# Cattle Handling

## Student worksheet – suggested answers

### Standard 1.1

A person must take reasonable actions to ensure the welfare of cattle under their care.

Table – Responsibilities

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G1.2 Agistment responsibilities should be documented, communicated, and clearly understood by all parties involved. | Expectations of the level of care the cattle will receive while on agistment must be agreed upon, communicated, and understood to ensure that cattle are monitored and handled sufficiently to maintain or reach the necessary body condition and health status. | * Document care/monitoring/husbandry expectations for cattle in time period of agistment.
* Communicate if cattle are to be maintaining condition or increasing condition.
* Document the time period of agistment.
* Communicate a plan in case of the need to provide supplementary feed.
* Each party involved in the agistment agreement should sign the agreed document.
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### Standard 2.1

A person in charge must ensure cattle have reasonable access to adequate and appropriate feed and water.

Table – Feed and water

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G2.2 Regular assessment should be made of the needs of the cattle in relation to the quantity and quality of feed and water. | All animals require potable water for drinking. Quantities may vary depending on the species, stage of production, and prevailing weather conditions. Animals require varying quantities and quality of feed depending on their breed, stage of production, age, size, and prevailing weather conditions. It is important to be able to assess the quantity and quality of feed to ensure animals are getting appropriate feed amounts, as an excess or deficiency of appropriate feed can lead to health issues and decrease in production. The more intensive the production system, the greater the need for monitoring levels of feed and water availability. | * Analyse feed nutrients.
* Assess dam levels and stored water.
* Monitor pumps that support stock water availability
* Assess the accessibility/affordability of buying sufficient quantities of feed during drought.
* Analyse pasture quantity.
* Regular assessment of animals’ condition and adjusting the quantity or quality of feed provided.
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| G2.3 Stocking rates and/or feed supplementation should be managed to maintain cattle in appropriate body condition. | Pasture available in paddocks is not always sufficient to maintain cattle in appropriate body condition. An appropriate stocking rate is essential to ensure cattle are not getting too much or too little feed. Regular monitoring of paddocks is essential to not only monitor cattle condition, but also pasture availability so that stocking rates can be changed accordingly.Sometimes supplementary feeding is essential if there is little pasture available. Supplementary feeding should always be introduced slowly and be appropriate for the production stage, condition, and age of the cattle. | * Closely monitor paddocks and cattle condition.
* Adjust de-stocking or stocking depending on cattle condition and pasture availability.
* Provide supplementary feed.
* Regularly weigh and assess cattle.
* Conduct feed assessment of pasture.
 |
| G2.8 Self feeders should be checked, cleaned, and maintained regularly. | It is important to ensure that self-feeders are in working order and delivering the expected amount of feed to animals. It is essential that feeders are regularly cleaned thoroughly to remove build-up of old/wasted/spoiled feed and also any build-up of faeces from around feeders, as this can lead to health issues and animals not feeding. | * Routinely check feeders are working and that correct amounts of feed are being delivered as planned.
* Routinely clean feeders and the area around feeders to prevent build-up of old feed and faeces around feeders. The timing of cleaning may need to consider recent weather.
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| G2.11 Lactating cows, and all cattle in hot weather, should have access to water at least twice daily. | All cattle have much higher water requirements during hot weather, and lactating cows have an even higher need due to milk production. It is essential that cattle have access to clean, cool drinking water at least twice daily; however, a constant supply is always preferred. | * If cattle are in a situation where it is not practical to provide ad lib water, for example at a competition, ensure that they have access to water at least twice daily in hot weather by either walking the cattle to troughs or water sources, or carrying buckets of water to the animals.
* Check that water is clean and cool and that cattle are drinking.
* During hot weather, consider supplying extra troughs/ providing additional access to dams
* Ensure troughs/dams are large enough for the size of the herd and provide adequate access.
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### Standards 3.1 to 3.3

S3.1 A person in charge must take reasonable actions to ensure the welfare of cattle from threats, including extremes of weather, drought, fires, floods, disease, injury, and predation.

