Herd-health practical in beef cattle farm

Undersigned, …….Supervisor of the practical work, herewith declares that the practitioner duly performed the tasks assigned for the date

	Tasks	Date	Signature
1	General overview of the farm. Geographical direction of the farm, distance between the farm and nearest human settlements. Comparison of animal welfare and biosecurity specifications to actual parameters of the farm. Description of the housing and feeding technology.		
2	Summary and analysis of the main data of the farm. Getting acquainted with herd management software applied in the farm: data recording, verification of records, analyse herd performance with regard to production, reproduction and health, identify cows that are not performing, track and report of financial aspects etc.		
3	Visual examination of the daily feed ration and drinking water; taking water and feed samples for laboratory analysis; evaluation of previous laboratory reports.		
4	Getting acquainted with the practice of feeding applied in the farm.		
5	Body condition scoring, visual examination and scoring of faeces. Observation and examination of rumination.		
6	Presence, observation and active assistance to labouring cows, taking care of new-born calves, in case: resuscitation. Active gynaecological involvement in cases of dystocia. Critical evaluation of hygienic aspects of calving.		
7	Hysterotomia (section Caesarea).		
8	Check-up of involution and complications (retained foetal membranes, puerperal and clinical metritis, pyometra). Setting diagnosis and purposeful treatment.		
9	Verifying the cyclic activity of ovaries, examination of ovaries and appendances by rectal palpation and ultrasonic equipment.		
10	Oestrus detection. Artificial insemination. Diagnostic and inductive methods of stimulating ovarian activity as used in the farm. Cyclic synchronisation.		
11	Pregnancy diagnosis with cows and in-calf heifers. Rectal examination on days 42-60 after servicing.		
12	Pregnancy diagnosis with cows and in-calf heifers with echography from day 30 onward after servicing.		
13	Treatment of the new-born calf (freeing the upper airways, disinfection of the umbilical cord /navel disinfection/, supplementation with colostrum etc.)		
14	Checking-up the quality of colostrum and supplementation of calves with colostrum.		

15	Dissection of superfluous nipples and dehorning.		
16	Clinical examination of calves and growing cattle, diagnosis of diseases present in the farm and treatments.		
17	Active participation in preventive programmes (immunisation, antiparasitic treatments etc.).		
18	Reproduction management in breeding herd. (Is any assisted reproductive intervention available? e.g.: AI, oestrus synchronisation etc.)		
19	Diagnosis and treatment of clinical mastitis.		
20	Active participation at calving. Calving assistance.		
21	Taking biological samples (e.g. blood) from the cow or calf for microbiological, biochemical, toxicological etc. examination. Evaluation of data reported by the diagnostic lab.		
22	Review and critical analysis of the herd health programme applied in the farm.		
23	Knowing and critical analysis of the farm practice of preventive foot bathing.		
24	Functional hoof trimming, curative trimming of diseased claws and medical treatments.		
25	Detailed clinical examination of diseased animals, diagnosis and treatment. Description of the cases.		
26	Withdrawing biological samples (blood, urine, rumen content and milk) and obtaining hair samples.		
27	Justification of implementing metabolic profile tests and critical evaluation of data reported by the diagnostic lab.		
28	On spot diagnostic tests (test stripes for the examination of urine samples; tests for rumen fluid samples, etc.).		
29	On spot surgical interventions (trocarisation /paracenthesis/ of the rumen, treatment of wounds, surgical solution of abomasal displacement, etc.).		
30	Participation in herd-level treatments (antiparasitic treatments, immunisations, etc.).		
32	Carrying-out tuberculin skin test and evaluation of results.		
31	Involvement in implementation of timely state veterinary actions. Critical analysis of waste management and disposal applied in the farm.		
32	Autopsy and dissection of carrions. Sending dead animals (or parts) into diagnostic laboratories. Preparation of documentations.		
33	Overall summary and evaluation of the farm with special regard to economy of production, housing and feeding conditions and to the herd health technology.		

Of the above listed practices the student should perform at least 70% and the activities should be testified by signature of the supervisor. Lesser performance forms stumbling block of acceptance.

Date and place of the practice

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Supervisor

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Herd Health and Mobile Clinic

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