



2024 World Classifiers Workshop – Cremona (ITA)

Proposal for a harmonized list of defects

on behalf of:
Working Group ‘Type Trait Harmonization’

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Background

- ▶ Request from some countries
- ▶ ICAR list of proposed defects, but not appropriate
- ▶ → survey among WHFF countries on the actual recorded defects and incidence rate
- ▶ → totally 120 defects reported
 - Wide range number of defects per country (0 – 37)
- ▶ Working Group identified most relevant
 - Recorded in many countries
 - With minimum incidence

→ Proposal to be discussed

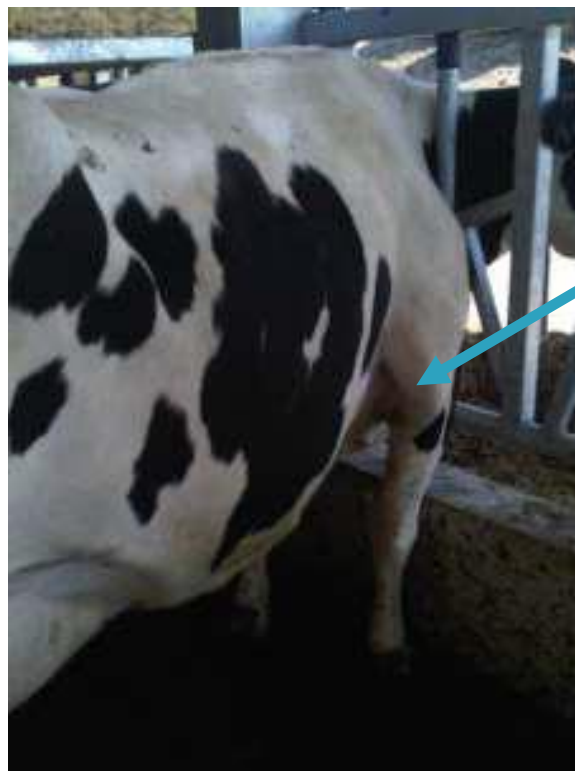
General



- ▶ Conformation defects on one hand should be rare (approximately $<5\%$ of all animals, <1 out of 20)
- ▶ on the other hand, should be frequently enough (approximately $>0,2\%$, >1 out of 500) that any statistics make sense and conclusions can be drawn
- ▶ Therefore, the definitions don't include any thresholds in cm or degrees as populations may differ. The countries should define these thresholds so that incidence rates are within the range mentioned above
- ▶ If with a meaningful definition of the thresholds incidence rates are $>5\%$ it is recommended that the trait is recorded on a linear scale to describe the obviously existing larger variation in the given population.

Body defects: Open Shoulder

- ▶ A significant gap between the tip of the shoulder and the side of the body. Shoulder blades are not well attached to the body causing a significant gap between shoulder blade and body/ribs.



ICAR recommended, too

Body defects: Weak Crops

- ▶ The part of the animal behind the shoulder (just below the chine) is a lot narrower than the shoulder.



ICAR recommended, too

Body defects: Weak Back including Loin

- ▶ Weakness in the topline in the middle of the back and/or loin.



Body defects: Advanced Anus

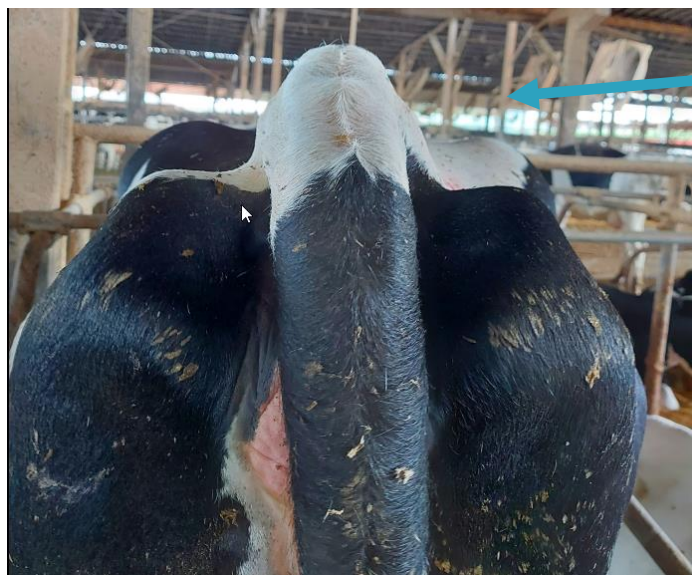
- ▶ Anus is ahead of pin bone. Tendency for the anus and vagina to be pulled forward.



