


The Humane Society Institute for Science and Policy
Animal Studies Repository

2009

The Welfare of Cows in the Dairy Industry

The Humane Society of the United States

Follow this and additional works at: http://animalstudiesrepository.org/hsus_reps_impacts_on_animals

 Part of the [Agribusiness Commons](#), [Animal Studies Commons](#), and the [Business Law, Public Responsibility, and Ethics Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

The Humane Society of the United States, "The Welfare of Cows in the Dairy Industry" (2009). *HSUS REPORTS*. 20.
http://animalstudiesrepository.org/hsus_reps_impacts_on_animals/20

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Humane Society Institute for Science and Policy. It has been accepted for inclusion by an authorized administrator of the Animal Studies Repository. For more information, please contact eyahner@humanesociety.org.



An HSUS Report: The Welfare of Cows in the Dairy Industry

Abstract

More than 9 million cows compose the U.S. dairy herd. Repeated reimpregnation, short calving intervals, overproduction of milk, restrictive housing systems, poor nutrition, and physical disorders impair the welfare of the animals in industrial dairy operations. Once their productivity wanes, the cows are often weak as a result of high metabolic output. Typically, these “spent” dairy cows are culled and processed as ground beef. In their fragile end-of-production state, handling, transport, and slaughter raise additional welfare concerns.

Introduction

In the United States in 2008, more than 9.3 million cows were used for milk production¹ and approximately 2.6 million dairy cows were slaughtered, composing 7.7% of all federally inspected commercial cattle slaughter.² From 1987 to 2007, the number of dairy operations declined by 69% and the number of cows decreased by 11%, while the average number of cows per facility increased by 183%.³ Milk production per cow has also increased significantly. On average, a U.S. dairy cow produced 9,193 kg (20,267 lb) of milk in 2007,⁴ more than double the per-cow milk yield in 1967⁵ and 47% more than the per-cow milk yield in 1987.⁶ Even though the number of cows in the dairy industry declined from 1987 to 2007, the total production of milk increased by 30%.⁷

In the U.S. industry, cows, overwhelmingly Holsteins,⁸ produce an average of 729 days of milk,⁹ which corresponds to 2.4 lactations, before they are considered “spent” and sent for slaughter at an average of less than 5 years of age. Cows can naturally live more than 20 years.¹⁰

Production Cycle

The milk production cycle of a dairy cow typically begins at approximately 25 months of age when, after a 9-month pregnancy, she gives birth to her first calf and commences lactation. Male offspring to dairy cows “are of little or no value to the dairy farmer,”¹¹ as they are unable to produce milk and are different breeds than those typically raised for beef. As such, a small number of male calves are used for breeding, and other male calves are commonly used for veal production.^{12*} In 2001, the average calving interval was 13 months, i.e., cows were reimpregnated 4 months after giving birth. A similar average was found for 2006.¹³ Milk production continues during the subsequent pregnancy, which places a heavy metabolic burden on these animals.

It is a general practice to “dry off,” or cease milking, dairy cows approximately 58 days prior to giving birth¹⁴ to enable cows to recover and prepare for birthing.¹⁵ The drying-off period starts with an abrupt cessation of milking, which can cause large quantities of milk to accumulate and lead to udder engorgement. Research has found that cows respond to increased pressure within their udders by reducing the time spent lying down, which is an indicator of discomfort.¹⁶

In order to quickly cease milk production, it has been recommended by some that producers restrict feed and water intake.¹⁷ However, abruptly restricting feed intake has been associated with an increase in cortisol, an

* For more information, see “An HSUS Report: The Welfare of Animals in the Veal Industry” at www.hsus.org/farm/resources/research/welfare/welfare_veal_calves.html.

important physiological indicator of stress,¹⁸ and, as water consumption is important for health and well-being, limiting access can impair welfare.

Reproduction and Breeding

In the 20th century, the selective breeding of dairy cattle has mainly focused on increasing milk production with insufficient attention paid to the improvement of traits important for health and welfare.^{19,20}

Fertility and Milk Production

There has been a gradual decline in dairy cow fertility in recent decades, as evidenced by an increase in the calving interval^{21,22} and a decline in conception rates.²³ This decline in fertility may be related to the massive increase in milk production. Cows with higher milk production may ovulate later than cows with lower milk yield²⁴ and be less likely to conceive.²⁵ This decline of fertility can be considered an indication of the health costs of the extremely high milk production of today's dairy cows. On U.S. dairy operations, 26.3% of cows slaughtered are culled for reproductive issues.²⁶

The overwhelming emphasis on artificial selection for milk yield while neglecting health traits has led to an unbalanced allocation of the cow's energy and resources to milk production. When a cow is genetically pre-programmed to put the majority of her metabolic energy into producing milk, she may be more susceptible to stress and disease.²⁷ A Colorado State University 2005-2006 investigation of 113 U.S. dairy facilities in 5 North Central and Northeastern states reported that some producers felt that "higher milk production had come at a great cost to the cows."²⁸

Inbreeding

The widespread use of breeding technologies has resulted in a relatively small pool of select bulls, resulting in a reduction of biodiversity and an increase in inbreeding. The percentage of inbreeding has increased from 0% in 1960 to 5.31% in 2007.²⁹ Inbred cows may suffer from an increased risk of mastitis,^{30,31} a potentially painful inflammation of the mammary gland (detailed below),³² and may have further diminished fertility.³³

Reproductive Techniques

The development of reproductive technology has evolved rapidly, and techniques such as artificial insemination, multiple ovulation embryo transfer, and *in vitro* fertilization (IVF) have become widespread. These techniques may be painful and cause distress in cows.³⁴

The British government's Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock states that embryo collection and transfer can only be performed if the cows receive appropriate anesthesia.³⁵ The Farm Animal Welfare Council, an independent advisory body established by the U.K. government, has expressed concern about these technologies and identified the use of fertility drugs and the repeated use of anesthetics as a welfare issue in itself.³⁶

IVF can result in "large offspring syndrome," which can cause suffering to both cow and calf. Because embryos produced by IVF develop faster than naturally conceived embryos,³⁷ the use of IVF may lead to calves with an increased birth weight and subsequently more difficulties during birth,^{38,39} as well as increased calf mortality and morbidity.^{40,41,42,43}

Electroejaculation of Bulls

In general, there are four techniques for collecting semen samples from breeder bulls: aspiration from the vagina of a recently bred cow, collection from an artificial vagina, collection by transrectal glandular massage, and electroejaculation.⁴⁴ Semen collection by electroejaculation, which has been found to be painful in humans,⁴⁵

involves the insertion of a device into the bull’s rectum that delivers an electric shock. Though more efficacious than transrectal massage or the use of an artificial vagina,⁴⁶ electroejaculation is associated with an increase in the stress hormone cortisol,^{47,48} and the strength of the muscular contractions induced by electroejaculation suggests that the bull experiences pain and distress.⁴⁹ Compared to controls, bulls subjected to this procedure vocalize more frequently,⁵⁰ which is considered an indicator of stress and pain.⁵¹

Housing Systems

In 2007, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released a report with findings from 17 of the country’s major dairy states, representing 79.5% of U.S. dairy operations and 82.5% of the country’s dairy cows.⁵² According to “Dairy 2007,” housing systems for lactating and dry cows are “somewhat determined by local climate” and are broken down as follows:

Housing Type	% Operations (by type of housing used for any length of time during 2006)		% Operations (by primary housing facility / outside area used during 2006)	
	Lactating Cows	Dry Cows	Lactating Cows	Dry Cows
Tie stall / stanchion	62.6	32.7	49.2	23.3
Freestall	41.1	30.9	32.6	22.8
Individual pen / hutch	3.2	4.4	0.1	1.0
Multiple animal inside area (also known as strawyards)	14.7	27.3	3.4	12.9
Drylot / multiple animal outside area	26.8	40.0	4.6	18.7
Pasture	49.4	60.1	9.9	20.5
Other	0.4	1.1	0.2	0.6

Data from: U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: Reference of Dairy Cattle Health and Management Practices in the United States, 2007. USDA-APHIS-VS, CEAH. Fort Collins, CO #N480.1007. http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_PtI.pdf. Accessed March 17, 2008.

As detailed above, the overwhelming majority of U.S. dairy operations confine lactating and dry cows in primarily indoor systems, with only 9.9% of operations primarily raising lactating cows on pasture.

Cows kept in tie-stalls, or stanchions, are individually tethered by the neck. Those reared in freestalls, or cubicles, are not restrained and are permitted to move within the barn. Individual lying places are available and separated from each other by metal bars. Most lying places measure between 2-2.4 m (2.2-2.6 yd) in length and 1-1.2 m (1.1-1.3 yd) in width,⁵³ and may or may not have bedding. Strawyards can be located indoors or outdoors and are usually slightly larger than a cubicle system. The yards typically provide bedding materials such as straw, but there are no individual lying places. Cows are not tethered or constrained and are free to walk within the yard.⁵⁴ Drylots are outdoors and consist of an unpaved area confining the animals.

Operation Types

According to the 2007 USDA report, the majority of operations (63.9%) were “conventional,” where the animals were fed harvested forage and may not have been allowed to graze, and the majority of cows (82.2%) were raised in these systems.⁵⁵ The larger the size of the operation, the less likely they were to incorporate grazing:

Operation Type	% Operations	% Cows	% Operations by Herd Size (# of Cows)		
			< 100	100-499	500+
Conventional	63.9	82.2	57.1	79.9	91.5
Grazing	3.1	1.7	3.5	2.0	1.0
Combination conventional and grazing	31.1	14.9	37.2	17.0	7.3
Organic	1.7	1.2	2.0	1.1	0.2
Other	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0

Data from: U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: Reference of Dairy Cattle Health and Management Practices in the United States, 2007. USDA-APHIS-VS, CEAH. Fort Collins, CO #N480.1007. http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_PtI.pdf. Accessed March 17, 2008.

