

# Recent Changes to Holstein Canada's Classification System



18 April 2024  
Cremona



# Current Classification Program

## 28 DESCRIPTIVE TRAITS (ALL DAIRY BREEDS)

Evaluated on **1 to 9** linear scale  
8 traits assessed by actual measurement

## 15 DEFECTIVE CHARACTERISTICS

Ticked as being “present” or “severe”  
Defects have varying point deductions

Holstein Canada  
Conformation Analysis - Female

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Name or Barn No.	Client	Classification Date		
Registration No.	Sire Registration No.	Birth Date	Fresh Date	Lactation No.

Section	Score	Descriptive Traits	Defective Characteristics	
Rump (12%)		Rump Angle (20%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Area
		Pin Width (20%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Loin Strength (20%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Thurl Placement (20%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
Mammary System (40%)		Udder Floor (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Udder Floor
		Udder Depth (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Udder Depth
		Udder Texture (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Udder Texture
		Median Suspensory (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Median Suspensory
		Fore Attachment (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Front Test Placement (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Rear Attachment Height (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Rear Attachment Width (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
Dairy Strength (20%)		Stature (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Fore End
		Height at Front End (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Back End
		Chest Width (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Neck Cuts
		Body Depth (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Body Structure (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
Feet & Legs (28%)		Body Condition Score (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Udder Texture (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Loin Strength (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	
		Foot Angle (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Claw
		Heel Depth (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Legginess
		Foot Composite (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Foot Problems
		Bone Quality (10%)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Udder Support
Class	Score	Comments:		

Effective December 2023  
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Computer-calculated scores (Descriptive traits minus Defective Characteristics & adjusted to be independent of age, stage of lactation and udder fullness)

## OVERALL FINAL SCORE

Computer-calculated score



# Recent Changes – Feet & Legs (Free Stall)

### Free Stall Barns - Females Holsteins

Overall Weight	Traits	Weights Before	Weights in Feet & Legs Now
28	FA	9	<b>7</b>
	HDP	22	<b>21</b>
	BQ	5	<b>4</b>
	RLSV	19	<b>14</b>
	RLRV	31	<b>18</b>
	FLV	0	<b>7</b>
	LOC	0	<b>18</b>
	TP	14	<b>11</b>
	Total	100	<b>100</b>

### Free Stall Barns - Males Holsteins

Overall Weight	Traits	Weights Before	Weights in Feet & Legs Now
28	FA	25	<b>24</b>
	HDP	22	<b>22</b>
	BQ	10	<b>5</b>
	RLSV	17	<b>14</b>
	RLRV	26	<b>16</b>
	FLV	0	<b>5</b>
	LOC	0	<b>14</b>
	Total	100	<b>100</b>



# Recent Changes – Feet & Legs (Tie Stall)

Tie Stall Barns - Females Holsteins			
Overall Weight	Traits	Weights Before	Weights in Feet & Legs Now
28	FA	9	<b>7</b>
	HDP	22	<b>21</b>
	BQ	5	<b>4</b>
	RLSV	19	<b>21</b>
	RLRV	31	<b>25</b>
	FLV	0	<b>11</b>
	LOC	0	<b>0</b>
	TP	14	<b>11</b>
	Total	100	<b>100</b>

Tie Stall Barns - Males Holsteins			
Overall Weight	Traits	Weights Before	Weights in Feet & Legs Now
28	FA	25	<b>24</b>
	HDP	22	<b>22</b>
	BQ	10	<b>8</b>
	RLSV	17	<b>16</b>
	RLRV	26	<b>24</b>
	FLV	0	<b>6</b>
	LOC	0	<b>0</b>
	Total	100	<b>100</b>



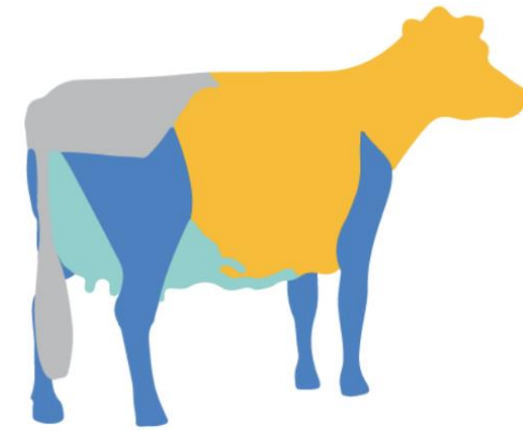
# Calculation for Locomotion in Tie Stall (currently classified as a research trait)

Locomotion Regression Equation for Holsteins in Tie Stall Barns	
Parameter	Regression Term
Lactation No. (1,2,3+)	Linear
Foot Angle	Linear
	Quadratic
Heel Depth	Linear
	Quadratic
Bone Quality	Linear
Rear Legs Side View	Linear
	Quadratic
Rear Legs Rear View	Linear
Thurl Placement	Linear
	Quadratic
Rear Attachment Width	Linear



## Other Changes 2022

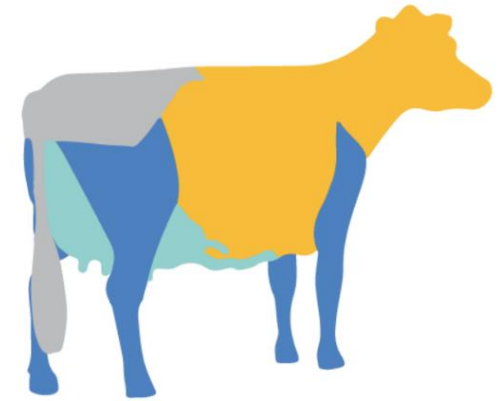
- Harsher discrimination on codes 1, 2 , 3, 8 & 9 for **Udder Depth**  
-also adjustments on measurement conversions
- Harsher discrimination on codes 1, 2 & 3 for **Stature** on all lactations  
- also adjustments on measurement conversions for codes 1 – 5 in 1<sup>st</sup> lactation animals
- Adjustments to measurement conversions on **Rump Angle** for codes 3, 4 & 7 in 1<sup>st</sup> lactation animals  
-removed the adjustment process for age at calving, stage of lactation & udder fullness for Rump Angle measurements to linear scores





# Other Changes 2023

- Harsher discrimination on codes 7, 8 & 9 for **Udder Floor**
- 2 point deduction from Mammary System when an animal receives a linear score of 9 for **Rear Teat Placement** (All Lactations)
- Removed the following defects from the scorecard:
- Changed lactation 3+ BCS 1 – 5 scale to be the same as lactation 2
- Changed the name Dairy Capacity to Rib Structure



Advanced Tailhead
Recessed Tailhead
High Tailhead
Short Fore
Front Teats Back
Boggy Hocks
Lacks Bone
Not Well Sprung
Lacks Balance
Undesirable Head



# Thank You

