

Sick cow identification

(Sick cows demonstrate something abnormal...)

Signs of an ABNORMAL cow

1. Depressed, not eating, walking slow with head down to parlor
 - Act different than cows in the rest of the pen
2. Lame:
 - Obvious lameness, swelling of foot or leg
 - Abnormal walk with favoring of one foot or leg
 - Arched back while walking
3. Lumps, Bumps, Bruises, Bad eyes
 - Abnormal swelling on any part of head, neck, body, or legs of cattle
 - Red, cloudy, or tearing of eyes
4. No Milk
 - Cow on her way to parlor do not have “fill” in udder
5. Deviation list
 - Cows on deviation list that have less milk than their weekly average
 - Cows that are milking <10 liters

WHEN cows should be spotted

- a) When cows are walking to the milking parlor
- b) When locking up cows for treatment, heat detection, or breeding
- c) When doing routine pen walks in morning and afternoon
- d) When return from parlor when cow does not go to feed bunk

WHAT to do once an abnormal cow has been identified

1. Record number on personal notebook
2. Segregate or lock cow in headlock
3. Use “sick cow” protocol to identify problem

www.infodairy.com

4. Treat according to protocol