Flooring and Bedding

In indoor systems, flooring is customarily concrete, as it is inexpensive and considered easy to clean.⁵⁶ However, it can cause problems for cows as it is hard, abrasive, and slippery when slicked with urine.^{57,58,59,60} Soft rubber flooring material has been shown to reduce slipping and improve ambulation compared to concrete floors.⁶¹

Provision of bedding materials improves the comfort, cleanliness, and welfare of dairy cows. The type of flooring and bedding should provide sufficient thermal insulation, a low risk of abrasion, and an appropriate degree of softness and friction.⁶² Because organic bedding material such as straw or wood shavings may act as a substrate for bacterial growth and increase the risk of mastitis,⁶³ the best bedding material is most likely a soft synthetic that provides comfort without increasing the risk of infection.

It has been shown that poor flooring and bedding can compromise the lying and resting behavior of cows. Reduced lying or resting has been associated with increased stress,^{64,65} reduced levels of growth hormones,⁶⁶ and changes in the frequency of behaviors such as eating, grooming, and idling,⁶⁷ and the development of hoof lesions that cause lameness.⁶⁸ A study in which cows' priorities were quantified found that lying is very important to cows and has a higher priority than eating or social contact.⁶⁹

Cows prefer to lie on soft surfaces rather than on hard ones,⁷⁰ favoring, for example, to lie on a wood chip pad rather than concrete or gravel.⁷¹ The total lying time may also improve when bedding materials such as sawdust are added to the mattresses in freestalls.⁷² In general, cows kept in cubicle housing systems may spend significantly less time lying than cows housed in strawyards, even if straw is provided in the cubicles.^{73,74}

Locomotion and Activity

Cows kept in tie-stalls are confined except when they are milked, severely limiting natural activities such as walking, exploratory behavior, and grooming and licking their hindquarters.^{75,76} Research has shown that tethered cows behave abnormally to compensate for their barren environment through oral manipulation of stall components, increased sniffing and licking of the equipment or the ground, increased sniffing of neighboring cows, and more leaning against equipment.⁷⁷ Allowing these cows just one hour of exercise daily improved the frequency of normal social, grooming, sniffing, and licking behavior.⁷⁸

A number of studies have also shown that cows are highly motivated to exercise. Compared to cows allowed regular exercise, cows who have been restricted from exercising exhibit increased play behavior when released into a paddock,⁷⁹ walk and trot more,⁸⁰ and show increased exploratory and self-grooming behavior.⁸¹ This indicates insufficient opportunities for exercise are provided in conventional intensive dairy cattle production systems.

Social Impacts

When provided more natural living conditions, cows form stable social relationships and seldom enter a different herd willingly.⁸² In production systems, however, young heifers are typically introduced into unfamiliar lactation groups, which may then be frequently reorganized according to lactation status or other factors.⁸³ This repeated regrouping has been associated with an increase in cortisol and may induce aggressive reactions. It is often assumed that cows adapt to repeated regroupings, but one research team found that even after cows had been regrouped 16 times, the frequency of aggressive behavior continued to increase and it took even longer to establish dominance relationships within the herd.⁸⁴

In freestalls, dry lots, and strawyards, the space allotted per cow is typically so restrictive that cows must crowd around lying places and feed bunks, which can cause problems for subordinate animals who face aggression from dominant individuals.⁸⁵ The lack of opportunity to avoid aggression can cause stress and frustration.^{86,87} Increasing the available space at the feed bunk and placing barriers to physically separate cows has been shown to reduce the number of aggressive interactions between cows and allow better access to feed.^{88,89}

Cows tethered in tie-stalls have few opportunities for social contact. The stress of physical restraint and social isolation can be measured by an increase in plasma cortisol⁹⁰ and may lead to a phenomenon called hypoalgesia,^{91,92} which is an increase in the pain threshold that has been observed in many species after exposure to stressful and painful experiences. It is thought to be a coping mechanism by which decreased sensitivity to pain may make animals better able to withstand aversive environments.⁹³

Physical Problems

Lameness

Lameness is one of the most serious welfare issues in the U.S. dairy industry. In 2006, producers self-reported that 14% of dairy cows suffered from clinical lameness,⁹⁴ though this is likely an underestimation.⁹⁵ Based on locomotion scoring studies of more than 9,000 dairy cows in Wisconsin⁹⁶ and Minnesota,⁹⁷ two of the top U.S. dairy-producing states,⁹⁸ the prevalence may be as high as 24.6%.⁹⁹ In a survey of the primary causes of cow deaths, lameness or injury ranked highest at 20%, followed by 16.5% due to mastitis and 15.2% as a result of calving problems; lameness was reported to be the third most common reason dairy cows are selected for removal and slaughter, after mastitis and calving problems.¹⁰⁰

Lameness causes pain and discomfort. Cows suffering from lameness develop hypoalgesia¹⁰¹ and alter their behavior in an attempt to relieve the pain by changes in body posture,¹⁰² reduced walking activity,¹⁰³ and more frequent shifts of their weight from one leg to the other.¹⁰⁴

Hoof lesions are a main cause of lameness¹⁰⁵ and have been associated with concrete flooring.¹⁰⁶ There are additional indications that rates of lameness increase with increasing milk yield.¹⁰⁷ Lameness has also been tied to insufficient physical activity. Studies have shown that increased exercise and access to pasture can improve cow gait and may have a positive effect on hoof health.^{108,109,110,111} Despite this, many dairy operations do not allow cows access to pasture or provide opportunities for daily exercise^{112,113}

Mastitis

Clinical mastitis is the most commonly reported health problem in the U.S. dairy industry, responsible for 16.5% of recorded deaths.¹¹⁴ The trauma caused by milking machines to teat tissues¹¹⁵ and genetic selection for extremely high milk yields^{116,117} have been identified as predisposing factors for this painful swelling of the cows' mammary glands.¹¹⁸

Most cases of mastitis are caused by infections by pathogenic bacteria^{119,120,121} introduced through the teat opening.¹²² Poor cubicle and cow cleanliness may therefore increase mastitis rates,^{123,124} whereas frequent bedding changes and milking parlor sanitation may reduce the risk. Reducing the stocking density of cows in

loose housing systems could also reduce the risk to mastitis by increasing hygiene and reducing the incidence of teat injuries.¹²⁵

Tail-Docking†

Tail-docking of dairy cows—the partial amputation of up to two-thirds of the tail—is a procedure typically performed without anesthetic and is accomplished by the application of a tight, rubber ring that restricts blood flow to the distal portion of the tail, which atrophies and detaches¹²⁶ or is removed with a sharp instrument.¹²⁷ Without a tail, the cow may suffer disproportionately from fly bites,^{128,129} and the pain from the remaining stump may become chronic, comparable to phantom pain in humans after limb amputation.¹³⁰

A USDA survey in 2001 found that 50.5% of U.S. dairy operations practiced tail-docking. Some dairy farmers tail-docked only a small percentage of their herd, but approximately 1 in 6 dairy producers docked the tails of 100% of the herd.¹³¹ The Colorado State University 2005-2006 survey of 113 dairy facilities reported that 82.3% of dairies surveyed practiced tail-docking.¹³² Arguments used in favor of tail-docking include improved udder and milk hygiene and cleaner milking parlors and holding areas,¹³³ but there is no scientific evidence supporting these claims.¹³⁴ The opinion of the American Veterinary Medical Association on tail-docking is that “routine tail docking provides no benefit to the animal, and that tail docking can lead to distress during fly seasons.”¹³⁵ Indeed, researchers from Colorado State University stated that “[t]he discomfort suffered by cows at the time of docking and throughout life as a result of not being able to swish flies is not reasonable, because the only benefit is to milkers in the milking parlor” and noted that some producers “had quit tail-docking due to difficulty defending the practice.”¹³⁶

Diet-Related Problems

On pasture, dairy cows graze throughout the day,¹³⁷ but in modern dairy production, cows may only be briefly fed once or twice daily.¹³⁸ There are indications that the duration of feeding time and the feeding behavior itself are important for the well-being of cows, as is the composition of feedstuffs.

Stereotypies

Research has found that the short duration of feeding in industrial production may lead to the development of oral stereotypies. Stereotypies are abnormal, repetitive behavior patterns with no obvious goal or function.¹³⁹ In cattle, these are characterized as repeated rolling of the tongue, bar biting, and licking of the stable equipment, which may be manifestations of the frustration associated with the deprivation of grazing behavior.¹⁴⁰ Even if the feed ration contains all required nutrients, the cow may still have a behavioral need to perform oral manipulation of the feed, as would be normal under natural conditions.¹⁴¹

Rumen Acidosis and Laminitis

As a result of genetic selection for high milk yields, cows used in today’s dairy industry are unable to acquire all of the necessary energy from forage alone to sustain their abnormally high milk production. As such, feed for industrially reared dairy cows has become very concentrated with energy-dense nutrients such as grains or slaughter waste. The diet of lactating cows consists of 30-60% feed concentrates.¹⁴² Daily, conventional dairy cows in the United States may eat 0.5 kg (1 lb) of meat and bone meal, which is composed of “trimmings that originate on the killing floor, inedible parts and organs, cleaned entrails, fetuses....”¹⁴³ However, cattle are naturally herbivores.