S3.2 A person in charge must ensure the inspection of cattle at intervals, and at a level appropriate to the production system and the risk to the welfare of cattle.

S3.3 A person in charge must ensure appropriate treatment for sick, injured, or diseased cattle at the first reasonable opportunity.

Table – Risk management of extreme weather, natural disasters, disease, injury, and predation

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G3.2 Drought strategies should be prepared in advance and then progressively implemented before paddock feed runs out, and may include:* relocation
* supplementary feeding
* use of stock containment areas
* sale or agistment
* segregation according to risk
* early weaning
* humane killing.
 | It is essential that drought plans and strategies are in place and are implemented appropriately to avoid running out of feed for the number of stock on hand. It is important that cattle are only kept if there is a way of meeting their feed requirements. Plans should reflect the available resources, for example, capital to purchase feed and the value of breeding stock. | * Relocate stock.
* Ensure storage of supplementary feed as an insurance.
* Maintain a strong pasture, including drought tolerant species.
* Enable supplementary feeding.
* Use stock containment areas.
* Organise sale/destocking.
* Organise agistment.
* Segregate stock according to risk.
* Consider early weaning to reduce the overall energy requirements.
* Consider humane killing of low value or unsuitable stock.
* Manage stocking rates against pasture availability before all feed is depleted.
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| G3.4 Cattle handling should be minimised during extremely hot weather. | Like any animals, cattle can become very hot, dehydrated, and stressed, leading to sickness and death if handled during extremely hot weather. Where possible, handling should be avoided during hot weather and if handling is required, strategies should be used to minimise the risk of cattle suffering from heat. Calves and lactating cows are particularly susceptible to heat stress. | * Plan handling depending on the weather forecast.
* If handling is necessary on a hot day, start in the very early morning or evening.
* Use sprinkler systems in yards.
* Provide supplies of clean fresh water.
* Use undercover yards.
* Walk cattle slowly, with rest breaks.
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| G3.7 Cattle should be vaccinated to protect against likely infectious diseases if there is a significant risk to the welfare of cattle. | Vaccination can provide protection from many diseases and should be a part of every cattle health program.It is important to seek advice from a local veterinarian and discuss an appropriate vaccination plan to protect cattle from diseases that could impact of their welfare. Vaccination plans vary depending on the breed of cattle, the location, and the stage of production. The most commonly used vaccinations are:* 5-in-1 – protects against five clostridial diseases: pulpy kidney (enterotoxaemia), black disease, tetanus, blackleg, and malignant oedema.
* 7-in-1 – protects against the same diseases as 5-in-1, plus Leptospira harjo and Leptospira pomona.
 | * Seek veterinary advice and develop an appropriate vaccination program for the location and type of production system.
* Administer vaccinations at the recommended intervals for the production stage and location of cattle.
* Keep records of all vaccinations given and adhere to all withholding periods.
* Continue to consult with a veterinarian to stay up to date with vaccination procedures and the release of new vaccines.
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| G3.9 Consideration should be given to selecting cattle that are suitable for and adapted to the production environment, and that are resistant to parasites and specific diseases relevant to the environment. | Different breeds of cattle thrive in different locations. It is important to select a breed that is suitable to the area where production will take place. Selecting cattle that are not appropriate for the area will result in cattle struggling to thrive on unsuitable pastures/forage and being more susceptible to problems like parasites and heat stress. To ensure a high level of cattle welfare, appropriate breeds should be selected for the production location. | * Consider the location and climate before selecting cattle. Selection should consider the differences between species and within species.
* Bos indicus breeds are in general better adapted to more tropical areas. They have increased heat tolerance and show resistance to parasites commonly found in tropical zones. They are better able to maintain milk production and hence more consistently wean calves in hotter areas than Bos taurus breeds.
* Bos taurus breeds thrive in more temperate zones. They are able to maintain production in colder temperatures.
* The resistance to internal parasites can be genetically correlated. Herds within a particular breed that have been selected for parasite resistance can carry smaller worm burdens than other herds with similar exposure to parasites. This means that producers can select individual animals to help maintain higher levels of production.
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| G3.12 Predator control programs should be implemented where predation is a significant risk to the welfare of cattle. | It is important to provide cattle with adequate protection from predators if there is a risk present. Calves are the most susceptible to attack from predators and extra care should be taken to control predators around calving time. | Consider:* wild dog control programs
* dog proof fencing
* 1080 fox and wild dog baiting programs
* regular monitoring during calving.
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### Standard 4.1

S4.1 A person in charge must take reasonable actions in the construction, maintenance, and operation of facilities and equipment to ensure the welfare of cattle.

