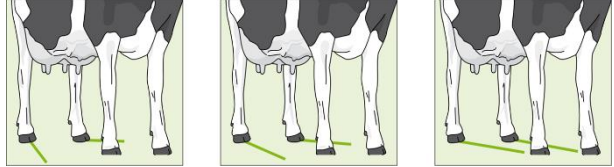
<b>8</b>	<b>RLRV – REAR LEGS REAR VIEW</b>
	Direction of the rear feet when view from the rear.
	<i>toe-out (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>parallel (9)</i></span>

<b>9</b>	<b>RLS – REAR LEGS SET</b>
	Angle measured at the front of the hock.
	<i>straight (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>sickled (9)</i></span>

<b>10</b>	<b>FA – FOOT ANGLE</b>
	Angle at the front of the rear hoof measured from the floor to the hairline at the right hoof.
	<i>low (1)</i> <span style="margin-left: 150px;"><i>steep (9)</i></span>

**11 LOC - LOCOMOTION**

The use of legs and feet, length and direction of the step.



poor (1)

excellent (9)

**12 FUA – FORE UDDER ATTACHMENT**

The strength of attachment of the fore udder to the abdominal wall.

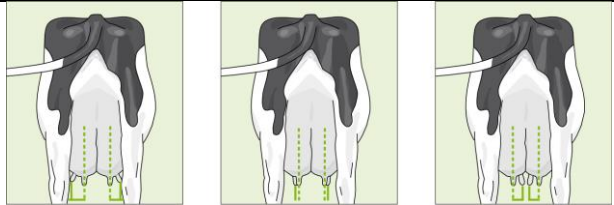


loose (1)

strong (9)

**13 FTP – FRONT TEAT POSITION**

The position of the front teat from centre of quarter as viewed from the rear.

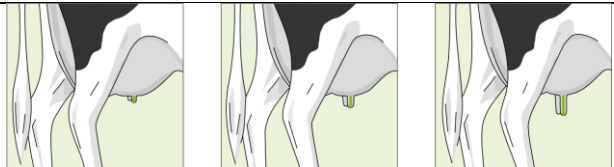


outside (1)

inside (9)

**14 TL – TEAT LENGTH**

The length of the front teat.

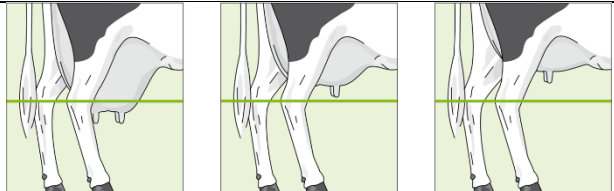


short (1)

long (9)

**15 UD – UDDER DEPTH**

The distance from the lowest part of the udder floor to the hock. Score 2 = level with the hock.

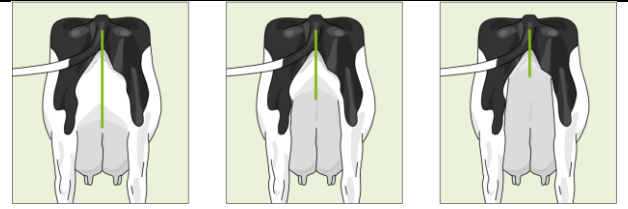


deep (1)

shallow (9)

**16 RUH – REAR UDDER HEIGHT**

The distance between the bottom of the vulva and the milk secreting tissue, in relation to the height of the animal.

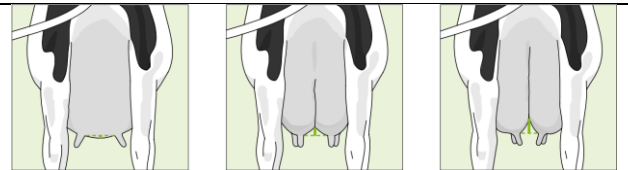


low (1)

high (9)

**17 CL – CENTRAL LIGAMENT**

The depth of cleft, measured at the base of the rear udder.



weak (1)

strong (9)

**18 RTP – REAR TEAT POSITION**

The position of the rear teat from center of quarter.



outside (1)

inside (9)

The ideal distribution of each trait look like:

