Cow comfort and lameness on British Columbia dairy farms


Cow comfort plays an important role in the prevention of lameness. The first step in exploring this relationship is to determine the current status of cow comfort and lameness on commercial dairy farms in British Columbia.

To do this, we recorded the lying time and locomotion score (1 = sound to 5 = severely lame) of 2033 high producing cows from 43 farms (>70 milking cows, freestall housing, TMR/PMR).

Designing and managing housing with cow comfort in mind can reduce the risk of lameness. Many farms in BC achieved remarkable success in both cow comfort and lameness prevention.

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