Table – Facilities and equipment

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G4.3 The surfaces of yards, pens, tracks, and laneways should be constructed and maintained to minimise the risk of lameness, slips, and falls. | When cattle are under pressure from a handler in a yard or laneway situation, they often move fairly fast and tend to change direction quickly, making slips and falls a risk. To minimise the chance of cattle slipping and falling, it is important that surfaces of yards, pens, laneways, and tracks are constructed using non-slip materials. Good drainage is also essential to reduce slippery areas and the build-up of mud in areas cattle will stand for long periods of time. | * Laneways, yards, pens, and high-traffic areas should be designed and constructed with good drainage. This can be achieved by using slightly sloping ground and/or including drainage lines and gravel.
* The surface of yard and pen floors can be made of crushed material or roughened concrete to prevent slipping.
* Concrete areas should be hosed or scraped to remove mud and/or faeces build up.
* Avoid muddy/wet areas that may become slippery.
* Avoid muddy areas in holding yards that cattle will be standing in for long periods of time.
* Cattle should not be penned on concrete surfaces that are not covered in bedding for extended periods, for example overnight.
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| G4.4 Facilities should be free of protrusions and obstacles that may cause injury. | Cattle generally move through these areas quickly and can easily injure themselves if there are any protrusions present. Sharp objects can easily cause lacerations that may require veterinary attention, while other protruding objects can cause bruising that is painful and can decrease meat quality. | * Check facilities before use and then regularly for any protruding objects or obstacles and remove prior to using facilities.
* Consider closing off sections of yards if they are considered unsafe or not easily fixable.
* Monitor cattle closely as they move through the yards and check for problems.
* Handlers who use the yards should be encouraged to leave them free of obstacles after use and report any aspect of the facilities that require maintenance promptly when noted.
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| G4.5 Water sprinklers should be used to reduce dust levels and provide cooling during handling in yards as appropriate. | In hot weather, cattle can easily become very hot from mustering, yarding, and handling. Sprinklers can help cool the cattle and surrounds. The use of sprinklers to dampen the yards also helps reduce dust. Excessive dust can cause respiratory problems for both animals and humans, as well as reducing visibility. | * All yards should be constructed to include a sprinkler system.
* Prior to yarding cattle, turn the sprinklers on to dampen the ground thoroughly.
* Sprinklers may be used while the cattle are resting in the yards to reduce their body temperatures.
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| G4.11 Concrete flooring in rest areas should be covered by an appropriate depth of bedding material. | Bedding provides a soft area for cattle to lay that encourages rest and helps to maintain overall health and production. | Cover resting areas in bedding material such as straw, wood shavings, or sawdust. |

### Standards 5.1 to 5.11

Standards 5.1 to 5.11 can be found on pages 17 and 18 of the [Australian animal welfare standards and guidelines for the welfare of cattle [PDF 1.3MB]](http://www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au/files/2011/01/Cattle-Standards-and-Guidelines-Endorsed-Jan-2016-061017_.pdf).