Abnormally concentrated diets result in the formation of organic acids,¹⁴⁴ which can lead to rumen acidosis in cows. A serious medical condition, rumen acidosis is the result of the inability of the cow to adapt to an

† For further information on tail docking in dairy cows, see “An HSUS Report: Welfare Issues with Tail Docking of Dairy Cows,” at http://www.humanesociety.org/farm/resources/research/practices/tail_docking_dairy_cows.html.

unnatural, high energy and low fiber diet and may result in a loss of body condition, reduced feed intake, and reduced rumen motility.¹⁴⁵ In severe cases, this abrupt dietary change can lead to such high acid levels that the natural rumen flora may be disrupted, which can lead to a spilling of toxins and excess acid into a cow's bloodstream causing shock or even death.^{146,147}

Another problem closely linked to the feeding of concentrates is laminitis,¹⁴⁸ a painful inflammation of the dermal layers inside the hoof which can lead to lameness.¹⁴⁹

Ketosis

According to John Webster, Emeritus Professor of Animal Husbandry at Bristol University, “[t]he amount of work done by the [dairy] cow in peak lactation is immense. To achieve a comparable high work rate a human would have to jog for about 6 hours a day, every day.”¹⁵⁰ This huge metabolic drain may leave cows in negative energy balance, unable to eat enough to keep up with calorie loss.¹⁵¹ Excessive mobilization of fat stores may lead to ketosis,¹⁵² which in serious cases can lead to signs of neurological dysfunction such as circling, excessive grooming, wandering, and excessive salivation.¹⁵³

Milk Fever

Another disease commonly afflicting high-producing cows is milk fever.¹⁵⁴ The sudden loss of calcium into the milk with the onset of lactation may not be able to be adequately compensated by dietary intake or from skeletal calcium reserves.¹⁵⁵ If this happens, there may not be enough calcium left in the cows' blood for proper nerve and muscle function, resulting in clinical milk fever.¹⁵⁶ Cows with this condition may be unable to stand and, when not treated in time, may lose consciousness to the point of coma.¹⁵⁷

Bovine Growth Hormone

Recombinant bovine somatotropin, rBST (also referred to as bovine growth hormone), is a genetically engineered hormone injected into dairy cows to increase milk yield.¹⁵⁸ In the 2005-2006 survey of 113 dairies in 5 U.S. states, 71.7% used rBST,¹⁵⁹ and of U.S. dairy operations with 500 or more cows, 42% use rBST. Overall, approximately one in six U.S. dairy cows are repeatedly injected with this growth hormone.¹⁶⁰ The use of rBST may have significant welfare repercussions, since unnaturally high milk yields are associated with poorer body condition and increased rates of mastitis, lameness, and reproductive problems.¹⁶¹

Diminished Body Condition

Colorado State University Professor of Animal Science Temple Grandin blames the “indiscriminant [*sic*] use of recombinant bovine somatotropin” and “genetic selection for increased milk production” as the two reasons body condition scores of dairy cows have declined.¹⁶² She reported that transport drivers with whom she spoke in California “pick up more cows in poor body condition from dairies that inject cattle with bovine somatotropin to increase milk production.”¹⁶³

Body condition is a term used to describe a cow's energy reserves, which, when excessively depleted, can have welfare implications.¹⁶⁴ For example, emaciated cows may be more likely to be injured during transport.¹⁶⁵ An expert panel formed by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) to review the use of rBST “concluded that using the nutritional management programs that are common on the majority of commercial dairy herds, it would be a challenge to maintain body condition in cows treated with rBST,” despite the fact that the studies they reviewed had “very good nutritional management.”¹⁶⁶

Elevated Risk of Mastitis, Lameness, and Other Problems

In their reviews of rBST, both the CVMA and the European Commission's Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare (SCAHAW) found that rBST use increases the risk of both mastitis and

lameness.^{167,168} rBST use may increase the frequency of clinical mastitis by approximately 25%¹⁶⁹ and prolong recovery. SCAHAW concludes that “BST causes a substantial increase in the risk of mastitis etc. on most farms and this risk, with associated poor welfare, would not occur if BST were not used.”¹⁷⁰

rBST use also increases lameness rates. One study found the risk of lameness approximately 50% higher for rBST-injected cows,¹⁷¹ while another found a 220% increase in foot problems with injected cows suffering twice as long. Given the pain associated with foot and leg problems, SCAHAW concluded that “welfare will be seriously and adversely affected as a consequence of the BST treatment”¹⁷² and the CVMA “did not feel that current dairy cattle management techniques would be able to control or eliminate the increased risk of lameness.”¹⁷³

rBST use may also introduce reproductive problems. Rates of pregnancy drop in rBST-injected cows, which may be a sign of how “severely affected by metabolic demands” cows are, and the frequency of multiple births increases substantially, which can lead to further welfare problems.¹⁷⁴ For the cow, these can include decreased reproductive capabilities and retained placenta, which may lead to metritis and even death.^{175,176} Calves born as twins can have reduced vitality and suffer higher mortalities than single born calves.¹⁷⁷ SCAHAW concludes its chapter on the effects of rBST on reproductive problems: “Failure to conceive is an indicator of poor welfare and multiple births lead to poor welfare.”¹⁷⁸

rBST may also lower the ability of cows to cope with heat, increasing the risk of heat stress, and cause severe swelling and chronic infections at the injection sites. In general, rBST-treated cows are culled at a higher rate than nontreated cows, which likely demonstrates poorer welfare overall.¹⁷⁹

Both the CVMA¹⁸⁰ and SCAHAW recommend against using rBST for welfare reasons. The SCAHAW concludes: “BST is causing poor welfare which would not occur if it were not used. The conclusion which should be drawn is that avoidable actions which result in poor welfare, such as BST usage, should not be permitted.”¹⁸¹

Nonambulatory Cows†

Nonambulatory cattle—referred to as “downers” by the industry—are animals who collapse for a variety of metabolic, infectious, toxic, and/or musculoskeletal reasons and are too sick or injured to rise. Data from federally inspected slaughter facilities estimate 1.1-1.5% of U.S. dairy cows go down every year, but this does not include those who collapse on-farm. A 2007 review of nonambulatory cattle suggests that the number of downed cattle in the United States each year may approach 500,000.¹⁸² It has been reported that dairy cows account for approximately 75% of downed cattle.¹⁸³

Prevention and Treatment

Since “[h]andling a downer dairy cow in a humane [manner] is almost impossible,”¹⁸⁴ writes Grandin, “[t]he best way to improve the welfare of nonambulatory (downer) cattle is to prevent them.”¹⁸⁵ As many as 90% of downed cattle cases may be preventable.¹⁸⁶

Grandin calls for dairy producers to cull cattle before they become physically unfit to survive transport and handling en route to slaughter^{187,188} and for the industry to breed cows for better foot and limb strength since “[t]here are disturbing signs that some dairy cattle breeders are selecting for milk production at the expense of their cows.”¹⁸⁹

Poor management and maintenance of dairy facilities also places cattle at increased risk for becoming nonambulatory.¹⁹⁰ Providing proper bedding, for example, is considered critical for downer prevention. As

† For additional information, see “An HSUS Report: Food Safety Concerns with the Slaughter of Downed Cattle” at <http://www.humanesociety.org/web-files/PDF/farm/hsus-food-safety-concerns-with-the-slaughter-of-downed-cattle.pdf>.

discussed above, smooth surfaces such as concrete can become slippery; however, according to Victor S. Cox and Ralph J. Farmsworth, both with the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine, "the best surfaces for cows are not easy to clean, and concrete, the easiest surface to clean, is hardest on cows."¹⁹¹ Unyielding surfaces like concrete also minimize chances of recovery by contributing to the pressure damage associated with immobility in such heavy animals; as a bedding material, concrete is considered "extremely dangerous."¹⁹²

When cows become nonambulatory, in conjunction with proper diagnosis and specific treatment, general management should include making the cow as comfortable as possible on a solid, non-slip surface, keeping the cow thermally protected, allowing constant access to food and water, turning the cow at least four times every 24 hours, and carefully attempting daily to raise the cow with a hip sling.¹⁹³ Nonambulatory cattle should be treated as medical emergencies, as prolonged recumbency itself can lead to muscle and nerve damage that may reduce the chance of recovery. Recovery may be unlikely for cows who have been nonambulatory for six or more hours.¹⁹⁴

If indeed their prognosis is poor or they appear to be in extreme discomfort, downed cattle should be immediately and humanely euthanized.¹⁹⁵ Methods deemed acceptable by dairy cattle experts—when performed properly by veterinarian or trained personnel—include captive bolt, gunshot, and euthanasia solution.¹⁹⁶

Diagnosis

Diagnosing nonambulatory cattle can be difficult because of the wide range of primary conditions and the secondary damage. However, it is noted that having a medical history and carefully examining the cow will help immensely and that one should look for signs of the previously mentioned conditions. Nonetheless, it is difficult to examine cows in recumbency.¹⁹⁷ A 2003 review echoes these thoughts, stating: "In the case of cows that have become recumbent through illness rather than accident, enquiries as to their stage of lactation, recent performance and appetite prior to falling ill are essential." The review further asserts that clinical examinations "should always be thorough" and that "a precise 'cow-side' diagnosis can, on occasions, be very difficult." The review concludes: "It should always be considered that two or more conditions may present simultaneously in a downer cow...."¹⁹⁸ Bovine veterinarian Jim Reynolds of the University of California's School of Veterinary Medicine reportedly agrees: "It is very, very difficult for a veterinarian to differentiate the many reasons a cow may be non-ambulatory."¹⁹⁹

Humane Handling Violations

In 1995, Grandin cautioned that "[o]ne emaciated, downed, suffering cow shown on television can cause more losses to the industry" than all other costs associated with carcass condemnation.²⁰⁰ Investigative efforts by the Humane Society of the United States²⁰¹ and others^{202,203,204} have found that nonambulatory cattle may be routinely beaten, dragged with chains, shocked with electric prods, and pushed by forklifts in efforts to move them at slaughter facilities, compounding the pain they may already suffer as a result of the injury or illness causing their immobility.

