

Common problems on Beef Farms

Issues	Critical Questions
Cattle scouring on Concentrates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it an infectious scour? 2. Is the animal eating more than 4kgs in one feed? 3. Has the animal been introduced to feed to fast? 4. Is the animal getting a balanced ration? 5. Is there fresh hay/straw available or good fibre grass to the Animal? 6. Is there clean fresh water available at all times?
Cattle not performing at grass with meal feeding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the feed too high in Starch, ie rolled barley, 2. Is there enough effective fibre in the diet? 3. Has the animal been introduced slowly to the feed? 4. Is the grass too lush with the a high starch feed diet 5. Is the animal suffering from acidosis? 6. Is lung worm and fluke a problem 7. Is there clean fresh water available to the Animals?
Cattle with poor coats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copper Deficiency 2. Check mineral feeding 3. Are the animal too tightly grazed,
Cattle panting in the shed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pneumonia 2. Check shed ventilation 3. Check stocking density
Cattle not performing on beet/Maize	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the beet washed and chopped? 2. Is the beet/maize been fed fresh? 3. Is the beet/maize been balanced properly by concentrates ? 4. Are animals been fed enough 5. Is there fresh hay/straw being offered daily?(effective fibre) 6. Is there clean fresh water available at all times 7. Is lice/hose/fluke an issue
Cattle lame in sheds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What level of concentrates is been offer to the animal, 2. How long is the high level of feed been offered to the animals, 3. How heavy are the animals 4. Is there fresh hay/straw being offered daily?

<p>Cattle not performing on concentrates in sheds</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is there acidosis in the shed? 2. Is lice/fluke/worms and issue? 3. Is there clean and fresh water available? 4. Is there effective fibre available, 5. Is the farmer on the right feed, 6. Are the animals to tight 7. Are animals comfortable? Mats/Straw/ cubical
<p>Starting animals on winter feed</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start meal feeding 5 weeks before housing, start at 1kg and rise to .05% bodyweight before housing, 2. If possible inject all animals with dectomax before 4 weeks before housing, this will mean that the animals will stay lice free during the housing period, 3. ensure the animals are also cover off for fluke, 4. If a farmer wants to know has he a fluke problem, Ask the factory to ask the vets what level the fluke is at, 5. At housing the animal will have adjusted to the concentrates and will allow animal performance to move on effectively
<p>Feeding rolled barley vs Gain feeds</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rolled barley is very high in starch, very fast releasing, 2. Rolled barley contains no effective fibre, 3. Needs to introduced at a very low level, 4. Contains no minerals, 5. feeding one straight product can lead to higher variance in feeding 6. Gain feeds are balanced 7. Can feed higher levels faster 8. More stable in diet 9. Better food conversion per kg fed,