Table – Handling management

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G5.4 The degree and duration of restraint for cattle should be the minimum necessary to allow a procedure to be done efficiently and safely. | Restraint of cattle is stressful for animals and can result in injury to both the animal and handlers. For this reason, the duration an animal is restrained must be minimised and tasks requiring restraints completed efficiently. | * Ensure appropriate, safe, and well-maintained handling equipment is used, for example, a crush.
* Ensure all equipment to carry out procedures is on hand, prepared, and well maintained/safe.
* Ensure handlers are experienced and have the required knowledge/skills to carry out the procedure.
* Ensure handlers have a plan of how the procedure will be carried out and which handlers will be responsible for tasks.
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| G5.10 Wounds should be treated as soon as practicable to prevent infection and flystrike. | Untreated wounds can easily become infected and be susceptible to flystrike, which can result in the need for veterinary treatment as well as unnecessary pain, illness, and death. | * Bring wounded cattle or cattle suffering flystrike into yards as soon as this is identified and begin treatment.
* Treat minor wounds with antiseptic and clean daily (if possible) until wound is showing signs of healing
* Seek veterinary attention for large wounds, wounds that are showing signs of infection, wounds that are failing to heal, or wounds that require stitching.
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| G5.30 Ear marking and tattooing instruments should be sharp and clean, with relevant hygienic techniques followed. | In order to reduce pain for cattle during ear marking and tattooing, instruments must be sharp and well maintained. Instruments that are not sharp will inflict more pain and cause a larger wound than necessary on animals. A high level of hygiene is also essential in order to reduce the risk of infection.Sharp and clean instruments give a cleaner wound that heals more quickly. | * Always ensure the correct instruments are available and used for ear marking and tattooing.
* Ensure ear marking and tattooing instruments are clean, sharp, and well maintained. They should be cleaned and sharpened after use and stored away ready for future use.
* Keep spare ear marking instruments on hand in the case of breakage or if the original instruments need to be sharpened.
* Monitor the condition and sharpness of instruments at all times.
* All instruments must be routinely sterilised to reduce the chance of infection.
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### Standards 6.1 to 6.9

Standards 6.1 to 6.9 can be found on pages 21 and 22 of the [Australian animal welfare standards and guidelines for the welfare of cattle [PDF 1.3MB]](http://www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au/files/2011/01/Cattle-Standards-and-Guidelines-Endorsed-Jan-2016-061017_.pdf).

Table – Castration, dehorning, and spaying

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G6.3 Surgical procedures should be planned with consideration of the health and age of cattle, weather, staff availability, and facilities, including the use of temporary or permanent yards. | Surgical procedures can involve a degree of pain, discomfort, and stress to animals. The age and health status of an animal as well as the weather can greatly affect how an animal copes with surgical procedure. For example, hot weather can increase bleeding, and young animals will deteriorate if they need to be walked a long distance to yards and be less able to cope with the stress of the surgical procedure. | * Plan surgical procedures according to animals’ age. For example, lamb marking should be carried out between 4 and 6 weeks of age.
* Routinely check weather forecasts when organising lamb marking, mulesing, calf marking, dehorning, or any other surgical procedure.
* If contractors are used for marking or mulesing, ensure they are well trained and follow high standards of animal welfare.
* Consider using temporary yards to minimise the need for mustering and walking long distances, especially for young, old, or pregnant stock.
* Avoid moving cattle long distances pre- and post carrying out procedures that may cause bleeding, particularly in hot weather.
* Ensure there is an appropriate number of staff to efficiently and safely complete the procedure and provide monitoring and follow up.
* Provide shade, such as trees or undercover yards, for animals to rest post any surgical procedure, particularly in hot weather.
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| G6.7 Calves should be separated from their mothers for the shortest possible time unless they are to be hand-reared or weaned onto a solid diet. | Separating calves from their mothers causes distress to both the cow and calf. However, this is sometimes necessary in order for husbandry procedures to be carried out. Separating calves from cows for an extended period of time can cause calf dehydration, distress to both cow and calf, and problems mothering within the herd. | * Care needs to be taken when mustering cows and calves to avoid leaving calves behind, and separating newborn calves from their mothers, which may lead to mismothering or dehydration.
* If separation is required, ensure a high level of organisation and efficiency for husbandry procedures so that the separation time is limited.
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| G6.19 Preference should be given for breeding of naturally polled cattle. | Horned cattle have up to double the amount of bruised trim in a feedlot situation, reducing the quality of meat. Horned cattle are more likely to injure other cattle in the herd, for example eye injuries, are more dangerous and difficult to handle in the yards, and may require particular handling equipment. Dehorned cattle often suffer a production setback for a period of time post dehorning. In addition, it is good practice to breed animals that require less husbandry procedures, as it reduces stress and increases efficiencies. | * Purchase naturally polled cattle only.
* Cull horned cattle from the breeding herd.
* Breed cattle with the homozygous polled gene to overcome horned cattle in the herd.
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### Standards 7.1 to 7.5