Citing "egregious violations of humane handling regulations" the USDA suspended inspection and federal food program eligibility for a major slaughter plant in 2008 as a result of one such investigation,²⁰⁵ which resulted in the largest beef recall in U.S. history.²⁰⁶ The investigative findings of downed dairy cow mistreatment and allegations of nonambulatory animals being slaughtered for human consumption also prompted congressional reaction,²⁰⁷ led to school districts temporarily pulling all beef from their menus,²⁰⁸ and placed the reliability of the U.S. meat inspection process in question.²⁰⁹

Handling and Transport

Rough handling is a major cause of stress, bruising, and injuries. Improving the training²¹⁰ and attitude of handlers towards cattle would improve welfare²¹¹ and make future handling easier, as cattle remember and respond to bad experiences.²¹² Sticks and electric prods should never be used to handle or move cattle.²¹³

Cattle may find transport to be threatening and unfamiliar, involving a series of stressful handling and confinement experiences. The animals face stressors from noise, motion, and potentially extreme temperatures and humidity. Unless transport is cautiously planned and executed, it may cause injury and even death.²¹⁴

During transport, unfamiliar groups of animals may be mixed, which can increase the risk of fighting and threatening behaviors,²¹⁵ cause stress, and lead to exhaustion.²¹⁶ Attempts should be made to keep familiar groups of cows together.²¹⁷

Food and water are typically withheld during transport, which can lead to weight loss and dehydration,²¹⁸ compounded by stress-provoked defecation and urination on the trucks.²¹⁹ Reviews of welfare during transport suggest that cattle may reach exhaustion after 15 hours²²⁰ and become significantly dehydrated after 24 hours.²²¹ Dairy cow mortality during transport has been associated with longer journeys and colder weather.²²²

In 2005, the 167 member countries of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) adopted animal transport standards,²²³ the first article of which reads: “The amount of time animals spend on a journey should be kept to the minimum.”²²⁴ This echoes the conclusions of the SCAHAW and the European Food Safety Authority that “journeys should be as short as possible.”^{225,226}

Potentially even more important than reducing transport duration may be the road quality and driver’s skill.^{227,228} Drivers can have an enormous impact on the welfare of the animals being transported.²²⁹ Cattle subjected to sudden braking and cornering cannot effectively brace themselves and may be thrown to the floor or into each other.^{230,231}

Lower stocking densities are preferable, as high stocking densities have been associated with reduced welfare. On overcrowded trucks, cows not only have an increased risk of falling, but may have more difficulty regaining a standing posture.²³²

Transport can also reduce welfare by affecting immune function^{233,234} and increasing the likelihood of disease. By the end of their journey to slaughter, cattle may be weakened, hurt, or diseased. Animals who have become injured, sick, or nonambulatory during transport should be given prompt medical attention or be immediately and humanely euthanized.²³⁵

Stunning and Slaughter

Virtually all dairy cows are ultimately slaughtered for human consumption in the United States.²³⁶ Millions of dairy cows enter the food chain as ground beef every year,²³⁷ accounting for at least 17% of the ground beef produced in the United States.²³⁸ Since the muscles of dairy cows have a lower fat content, they are commonly used in producing the more expensive “lean” hamburger.²³⁹

Grandin indicates that the five main causes of welfare problems during the time preceding slaughter are: poor condition of arriving animals, stressful handling methods, distractions that hinder movement, improperly trained employees, and poor maintenance of equipment.²⁴⁰

Pre-Slaughter Handling

Handling in the slaughter plant should be performed gently and carefully so that cows move as calmly as possible through holding pens, races, and into the kill box.^{241,242} In audits of slaughter facilities, Grandin found

that 98.2% of vocalizations were associated with four different adverse events: excessive electric prodding, slipping on the floor, too much pressure in restraining devices, and missed captive bolt stuns.²⁴³ Stress hormone levels can double or triple in cattle because of slipping on slick floors or being over-prodded.²⁴⁴ Cattle also find yelling by workers to be stressful and aversive.²⁴⁵

Slaughter plant workers need to be properly trained in humane handling techniques.^{246,247} Since the attitude of workers can become negative, Grandin recommends lowering slaughter line speeds and rotating employees through different jobs every few hours to so they “maintain a humane attitude.”²⁴⁸ Management must also maintain a culture of accountability. Over a period of 20 years, Grandin “observed that the single most important thing that determines how well animals will be treated is the attitude of management.”²⁴⁹ Slaughter plants with poor managers reportedly often have problems with animal abuse.²⁵⁰

Stunning

Stunning is performed before slaughter to render the animal insensible to pain.²⁵¹ Once unconscious, the cow should be slaughtered immediately to minimize the chance of her regaining consciousness.²⁵² Cattle are typically stunned with a captive bolt pistol or gun shot to the head.²⁵³

After a cow is stunned, she should immediately drop to the floor and, after 5-10 seconds, exhibit a flaccid head and neck, a lack of reflexes in and around the eye, and drooped ears.^{254,255,256} If the stunner is not positioned correctly, it may fail to render her unconscious. If she is not effectively stunned the first time, she may be more difficult to re-stun, so it is critical the stunner be positioned correctly, which may not be an easy task since the cow is likely to be moving.²⁵⁷ If the stun is not effective, the cow may vocalize, indicating that she may be in pain, or she may blink, indicating that she is still conscious.²⁵⁸

Improper maintenance of the equipment is a major problem that can lead to multiple shots and decrease welfare.²⁵⁹ For this reason, Grandin recommends that a second stunner be close at hand.²⁶⁰ Where line speeds are high, stunner operators can become overloaded and their stunning error rate may increase.²⁶¹

Slaughter

Exsanguination follows stunning. Cows should be stuck no longer than 15 seconds after stunning and bled to death quickly.²⁶² A thoracic stick (through her chest) is the recommended method since it avoids problems associated with severing arteries in her neck and causes blood loss that is “rapid and profuse.”²⁶³

Conclusion

There is a tremendous potential for increasing the welfare of cows in the dairy industry. Many of the housing problems can be prevented by increasing the available space, using appropriate bedding materials, and providing opportunities for exercise. Providing regular access to pasture and suitable high-fiber diets could help alleviate the health, stress, and behavioral problems associated with confinement and feed concentration. Genetic selection for health traits could also be used to reduce the incidence of production related diseases such as lameness and mastitis. On the way to their deaths, dairy cows should be transported and handled in a manner which minimizes stressors and proper stunning and rapid exsanguination should be ensured at slaughter.

¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2008. Milk cows and production. www.nass.usda.gov/QuickStats/indexbysubject.jsp?Pass_group=Livestock+%26+Animals. Accessed June 8, 2009.

² U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2009. Livestock slaughter: 2008 summary. <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/LiveSlauSu/LiveSlauSu-03-06-2009.pdf>. Accessed June 8, 2009.

-
- ³ U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2008. Quick stats, U.S. & all states data dairy, milk cows by size groups: operations. www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2008. Milk cows and production. www.nass.usda.gov/QuickStats/indexbysubject.jsp?Pass_group=Livestock+%26+Animals. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁵ U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2008. Quick stats, U.S. & all states data dairy, milk production, milk cows, milk per cow: annual. www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁶ U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2008. Quick stats, U.S. & all states data dairy, milk production, milk cows, milk per cow: annual. www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁷ U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2008. Quick stats, U.S. & all states data dairy, milk production, milk cows, milk per cow: annual. www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁸ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁹ Tsuruta S, Misztal I, and Lawlor TJ. 2005. Changing definition of productive life in U.S. Holsteins: effect on genetic correlations. *Journal of Dairy Science* 88(3):1156-65.
- ¹⁰ Dewey T and Ng J. 2001. *Bos taurus*. Animal Diversity Web. http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Bos_taurus.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service. 2006. Veal from farm to table. www.fsis.usda.gov/Fact_Sheets/Veal_from_Farm_to_Table/index.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹² U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service. 2006. Veal from farm to table. www.fsis.usda.gov/Fact_Sheets/Veal_from_Farm_to_Table/index.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹³ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁵ Capuco AV, Akers RM, and Smith JJ. 1997. Mammary growth in Holstein cows during the dry period: quantification of nucleic acids and histology. *Journal of Dairy Science* 80(3):477-87.
- ¹⁶ Leitner G, Jacoby S, Maltz E, and Silanikove N. 2007. Casein hydrolyzate intramammary treatment improves the comfort behavior of cows induced into dry-off. *Livestock Science* 110(3):292-7.
- ¹⁷ Waldner DN. 2007. Dry cow feeding and management. Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet F-4260. <http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-2035/ANSI-4260web.pdf>. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁸ Agenes S, Dahlborn K, and Holtenius K. 2003. Changes in metabolism and milk production during and after feed deprivation in primiparous cows selected for different milk fat content. *Livestock Production Science* 83(2-3):153-64.
- ¹⁹ Hansen LB. 2000. Consequences of selection for milk yield from a geneticist's viewpoint. *Journal of Dairy Science* 83(5):1145-50.
- ²⁰ Weigel KA. 2006. Prospects for improving reproductive performance through genetic selection. *Animal Reproduction Science* 96(3-4):323-30.
- ²¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²² U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. 2002. Dairy 2002. Part II: changes in the United States dairy industry, 1991-2002. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy02/Dairy02Part2.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.