ICAR recommended, too

Body defects: High Tail

- ▶ Evaluated by considering the tailhead in relation to the pins viewed from the rear. It could be considered as a defect when tailhead is noticeably over pins.



ICAR recommended, too

Body defects: Inset Tailhead

- ▶ Tailhead is located between the pin bones and can therefore not be seen from side.



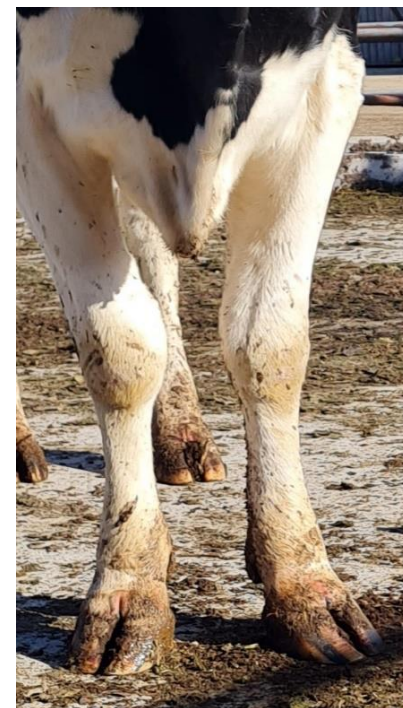
F&L defects: Open Claw-s

- ▶ Large gap between claws of any leg.



F&L defects: Toes out Front Feet

- ▶ Front toes are not pointing straight forward but with a significant angle between the toes of the front legs.



ICAR recommended, too

F&L defects: Crampy

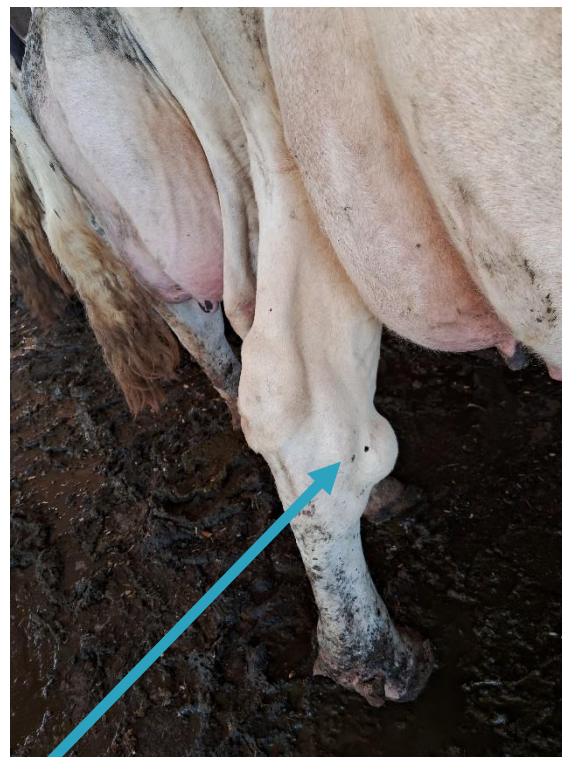
- ▶ Unnatural or irregular contraction of muscles of one or both rear legs independent from source (crampy/Spastic Paresis).



ICAR recommended, too

F&L defects: Boggy Hock-s

- ▶ Hocks are very coarse and show bumps on the inside of the hock.