S7.1 A person performing artificial breeding procedures on cattle must have the relevant knowledge, experience, and skills, or be under the direct supervision of a person who has the relevant knowledge, experience, and skills.

S7.2 A person performing artificial breeding procedures on cattle must take reasonable actions to minimise pain, distress, or injury.

S7.3 A person in charge must ensure the inspection of calving cattle at intervals appropriate to the production system and the level of risk to the welfare of cattle.

S7.4 A person in charge must ensure calving induction is done under veterinary advice.

S7.5 A person in charge must ensure that induced calves receive adequate colostrum or be humanely killed at the first reasonable opportunity, and before they are 12 hours old.

Table – Breeding management

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G7.3 Calving should occur in a sheltered and well-drained area where surveillance is possible. Unless birthing assistance is required, disturbance of cows should be avoided. | Shelter is essential to offer protection from the sun, heat, wind, or rain to cows and newborn calves. A well-drained area reduces mud and wet areas that can lead to wet and cold calves. Unless birthing assistance is required, cows are best left undisturbed when calving to reduce stress and promote natural birthing behaviour and good mothering. | * Move cows to a sheltered paddock prior to calving. Shelter may be provided by large boulders or rock ledges, trees, windbreaks, shrubs, or human-made structures.
* In cold conditions, ensure that there are adequate windbreaks in paddocks used for calving.
* Ensure calving paddocks are well drained to reduce mud and wet areas.
 |
| G7.5 Cows that receive severe injuries during calving or that are affected by a severe adverse outcome (prolapsed uterus, unable to remove calf) should receive urgent treatment, or be humanely killed without delay. | Calving problems can cause excessive distress and pain to the cow and ultimately lead to the death of the cow and/or calf. Cows due to calf should be monitored, and if signs of distress or calving is prolonged, then assistance by an experienced livestock handler or veterinarian help should be sought. Humane destruction should be considered if a serious injury is sustained or if recovery is unlikely. | * Closely monitor calving cows. This may involve checking the cows twice daily.
* Establish a relationship with a local veterinarian who will be able to attend in case of an emergency.
* Ensure person(s) responsible for monitoring calving cows have the required knowledge and skills to identify common birthing problems and when to seek veterinary assistance.
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| G7.7 A cow’s body condition should be considered when deciding when to wean the calf. | More energy is required to feed a lactating cow with a calf at foot than is required to feed a cow and a weaned calf. Lactation requires excessive energy and additional nutrients. The cow’s body condition score provides an objective assessment of the health status of the cow. | The cow’s body condition can be assessed by using the condition scoring system. Calves can be routinely weighed when they are brought into the yards with their mothers. These tools can assist with decision-making about when to wean. |

### Standards 8.1 to 8.4

S8.1 A person in charge must ensure the feeding and inspection of calves in calf rearing systems are performed daily.

S8.2 A person in charge must ensure that calves housed in pens can turn around, lie down, and fully stretch their limbs.

S8.3 A person in charge must ensure sufficient iron in the diet to prevent anaemia in calves in veal production systems.

S8.4 A person in charge must not allow the faeces and urine of calves housed in indoor systems to accumulate to the stage that compromises calf health and welfare.