-
- ²³ Lucy MC. 2001. Reproductive loss in high-producing dairy cattle: where will it end? *Journal of Dairy Science* 84(6):1277-93.
- ²⁴ Westwood CT, Lean IJ, and Garvin JK. 2002. Factors influencing fertility of Holstein dairy cows: a multivariate description. *Journal of Dairy Science* 85(12):3225-37.
- ²⁵ Lean IJ, Galland JC, and Scott JL. 1989. Relationships between fertility, peak milk yields and lactational persistency in dairy cows. *Theriogenology* 31(5):1093-103.
- ²⁶ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁷ Rauw WM, Kanis E, Noordhuizen-Stassen EN, and Grommers FJ. 1998. Undesirable side effects of selection for high production efficiency in farm animals: a review. *Livestock Production Science* 56(1):15-33.
- ²⁸ Fulwider WK, Grandin T, Rollin BE, Engle TE, Dalsted NL, and Lamm WD. 2008. Survey of dairy management practices on one hundred thirteen North Central and Northeastern United States dairies. *Journal of Dairy Science* 91(4):1686-92.
- ²⁹ U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service. 2008. Trend in inbreeding coefficients for Holstein or Red & White. <http://aipl.arsusda.gov/eval/summary/inbrd.cfm>. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ³⁰ Croquet C, Mayeres P, Gillon A, Vanderick S, and Gengler N. 2006. Inbreeding depression for global and partial economic indexes, production, type, and functional traits. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(6):2257-67.
- ³¹ Sandoe P, Nielsen BL, Christensen LG, and Sorensen P. 1999. Staying good while playing god-the ethics of breeding farm animals. *Animal Welfare* 8(4):313-28.
- ³² Bradley A. 2002. Bovine mastitis: an evolving disease. *Veterinary Journal* 164(2):116-28.
- ³³ Hermas SA, Young CW, and Rust JW. 1987. Effects of mild inbreeding on productive and reproductive performance of Guernsey cattle. *Journal of Dairy Science* 70(3):712-5.
- ³⁴ Farm Animal Welfare Council. 1997. Report of the welfare of dairy cattle: embryo transfer. www.fawc.org.uk/reports/dairycow/dcowr048.htm. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ³⁵ Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. 2003. Code of recommendations for the welfare of livestock: cattle. www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare/farmed/cattle/booklets/cattcode.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ³⁶ Farm Animal Welfare Council. 1997. Report of the welfare of dairy cattle: embryo transfer. www.fawc.org.uk/reports/dairycow/dcowr048.htm. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ³⁷ Thompson JG. 1997. Comparison between in vivo-derived and in vitro-produced pre-elongation embryos from domestic ruminants. *Reproduction, Fertility and Development* 9(3):341-54.
- ³⁸ Behboodi E, Anderson GB, BonDurant RH, et al. 1995. Birth of large calves that developed from in vitro-derived bovine embryos. *Theriogenology* 44(2):227-32.
- ³⁹ Hasler JF, Henderson WB, Hurtgen PJ, et al. 1995. Production, freezing and transfer of bovine IVF embryos and subsequent calving results. *Theriogenology* 43(1):141-52.
- ⁴⁰ Hasler JF, Henderson WB, Hurtgen PJ, et al. 1995. Production, freezing and transfer of bovine IVF embryos and subsequent calving results. *Theriogenology* 43(1):141-52.
- ⁴¹ Schmidt M, Greve T, Avery B, Beckers JF, Sulon J, and Hansen HB. 1996. Pregnancies, calves and calf viability after transfer of in vitro produced bovine embryos. *Theriogenology* 46(3):527-39.
- ⁴² Kruip TAM and den Daas JHG. 1997. In vitro produced and cloned embryos: effects on pregnancy, parturition and offspring. *Theriogenology* 47(1):43-52.
- ⁴³ van Wagendonk-de Leeuw AM, Mullaart E, de Roos AP, et al. 2000. Effects of different reproduction techniques: AI MOET or IVP, on health and welfare of bovine offspring. *Theriogenology* 53(2):575-97.
- ⁴⁴ Palmer CW. 2005. Welfare aspects of theriogenology: investigating alternatives to electroejaculation of bulls. *Theriogenology* 64(3):469-79.
- ⁴⁵ Acosta AA and Kruger TF. 1996. *Human Spermatozoa in Assisted Reproduction* (New York, NY: The Parthenon Publishing Group, p. 464).
- ⁴⁶ Palmer CW. 2005. Welfare aspects of theriogenology: investigating alternatives to electroejaculation of bulls. *Theriogenology* 64(3):469-79.
- ⁴⁷ Etson CJ, Waldner CL, and Barth AD. 2004. Evaluation of a segmented rectal probe and caudal epidural anesthesia for electroejaculation of bulls. *Canadian Veterinary Journal* 45(3):235-40.

-
- ⁴⁸ Falk AJ, Waldner CL, Cotter BS, Gudmundson J, and Barth AD. 2001. Effects of epidural lidocaine anesthesia on bulls during electroejaculation. *Canadian Veterinary Journal* 42(2):116-20.
- ⁴⁹ Mosure WL, Meyer RA, Gudmundson J, and Barth AD. 1998. Evaluation of possible methods to reduce pain associated with electroejaculation in bulls. *Canadian Veterinary Journal* 39(8):504-6.
- ⁵⁰ Falk AJ, Waldner CL, Cotter BS, Gudmundson J, and Barth AD. 2001. Effects of epidural lidocaine anesthesia on bulls during electroejaculation. *Canadian Veterinary Journal* 42(2):116-20.
- ⁵¹ Watts JM and Stookey JM. 2000. Vocal behaviour in cattle: the animal's commentary on its biological processes and welfare. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 67(1/2):15-33.
- ⁵² U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁵³ Tucker CB, Weary DM, and Fraser D. 2004. Free-stall dimensions: effects on preference and stall usage. *Journal of Dairy Science* 87(5):1208-16.
- ⁵⁴ Phillips CJC and Schofield SA. 1994. The effect of cubicle and straw yard housing on the behavior, production and hoof health of dairy cows. *Animal Welfare* 3:37-44.
- ⁵⁵ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁵⁶ Telezhenko E and Bergsten C. 2005. Influence of floor type on the locomotion of dairy cows. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 93(3-4):183-97.
- ⁵⁷ Phillips CJC and Schofield SA. 1994. The effect of cubicle and straw yard housing on the behavior, production and hoof health of dairy cows. *Animal Welfare* 3:37-44.
- ⁵⁸ Telezhenko E and Bergsten C. 2005. Influence of floor type on the locomotion of dairy cows. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 93(3-4):183-97.
- ⁵⁹ Hultgren J. 2001. Effects of two stall flooring systems on the behaviour of tied dairy cows. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 73(3):167-77.
- ⁶⁰ Rushen J and de Passille AM. 2006. Effects of roughness and compressibility of flooring on cow locomotion. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(8):2965-72.
- ⁶¹ Rushen J and de Passille AM. 2006. Effects of roughness and compressibility of flooring on cow locomotion. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(8):2965-72.
- ⁶² Tucker CB, Weary DM, Rushen J, and de Passille AM. 2004. Designing better environments for dairy cattle to rest. *Advances in Dairy Technology* 16:39-53.
- ⁶³ Zehner MM, Farnsworth RJ, Appleman RD, Larntz K, and Springer JA. 1986. Growth of environmental mastitis pathogens in various bedding materials. *Journal of Dairy Science* 69(7):1932-41.
- ⁶⁴ Fisher AD, Verkerk GA, Morrow CJ, and Matthews LR. 2002. The effects of feed restriction and lying deprivation on pituitary-adrenal axis regulation in lactating cows. *Livestock Production Science* 73(2/3):255-63.
- ⁶⁵ Munksgaard L and Simonsen HB. 1996. Behavioral and pituitary adrenal-axis responses of dairy cows to social isolation and deprivation of lying down. *Journal of Animal Science* 74(4):769-78.
- ⁶⁶ Munksgaard L and Lovendahl P. 1993. Effects of social and physical stressors on growth hormone levels in dairy cows. *Canadian Journal of Animal Science* 73(4):847-53.
- ⁶⁷ Munksgaard L and Simonsen HB. 1996. Behavioral and pituitary adrenal-axis responses of dairy cows to social isolation and deprivation of lying down. *Journal of Animal Science* 74(4):769-78.
- ⁶⁸ Chaplin SJ, Ternent HE, Offer JE, Logue DN, and Knight CH. 2000. A comparison of hoof lesions and behaviour in pregnant and early lactation heifers at housing. *The Veterinary Journal* 159(2):147-53.
- ⁶⁹ Munksgaard L, Jensen MB, Pedersen LJ, Hansen SW, and Matthews L. 2005. Quantifying behavioural priorities-effects of time constraints on behaviour of dairy cows, *Bos taurus*. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 92(1-2):3-14.
- ⁷⁰ Tuytens FAM. 2005. The importance of straw for pig and cattle welfare: a review. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 92(3):261-82.
- ⁷¹ Fisher AD, Stewart M, Verkerk GA, Morrow CJ, and Matthews LR. 2003. The effects of surface type on lying behaviour and stress responses of dairy cows during periodic weather-induced removal from pasture. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 81(1):1-11.