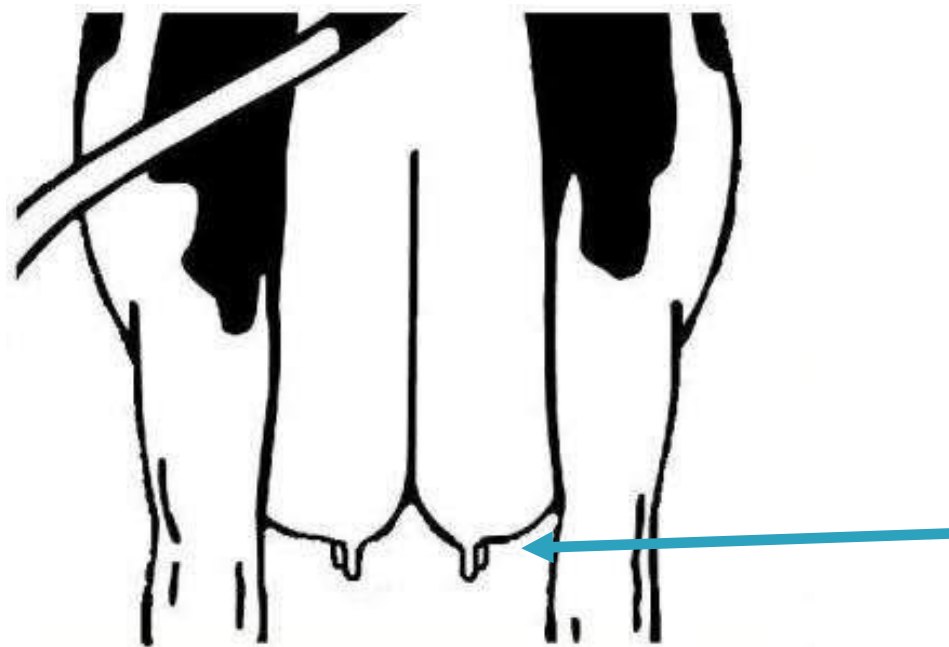
F&L defects: Weak Pastern-s

- ▶ Too much angle of the pastern joint.



Marmmary defects: Thin Teat-s

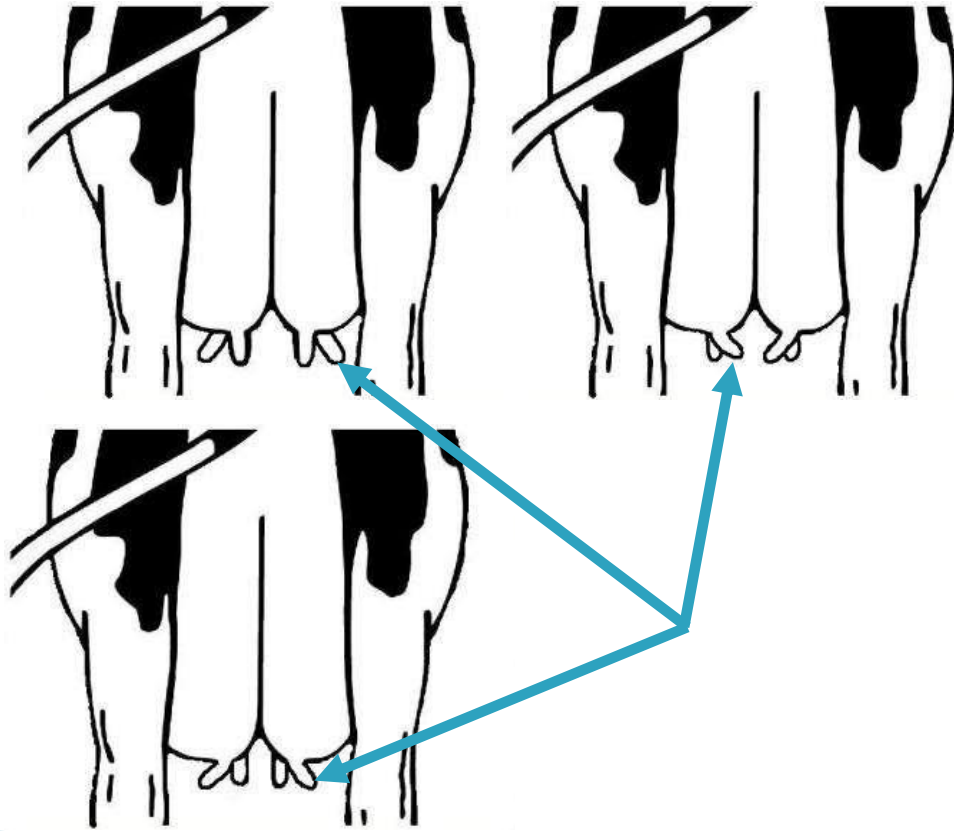
- ▶ Teat with very small diameter.



Marmary defects: Teat-s Orientation not down



- ▶ One or more teats are not pointing down, but significantly outside/inside or forward/backward.



