

Changes producers made to improve dairy cow welfare

129 farmers made 163 changes to improve 16,300 dairy cows' welfare

28% of farmers made improvements to tracks and walkways



28 farmers installed/improved tracks to prevent poaching and lameness



10 farmers improved concrete walkways to reduce injury



7 farmers installed rubber matting in the parlour, collecting yard or feed face to reduce sole ulcers

13% of farmers increased space and access to resources



11 farmers extended walkway, loafing and lying areas for better cow flow and positive social interactions



6 farmers increased feed and water trough space for better access to resources



4 farmers reduced stocking rates to create more space and access to resources

21% of farmers improved cow comfort



14 farmers built new housing
6 farmers improved cubicle design
5 farmers changed bedding material to sand or sawdust
5 farmers installed mattresses
4 farmers increased the amount of cubicle bedding

9% of farmers improved housing



7 farmers improved ventilation
5 farmers installed grooming brushes
3 farmers improved lighting for a more natural, even distribution

8% of farmers improved lameness prevention and treatment



10 farmers started routine trimming or improved trimming facilities



4 farmers employed a lameness reduction programme including early detection and treatment of lame cows

8% of farmers further improved cow welfare



6 farms improved stock keeper training
4 farmers started using cow based indicators (welfare outcomes)
4 farmers started cross breeding for increased hybrid vigour

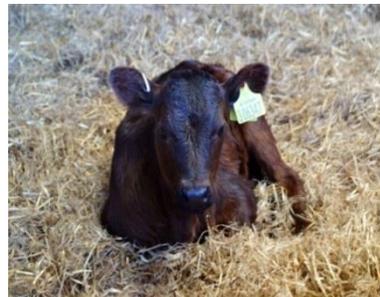
7% of farmers improved the prevention of mastitis



6 farmers improved targeted mastitis treatment

5 farmers improved cluster and teat hygiene at milking

6% of farmers improved calf welfare



6 farmers provided new or improved housing

3 improved ventilation, and infection control to reduce pneumonia and diarrhoea

NB Data was collected from 129 farmers between October 2013 – November 2014 where a total of 163 changes were made, ranging from 1-3 changes per farm. The total number of cows affected by changes is 16,300 (average herd size 126, range 4-500 cows).

Have you considered making similar changes?

Contact Jess and Kate to discuss and share your ideas or for more information and support animalwelfareadvisor@assurewel.org