-
- ⁷² Tucker CB and Weary DM. 2004. Bedding on geotextile mattresses: how much is needed to improve cow comfort? *Journal of Dairy Science* 87(9):2889-95.
- ⁷³ Fregonesi JA and Leaver JD. 2002. Influence of space allowance and milk yield level on behaviour, performance and health of dairy cows housed in strawyard and cubicle systems. *Livestock Production Science* 78(3):245-57.
- ⁷⁴ Phillips CJC and Schofield SA. 1994. The effect of cubicle and straw yard housing on the behavior, production and hoof health of dairy cows. *Animal Welfare* 3:37-44.
- ⁷⁵ Krohn CC and Munksgaard L. 1993. Behaviour of dairy cows kept in extensive (loose housing/pasture) or intensive (tie stall) environments. II. Lying and lying-down behaviour. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 37(1):1-16.
- ⁷⁶ Hultgren J. 2001. Effects of two stall flooring systems on the behaviour of tied dairy cows. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 73(3):167-77.
- ⁷⁷ Munksgaard L and Simonsen HB. 1996. Behavioral and pituitary adrenal-axis responses of dairy cows to social isolation and deprivation of lying down. *Journal of Animal Science* 74(4):769-78.
- ⁷⁸ Krohn CC. 1994. Behaviour of dairy cows kept in extensive (loose housing/pasture) or intensive (tie stall) environments. III. Grooming, exploration and abnormal behaviour. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 42(2):73-86.
- ⁷⁹ Loberg J, Telezhenko E, Bergsten C, and Lidfors L. 2004. Behaviour and claw health in tied dairy cows with varying access to exercise in an outdoor paddock. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 89(1-2):1-16.
- ⁸⁰ Jensen MB. 1999. Effects of confinement on rebounds of locomotor behaviour of calves and heifers, and the spatial preferences of calves. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 62(1):43-56.
- ⁸¹ Loberg J, Telezhenko E, Bergsten C, and Lidfors L. 2004. Behaviour and claw health in tied dairy cows with varying access to exercise in an outdoor paddock. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 89(1-2):1-16.
- ⁸² Lazo A. 1994. Social segregation and the maintenance of social stability in a feral cattle population. *Animal Behaviour* 48(5):1133-41.
- ⁸³ Raussi S, Boissy A, Delval E, Pradel P, Kaihilahti J, and Veissier I. 2005. Does repeated regrouping alter the social behaviour of heifers? *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 93(1-2):1-12.
- ⁸⁴ Raussi S, Boissy A, Delval E, Pradel P, Kaihilahti J, and Veissier I. 2005. Does repeated regrouping alter the social behaviour of heifers? *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 93(1-2):1-12.
- ⁸⁵ Manson FJ and Appleby MC. 1990. Spacing of dairy cows at a food trough. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 26(1/2):69-81.
- ⁸⁶ Wierenga HK. 1990. Social dominance in dairy cattle and the influences of housing and management. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 27(3):201-29.
- ⁸⁷ DeVries AC, Glasper ER, and Detillion CE. 2003. Social modulation of stress responses. *Physiology and Behavior* 79(3):399-407.
- ⁸⁸ DeVries TJ and von Keyserlingk MA. 2006. Feed stalls affect the social and feeding behavior of lactating dairy cows. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(9):3522-31.
- ⁸⁹ Huzzey JM, DeVries TJ, Valois P, and von Keyserlingk MA. 2006. Stocking density and feed barrier design affect the feeding and social behavior of dairy cattle. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(1):126-33.
- ⁹⁰ Herskin MS, Munksgaard L, and Ladewig J. 2004. Effects of acute stressors on nociception, adrenocortical responses and behavior of dairy cows. *Physiology and Behavior* 83(3):411-20.
- ⁹¹ Herskin MS, Munksgaard L, and Andersen JB. 2007. Effects of social isolation and restraint on adrenocortical responses and hypoalgesia in loose-housed dairy cows. *Journal of Animal Science* 85(1):240-7.
- ⁹² Herskin MS, Munksgaard L, and Ladewig J. 2004. Effects of acute stressors on nociception, adrenocortical responses and behavior of dairy cows. *Physiology and Behavior* 83(3):411-20.
- ⁹³ Herskin MS, Munksgaard L, and Andersen JB. 2007. Effects of social isolation and restraint on adrenocortical responses and hypoalgesia in loose-housed dairy cows. *Journal of Animal Science* 85(1):240-7.
- ⁹⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁹⁵ Espejo LA, Endres MI, and Salfer JA. 2006. Prevalence of lameness in high-producing Holstein cows housed in freestall barns in Minnesota. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(8):3052-8.

-
- ⁹⁶ Cook NB. 2003. Prevalence of lameness among dairy cattle in Wisconsin as a function of housing type and stall surface. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 223(9):1324-8.
- ⁹⁷ Espejo LA, Endres MI, and Salfer JA. 2006. Prevalence of lameness in high-producing Holstein cows housed in freestall barns in Minnesota. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(8):3052-8.
- ⁹⁸ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ⁹⁹ Espejo LA, Endres MI, and Salfer JA. 2006. Prevalence of lameness in high-producing Holstein cows housed in freestall barns in Minnesota. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(8):3052-8.
- ¹⁰⁰ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁰¹ Whay HR, Waterman AE, and Webster AJ. 1997. Associations between locomotion, claw lesions and nociceptive threshold in dairy heifers during the peri-partum period. *The Veterinary Journal* 154(2):155-61.
- ¹⁰² Juarez ST, Robinson PH, DePeters EJ, and Price EO. 2003. Impact of lameness on behavior and productivity of lactating Holstein cows. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 83(1):1-14.
- ¹⁰³ O'Callaghan KA, Cripps PJ, Downham DY, and Murray RD. 2003. Subjective and objective assessment of pain and discomfort due to lameness in dairy cattle. *Animal Welfare* 12(4):605-10.
- ¹⁰⁴ Neveux S, Weary DM, Rushen J, von Keyserlingk MA, and de Passille AM. 2006. Hoof discomfort changes how dairy cattle distribute their body weight. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(7):2503-9.
- ¹⁰⁵ Webster AJ. 2001. Effects of housing and two forage diets on the development of claw horn lesions in dairy cows at first calving and in first lactation. *The Veterinary Journal* 162(1):56-65.
- ¹⁰⁶ Vokey FJ, Guard CL, Erb HN, and Galton DM. 2001. Effects of alley and stall surfaces on indices of claw and leg health in dairy cattle housed in a free-stall barn. *Journal of Dairy Science* 84(12):2686-99.
- ¹⁰⁷ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁰⁸ Hernandez-Mendo O, von Keyserlingk MA, Veira DM, and Weary DM. 2007. Effects of pasture on lameness in dairy cows. *Journal of Dairy Science* 90(3):1209-14.
- ¹⁰⁹ Loberg J, Telezhenko E, Bergsten C, and Lidfors L. 2004. Behaviour and claw health in tied dairy cows with varying access to exercise in an outdoor paddock. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 89(1-2):1-16.
- ¹¹⁰ Regula G, Danuser J, Spycher B, and Wechsler B. 2004. Health and welfare of dairy cows in different husbandry systems in Switzerland. *Preventive Veterinary Medicine* 66(1-4):247-64.
- ¹¹¹ Keil NM, Wiederkehr TU, Friedli K, and Wechsler B. 2006. Effects of frequency and duration of outdoor exercise on the prevalence of hock lesions in tied Swiss dairy cows. *Preventive Veterinary Medicine* 74(2-3):142-53.
- ¹¹² U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. 2002. Dairy 2002. Part I: reference of dairy health and management in the United States. <http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov/dairy/dairy02/Dairy02Pt1.pdf>. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹¹³ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹¹⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹¹⁵ Sordillo LM. 2005. Factors affecting mammary gland immunity and mastitis susceptibility. *Livestock Production Science* 98(1-2):89-99.
- ¹¹⁶ Van Dorp TE, Dekkers JC, Martin SW, and Noordhuizen JP. 1998. Genetic parameters of health disorders, and relationships with 305-day milk yield and conformation traits of registered Holstein cows. *Journal of Dairy Science* 81(8):2264-70.
- ¹¹⁷ Heringstad B, Klemetsdal G, and Steine T. 2003. Selection responses for clinical mastitis and protein yield in two Norwegian dairy cattle selection experiments. *Journal of Dairy Science* 86(9):2990-9.

-
- ¹¹⁸ Tyler JW and Cullor JS. 2002. Bovine mastitis. In: Smith BP (ed.), Large Animal Internal Medicine (St. Louis, MO: Mosby Inc., pp. 1019-32).
- ¹¹⁹ Tyler JW and Cullor JS. 2002. Bovine mastitis. In: Smith BP (ed.), Large Animal Internal Medicine (St. Louis, MO: Mosby Inc., pp. 1019-32).
- ¹²⁰ Madsen M, Aalbaek B, and Hansen JW. 1992. Comparative bacteriological studies on summer mastitis in grazing cattle and pyogenes mastitis in stabled cattle in Denmark. *Veterinary Microbiology* 32(1):81-8.
- ¹²¹ Waage S, Mork T, Roros A, Aasland D, Hunshamar A, and Odegaard SA. 1999. Bacteria associated with clinical mastitis in dairy heifers. *Journal of Dairy Science* 82(4):712-9.
- ¹²² Tyler JW and Cullor JS. 2002. Bovine mastitis. In: Smith BP (ed.), Large Animal Internal Medicine (St. Louis, MO: Mosby Inc., pp. 1019-32).
- ¹²³ Schukken YH, Grommers FJ, Van de Geer D, Erb HN, and Brand A. 1990. Risk factors for clinical mastitis in herds with a low bulk milk somatic cell count. 1. Data and risk factors for all cases. *Journal of Dairy Science* 73(12):3463-71.
- ¹²⁴ Schreiner DA and Ruegg PL. 2003. Relationship between udder and leg hygiene scores and subclinical mastitis. *Journal of Dairy Science* 86(11):3460-5.
- ¹²⁵ Barkema HW, Schukken YH, Lam TJGM, Beiboer ML, Benedictus G, and Brand A. 1999. Management practices associated with the incidence rate of clinical mastitis. *Journal of Dairy Science* 82(8):1643-54.
- ¹²⁶ Stull CL, Payne MA, Berry SL, and Hullinger PJ. 2004. Tail docking in dairy cattle. University of California, Davis. www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/INF-AN/Tail-Docking-Dairy.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹²⁷ University of California, Davis. 1998. Dairy care practices, 2nd edition. www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/inf-da/inf-da_careprax4.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹²⁸ Eicher SD and Dalley JW. 2002. Indicators of acute pain and fly avoidance behaviors in Holstein calves following tail-docking. *Journal of Dairy Science* 85(11):2850-8.
- ¹²⁹ Eicher SD, Morrow-Tesch JL, Albright JL, and Williams RE. 2001. Tail-docking alters fly numbers, fly-avoidance behaviors, and cleanliness, but not physiological measures. *Journal of Dairy Science* 84(8):1822-8.
- ¹³⁰ American Veterinary Medical Association. 2007. Policy statements: tail-docking of cattle. http://avma.org/issues/policy/animal_welfare/tail_docking_cattle.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹³¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. 2002. Dairy 2002. Part III: reference of dairy cattle health and health management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy02/Dairy02Part3.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹³² Fulwider WK, Grandin T, Rollin BE, Engle TE, Dalsted NL, and Lamm WD. 2008. Survey of dairy management practices on one hundred thirteen North Central and Northeastern United States dairies. *Journal of Dairy Science* 91(4):1686-92.
- ¹³³ Eicher SD, Morrow-Tesch JL, Albright JL, Dailey JW, Young CR, and Stanker LH. 2000. Tail-docking influences on behavioral, immunological, and endocrine responses in dairy heifers. *Journal of Dairy Science* 83(7):1456-62.
- ¹³⁴ Schreiner DA and Ruegg PL. 2002. Responses to tail docking in calves and heifers. *Journal of Dairy Science* 85(12):3287-96.
- ¹³⁵ American Veterinary Medical Association. 2007. Policy statements: tail-docking of cattle. http://avma.org/issues/policy/animal_welfare/tail_docking_cattle.asp. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹³⁶ Fulwider WK, Grandin T, Rollin BE, Engle TE, Dalsted NL, and Lamm WD. 2008. Survey of dairy management practices on one hundred thirteen North Central and Northeastern United States dairies. *Journal of Dairy Science* 91(4):1686-92.
- ¹³⁷ Ruckebusch Y and Bueno L. 1978. An analysis of ingestive behaviour and activity of cattle under field conditions. *Applied Animal Ethology* 4(4):301-13.
- ¹³⁸ DeVries TJ, von Keyserlingk MA, and Beauchemin KA. 2005. Frequency of feed delivery affects the behavior of lactating dairy cows. *Journal of Dairy Science* 88(10):3553-62.
- ¹³⁹ Mason GJ. 1991. Stereotypies: a critical review. *Animal Behavior* 41(6):1015-37.
- ¹⁴⁰ Redbo I and Nordblad A. 1997. Stereotypies in heifers are affected by feeding regime. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 53(3):193-202.
- ¹⁴¹ Lindstrom T and Redbo I. 2000. Effect of feeding duration and rumen fill on behaviour in dairy cows. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 70(2):83-97.