Mammary defects: Webbed Teats

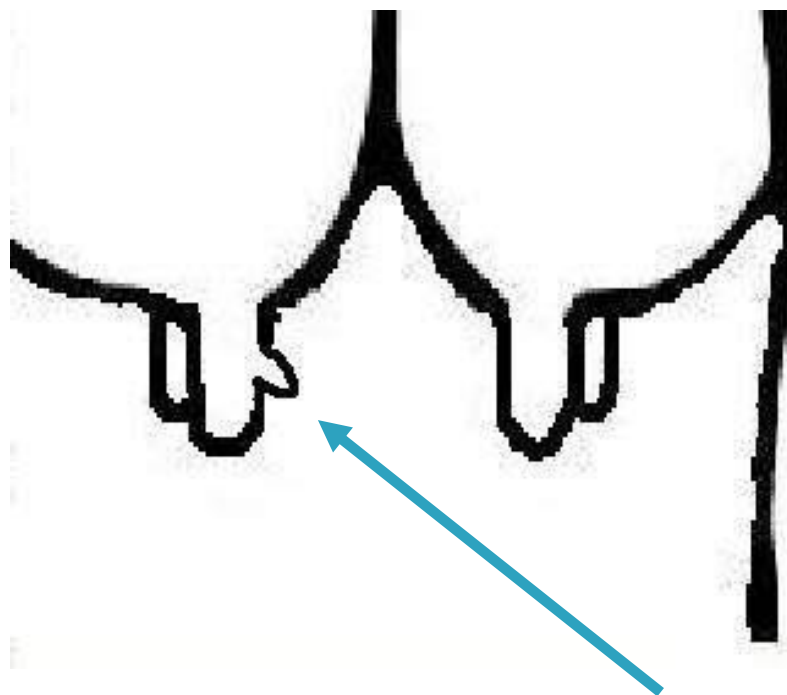
- ▶ An extra teat is attached to functional teat.



ICAR recommended, too

Marmmary defects: Teat-s with Side Leak

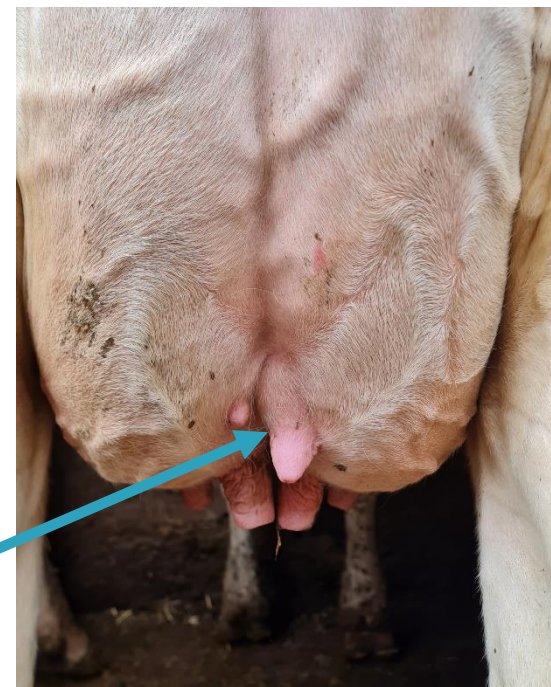
- ▶ Little function hole on the side wall of the teat.



ICAR recommended, too

Marmary defects: Extra Teat-s

- ▶ Extra teat-s which produce milk.



ICAR recommended, too

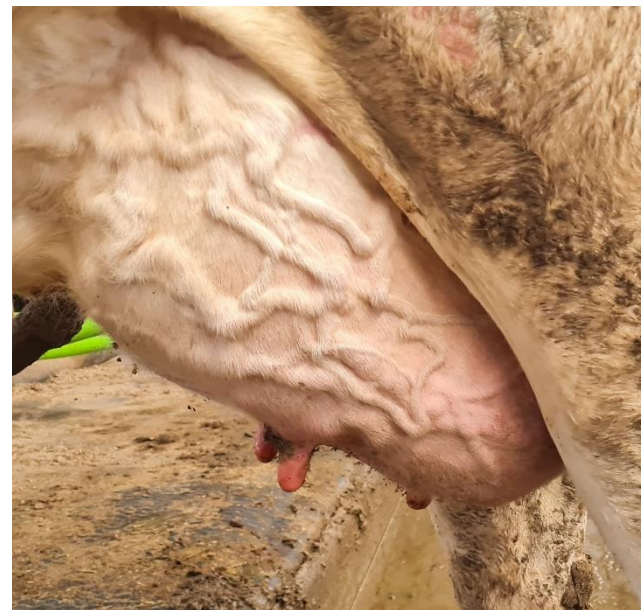
Marmary defects: Bulgy Fore Udder

The shape of the fore udder is very round.