-
- ¹⁴² Eastridge ML. 2006. Major advances in applied dairy cattle nutrition. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(4):1311-23.
- ¹⁴³ Ensminger ME. 1990. *Feeds and Nutrition* (Clovis, CA: Ensminger Publishing Co., pp. 409-11).
- ¹⁴⁴ Goff JP. 2006. Major advances in our understanding of nutritional influences on bovine health. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(4):1292-301.
- ¹⁴⁵ Kleen JL, Hooijer GA, Rehage J, and Noordhuizen JP. 2003. Subacute ruminal acidosis (SARA): a review. *Journal of Veterinary Medicine. A, Physiology, Pathology, Clinical Medicine* 50(8):406-14.
- ¹⁴⁶ Goff JP. 2006. Major advances in our understanding of nutritional influences on bovine health. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(4):1292-301.
- ¹⁴⁷ Owens FN, Secrist DS, Hill WJ, and Gill DR. 1998. Acidosis in cattle: a review. *Journal of Animal Science* 76(1):275-86.
- ¹⁴⁸ Donovan GA, Risco CA, Temple GM, Tran TQ, and van Horn HH. 2004. Influence of transition diets on occurrence of subclinical laminitis in Holstein dairy cows. *Journal of Dairy Science* 87(1):73-84.
- ¹⁴⁹ Nocek JE. 1997. Bovine acidosis: implications on laminitis. *Journal of Dairy Science* 80(5):1005-28.
- ¹⁵⁰ Webster AJ. 1986. Health and welfare of animals in modern husbandry systems: dairy cattle. In *Practice* 3:85-9.
- ¹⁵¹ Ingvartsen KL and Andersen JB. 2000. Integration of metabolism and intake regulation: a review focusing on periparturient animals. *Journal of Dairy Science* 83(7):1573-97.
- ¹⁵² Goff JP. 2006. Major advances in our understanding of nutritional influences on bovine health. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(4):1292-301.
- ¹⁵³ Fleming SA. 2002. Ketosis of ruminants (acetonemia). In: Smith BP (ed.), *Large Animal Internal Medicine* (St Louis, MO: Mosby Inc., pp. 1241-7).
- ¹⁵⁴ Horst R, Goff J, and McCluskey B. 2004. Prevalence of subclinical hypocalcemia in U.S. dairy operations. In: Joshi NP and Herdt TH (eds.), *Production Diseases in Farm Animals, 12th International Conference* (Michigan, U.S.: ICPD, Wageningen Academic Publishers, p. 215).
- ¹⁵⁵ Hunt E and Blackwelder JT. 2002. Bovine parturient paresis (milk fever, hypocalcemia). In: Smith BP (ed.), *Large Animal Internal Medicine* (St. Louis, MO: Mosby Inc., pp. 1248-53).
- ¹⁵⁶ Goff JP. 2006. Major advances in our understanding of nutritional influences on bovine health. *Journal of Dairy Science* 89(4):1292-301.
- ¹⁵⁷ Hunt E and Blackwelder JT. 2002. Bovine parturient paresis (milk fever, hypocalcemia). In: Smith BP (ed.), *Large Animal Internal Medicine* (St. Louis, MO: Mosby Inc., pp. 1248-53).
- ¹⁵⁸ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/sc/ah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁵⁹ Fulwider WK, Grandin T, Rollin BE, Engle TE, Dalsted NL, and Lamm WD. 2008. Survey of dairy management practices on one hundred thirteen North Central and Northeastern United States dairies. *Journal of Dairy Science* 91(4):1686-92.
- ¹⁶⁰ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2007. Dairy 2007. Part I: reference of dairy cattle health and management practices in the United States. www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nahms/dairy/dairy07/Dairy2007_Part_I.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁶¹ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/sc/ah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁶² Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ¹⁶³ Grandin T. 2000. The dairy industry must improve. *Meat & Poultry*, August, pp. 88-90.
- ¹⁶⁴ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/sc/ah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁶⁵ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ¹⁶⁶ Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. 1998. Report of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association expert panel on rBST. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/issues-enjeux/rbst-stbr/rep_cvma-rap_acdv_tc-tm_e.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.

-
- ¹⁶⁷ Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. 1998. Report of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association expert panel on rBST. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/issues-enjeux/rbst-stbr/rep_cvma-rap_acdv_tc-tm_e.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁶⁸ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁶⁹ Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. 1998. Report of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association expert panel on rBST. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/issues-enjeux/rbst-stbr/rep_cvma-rap_acdv_tc-tm_e.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁷⁰ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁷¹ Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. 1998. Report of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association expert panel on rBST. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/issues-enjeux/rbst-stbr/rep_cvma-rap_acdv_tc-tm_e.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁷² Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁷³ Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. 1998. Report of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association expert panel on rBST. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/issues-enjeux/rbst-stbr/rep_cvma-rap_acdv_tc-tm_e.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁷⁴ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin
- ¹⁷⁵ Pfau KO, Bartlett JW, and Shuart CE. 1948. A study of multiple births in a Holstein-Friesian herd. *Journal of Dairy Science* 31(4):241-54.
- ¹⁷⁶ Robertson DM. 1938. Acute metritis of cattle. *Canadian Journal of Comparative Medicine* II(5):142-5.
- ¹⁷⁷ Pfau KO, Bartlett JW, and Shuart CE. 1948. A study of multiple births in a Holstein-Friesian herd. *Journal of Dairy Science* 31(4):241-54.
- ¹⁷⁸ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁷⁹ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁸⁰ Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. 1998. Report of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association expert panel on rBST. www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/vet/issues-enjeux/rbst-stbr/rep_cvma-rap_acdv_tc-tm_e.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁸¹ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 1999. Report on animal welfare aspects of the use of bovine somatotrophin. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/scah/out21_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁸² Stull CL, Payne MA, Berry SL, and Reynolds JP. 2007. A review of the causes, prevention, and welfare of nonambulatory cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 231(2):227-34.
- ¹⁸³ Grandin T. 1994. Farm animal welfare during handling, transport, and slaughter. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 204(3):372-7., citing: McNaughton MT. 1993. Not for sale, mobile slaughterers: the meat industry's grey trade. *Meat and Poultry*, September, pp. 28-44.
- ¹⁸⁴ Grandin T. 2000. The dairy industry must improve. *Meat & Poultry*, August, pp. 88-90.
- ¹⁸⁵ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ¹⁸⁶ Grandin T. 1991. Pro-active activism. *Meat & Poultry*, August, p. 29.
- ¹⁸⁷ Grandin T. 1995. Downers are a problem. *Meat & Poultry*, April, p. 10.
- ¹⁸⁸ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ¹⁸⁹ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ¹⁹⁰ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ¹⁹¹ Cox VS and Farmsworth RJ. 1998. Prevention and treatment of down cows: a continuum. *Proceedings of the Annual Conference of American Association of Bovine Practitioners* 31:167-9.