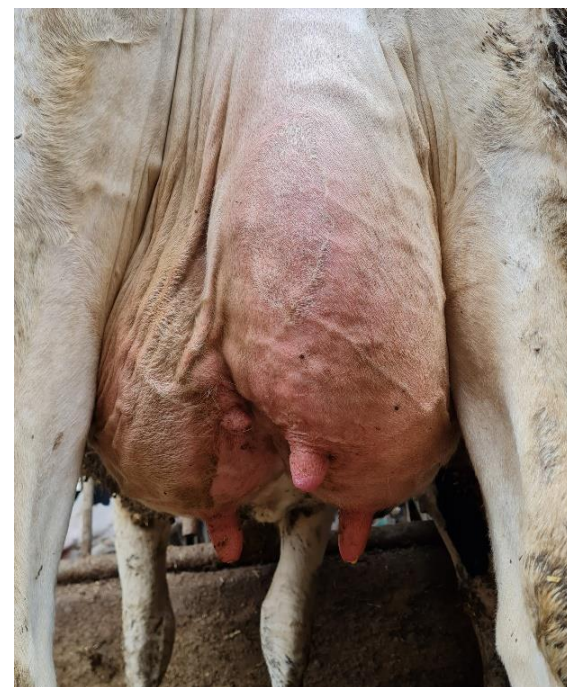
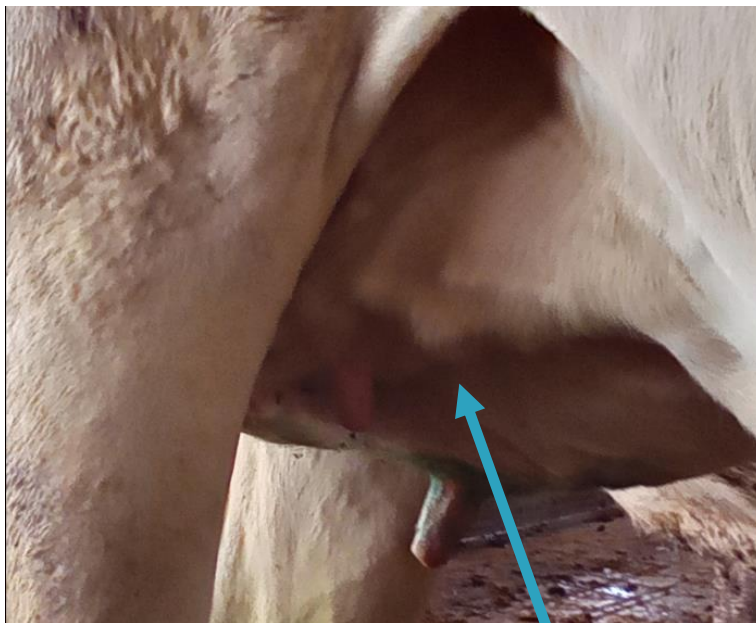
Marmary defects: Deep Rear Udder

- ▶ Floor/base of rear udder is significantly lower compared to fore udder.



Marmmary defects: Blind Quarter-s

- ▶ Quarter never gives milk.



ICAR recommended, too



Summary & Outlook

- ▶ Working Group proposes 20 standard defects (6 body, 6 F&L, 8 mammary defects)
 - As guideline to be the list of recorded defects in addition to the standard linear traits
- ▶ These 20 conformation defects are based on the status in 2023 with 18 linear standard traits
- ▶ In case the list of standard traits is extended by traits where an extreme so far describes a defect this defect will be excluded from the list
 - This may in future probably hold for “Toes Out Front Feet” if “Front Feet Orientation” should become a standard linear trait
 - or for “Deep Rear Udder” if “Udder Balance” should become a standard linear trait.