-
- ¹⁹² Cox VS. 1988. Nonsystemic causes of the downer cow syndrome. *Veterinary Clinics of North America. Food Animal Practice* 4(2):413-33.
- ¹⁹³ Weaver AD. 2000. Lameness. In: Andrews AH (ed.), *The Health of Dairy Cattle* (Oxford, U.K.: Blackwell Science Ltd., pp. 149-202).
- ¹⁹⁴ Stull CL, Payne MA, Berry SL, and Reynolds JP. 2007. A review of the causes, prevention, and welfare of nonambulatory cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 231(2):227-34.
- ¹⁹⁵ Stull CL, Payne MA, Berry SL, and Reynolds JP. 2007. A review of the causes, prevention, and welfare of nonambulatory cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 231(2):227-34.
- ¹⁹⁶ American Association of Bovine Practitioners. 1999. Practical euthanasia in cattle, considerations for the producer, livestock market operator, livestock transporter, and veterinarian. www.aabp.org/resources/euth.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ¹⁹⁷ Stull CL, Payne MA, Berry SL, and Reynolds JP. 2007. A review of the causes, prevention, and welfare of nonambulatory cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 231(2):227-34.
- ¹⁹⁸ Harwood JPP. 2003. Tackling the problem of the downer cow: cause, diagnosis and prognosis. *Cattle Practice* II(2):89-92.
- ¹⁹⁹ Hisey P. 2005. USDA plans to ease restrictions on slaughter of downer cattle. *Meatingplace.com*, April 21.
- ²⁰⁰ Grandin T. 1995. Downers are a problem. *Meat & Poultry*, April, p. 10.
- ²⁰¹ Weiss R. 2008. Video reveals violations of laws, abuse of cows at slaughterhouse. *The Washington Post*, January 30, p. A04. www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/story/2008/01/30/ST2008013001224.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁰² Halsne C. 2002. Meat from dying, sick or diseased cows getting into food. *KIRO 7 Eyewitness News*, October 31. www.kirotv.com/investigations/1868748/detail.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁰³ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 1997. TLC Custom meat owners fined, sentenced, put on probation for meat violations. FDCH Federal Department and Agency Documents, March 12.
- ²⁰⁴ Kennedy T. 1991. Woman's videotape of animal suffering helps tame stockyard. *The Associated Press*, May 11.
- ²⁰⁵ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2008. Statement by USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Richard Raymond on suspension of inspection at Hallmark/Westland Meat Packing Company. February 5. www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2008/02/0033.xml. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁰⁶ U.S. Department of Agriculture. 2008. Transcript of technical briefing regarding Hallmark/Westland Meat Packing Company two year product recall. February 17. www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2008/02/0047.xml. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁰⁷ Akaka D. 2008. Safety of slaughter facilities. *Congressional Record*, January 30, p. S489.
- ²⁰⁸ Shrieves L. 2008. Beef off menu in Orange, Lake schools amid slaughterhouse probe. *Orlando Sentinel*, February 7.
- ²⁰⁹ Kim V. 2008. USDA shuts down supplier of beef to schools. *The Los Angeles Times*, February 7. www.latimes.com/news/print/edition/california/la-me-usda7feb07.1.860354.story. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²¹⁰ Grandin T. 1994. Farm animal welfare during handling, transport, and slaughter. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 204(3):372-7.
- ²¹¹ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²¹² Grandin T. 1993. The effect of previous experiences on livestock behavior during handling. *Agri-Practice* 14(4):15-20.
- ²¹³ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²¹⁴ Tarrant V and Grandin T. 2000. Cattle transport. In: Grandin T (ed.), *Livestock Handling and Transport*, 2nd Edition (New York, NY: CABI Publishing, pp. 151-73).
- ²¹⁵ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²¹⁶ Knowles TG. 1999. A review of the road transport of cattle. *The Veterinary Record* 144(8):197-201.

-
- ²¹⁷ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²¹⁸ Knowles TG. 1999. A review of the road transport of cattle. *The Veterinary Record* 144(8):197-201.
- ²¹⁹ Phillips C. 2002. *Cattle Behaviour & Welfare* (Oxford, U.K.: Blackwell Science Ltd., p. 40).
- ²²⁰ Knowles TG. 1999. A review of the road transport of cattle. *The Veterinary Record* 144(8):197-201.
- ²²¹ Tarrant V and Grandin T. 2000. Cattle transport. In: Grandin T (ed.), *Livestock Handling and Transport*, 2nd Edition (New York, NY: CABI Publishing, pp. 151-73).
- ²²² Večerek V, Malena M, Jr., Malena M, Voslarova E, and Bedanova I. 2006. Mortality in dairy cows transported to slaughter as affected by travel distance and seasonality. *Acta Veterinaria Brno* 75:449-54.
- ²²³ Office International des Epizooties. The OIE's initiatives in animal welfare. February 27, 2007. http://www.oie.int/eng/bien_etre/en_introduction.htm. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²²⁴ Office International des Epizooties. Guidelines for the transport of animals by land. *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. Appendix 3.7.3. 2006.
- ²²⁵ Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare. 2002. The welfare of animals during transport (details for horses, pigs, sheep and cattle). Adopted on 11 March 2002. http://ec.europa.eu/food/fs/sc/sc/ahaw/out71_en.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²²⁶ European Food Safety Authority. 2004. Opinion of the Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Animal Welfare on the request from the Commission related to the welfare of animals during transport. *EFSA Journal* 44:1-36. www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/Scientific_Opinion/opinion_ahaw_01_atrans_ej44_en1.pdf. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²²⁷ Tarrant V and Grandin T. 2000. Cattle transport. In: Grandin T (ed.), *Livestock Handling and Transport*, 2nd Edition (New York, NY: CABI Publishing, pp. 151-73).
- ²²⁸ Phillips C. 2002. *Cattle Behaviour & Welfare* (Oxford, U.K.: Blackwell Science Ltd., p. 40).
- ²²⁹ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²³⁰ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²³¹ Phillips C. 2002. *Cattle Behaviour & Welfare* (Oxford, U.K.: Blackwell Science Ltd., p. 40).
- ²³² Tarrant V and Grandin T. 2000. Cattle transport. In: Grandin T (ed.), *Livestock Handling and Transport*, 2nd Edition (New York, NY: CABI Publishing, pp. 151-73).
- ²³³ Knowles TG. 1999. A review of the road transport of cattle. *The Veterinary Record* 144(8):197-201.
- ²³⁴ Eicher SD. 2001. Transportation of cattle in the dairy industry: current research and future directions. *Journal of Dairy Science* 84(Suppl. E):E19-23.
- ²³⁵ Broom DM. 2005. The effects of land transport on animal welfare. *Scientific and Technical Review* 24(2):683-91.
- ²³⁶ Troutt HF and Osburn BI. 1997. Meat from dairy cows: possible microbiological hazards and risks. *Scientific and Technical Review* 16(2):405-14.
- ²³⁷ Hussein HS and Sakuma T. 2005. Prevalence of shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* in dairy cattle and their products. *Journal of Dairy Science* 88(2):450-65.
- ²³⁸ Troutt HF and Osburn BI. 1997. Meat from dairy cows: possible microbiological hazards and risks. *Scientific and Technical Review* 16(2):405-14.
- ²³⁹ Spika JS, Waterman SH, Hoo GW, et al. 1987. Chloramphenicol-resistant *Salmonella newport* traced through hamburger to dairy farms: a major persisting source of human salmonellosis in California. *New England Journal of Medicine* 316(10):565-70.
- ²⁴⁰ Grandin T. 1996. Animal welfare in slaughter plants. 29th Annual Conference of American Association of Bovine Practitioners, San Diego, CA, September 12-15.
- ²⁴¹ Grandin T. 1996. Animal welfare in slaughter plants. 29th Annual Conference of American Association of Bovine Practitioners, San Diego, CA, September 12-15.
- ²⁴² Grandin T. 1994. Euthanasia and slaughter of livestock. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 204(9):1354-60.
- ²⁴³ Grandin T. 1998. The feasibility of using vocalization scoring as an indicator of poor welfare during cattle slaughter. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 56(2/4):121-8.

-
- ²⁴⁴ Grandin T. 1994. Euthanasia and slaughter of livestock. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 204(9):1354-60.
- ²⁴⁵ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ²⁴⁶ Grandin T. 1996. Animal welfare in slaughter plants. 29th Annual Conference of American Association of Bovine Practitioners, San Diego, CA, September 12-15.
- ²⁴⁷ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ²⁴⁸ Grandin T. 1988. Behavior of slaughter plant and auction employees toward the animals. *Anthrozoos* 1(4):205-13.
- ²⁴⁹ Grandin T. 1998. The feasibility of using vocalization scoring as an indicator of poor welfare during cattle slaughter. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* 56(2/4):121-8.
- ²⁵⁰ Grandin T. 1996. Animal welfare in slaughter plants. 29th Annual Conference of American Association of Bovine Practitioners, San Diego, CA, September 12-15.
- ²⁵¹ Grandin T. 1980. Mechanical, electrical and anesthetic stunning methods for livestock. *International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems* 1(4):242-63.
- ²⁵² Wotton S. 2001. Principles and methods of humane slaughter. Proceedings of the 3rd International Animal Feeds and Veterinary Drugs Congress. Manila, Philippines, May 30-June 2.
- ²⁵³ Grandin T. 1980. Mechanical, electrical and anesthetic stunning methods for livestock. *International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems* 1(4):242-63.
- ²⁵⁴ Grandin T. 1980. Mechanical, electrical and anesthetic stunning methods for livestock. *International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems* 1(4):242-63.
- ²⁵⁵ Grandin T. 1994. Euthanasia and slaughter of livestock. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 204(9):1354-60.
- ²⁵⁶ Wotton S. 2001. Principles and methods of humane slaughter. Proceedings of the 3rd International Animal Feeds and Veterinary Drugs Congress. Manila, Philippines, May 30-June 2.
- ²⁵⁷ Grandin T. 1980. Mechanical, electrical and anesthetic stunning methods for livestock. *International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems* 1(4):242-63.
- ²⁵⁸ Grandin T and Smith GC. 2004. Animal welfare and humane slaughter. www.grandin.com/references/humane.slaughter.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁵⁹ Grandin T. 1994. Farm animal welfare during handling, transport, and slaughter. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 204(3):372-7.
- ²⁶⁰ Grandin T. 1980. Mechanical, electrical and anesthetic stunning methods for livestock. *International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems* 1(4):242-63.
- ²⁶¹ Grandin T. 2001. Welfare of cattle during slaughter and the prevention of nonambulatory (downer) cattle. *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* 219(10):1377-82.
- ²⁶² Grandin T and Smith GC. 2004. Animal welfare and humane slaughter. www.grandin.com/references/humane.slaughter.html. Accessed June 8, 2009.
- ²⁶³ Wotton S. 2001. Principles and methods of humane slaughter. Proceedings of the 3rd International Animal Feeds and Veterinary Drugs Congress. Manila, Philippines, May 30-June 2.

The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization—backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education, and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty. On the Web at humanesociety.org.