Table – Calf rearing systems

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G8.1 Calves removed from cows should receive adequate colostrum within 12 hours of birth, with the first administration occurring as soon as possible. | It is essential for calves to receive adequate colostrum within 12 hours of birth in order for them to be healthy. Calves are born with little to no immunity and colostrum provides the calf with antibodies to protect it from infectious diseases. Colostrum also contains greater amounts of fat, protein, vitamins, and minerals than milk produced later in the lactation of the cow. | Ensure calves that are separated from their mothers are given adequate colostrum within 12 hours of birth. This may be done by providing real colostrum or a colostrum substitute. Colostrum can be frozen and used later for a calf from a different cow. This may be administered by a bottle or tubed into the calf. |
| G8.5 Calves should be grouped by size and age to reduce competition and facilitate observation and management. | It is common for calves to grow at varying rates despite their birthdate. It is important to group calves by weight and age so as to group together the most similar sized calves. This will reduce competition and ensure that calves are being fed an appropriate amount of food for their age and size. By grouping small calves together and providing more feed, there is a higher chance that these calves will meet growth targets, rather than grouping calves by age only, which may result in larger calves having access to more feed and smaller calves not getting enough feed. | * Assess calf growth rates regularly by weighing and recording calves’ weights regularly.
* Separate calves into groups according to weight and size while also considering their age to ensure appropriate feed is supplied.
* Group calves according to age to facilitate efficient management, for example, routine husbandry.
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| G8.11 Calves that become sick should be segregated and treated immediately. | Sick animals commonly pass on their illness to other animals if it is contagious. Contagious illness can rapidly spread throughout a herd, particularly when it involves young animals and in an intensive situation. For this reason, it is essential that once an animal is identified as sick, it is separated from the rest of the herd and treated immediately. Calves’ health can deteriorate rapidly if left untreated and it is recommended to seek veterinary advice immediately. If calves are scouring, they can become dehydrated within a short time. | * Closely monitor calves regularly for any signs of sickness, in particular checking for signs of scouring.
* Separate calves from others immediately if a sick calf is identified.
* Have a quarantine area that is clean, enclosed, and completely separate from other animals
* Treat any sick calf immediately and seek veterinary advice if required.
* If calves are scouring, withhold milk and give electrolytes in water.
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### Standards 9.1 to 9.4

S9.1 A person in charge must ensure the daily inspection of lactating dairy cows.

S9.2 A person in charge must implement appropriate actions to minimise heat stress of cattle.

S9.3 A person must tail dock cattle only on veterinary advice and only to treat injury or disease.

S9.4 A person in charge must ensure dairy cattle that are kept on feed pads for extended periods have access to a well-drained area for resting.

Table – Dairy management

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G9.6 During hot weather, access to drinking water should be available at all times. | Cattle can rapidly become dehydrated and suffer from heat stress if not provided with adequate drinking water, especially during hot weather. Dehydration and heat stress can cause serious health implications and death, especially for young animals and lactating cows. | * Troughs should be fitted with float valves to ensure water is constantly replenished.
* The condition of troughs and the associated fittings, including any pumps, should be regularly checked.
* Troughs should be regularly cleaned to ensure drinking water is clean and palatable.
* Dam levels should be monitored regularly, and additional water provided if they fall below adequate levels for the numbers of cattle in the paddock.
* Ensure the edges of dams do not become excessively muddy and restrict the access to the water.
* Monitor stock to ensure that they are drinking sufficiently.
* Check weather forecasts regularly and ensure water supply is plentiful on hot days.
* Make appropriate plans for moving stock to a nearby water source, or transporting water in the case of lack of water or broken troughs.
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### Standards 10.1 to 10.10

Standards 10.1 to 10.10 can be found on page 29 of [Australian animal welfare standards and guidelines for the welfare of cattle [PDF 1.3MB]](http://www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au/files/2011/01/Cattle-Standards-and-Guidelines-Endorsed-Jan-2016-061017_.pdf).

Table – Beef feedlots

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| Guidelines | Reason | Example |
| G10.3 All cattle should be observed standing and moving during daily inspections. | It is essential that cattle are observed both standing and moving during daily inspections to monitor their health and adequately identify any signs of sickness, atypical behaviour, or injury. Cattle can appear to be normal at a glance if they are observed standing still or lying down. However, signs of illness or injury may be present if the animal is moving or standing. | * When checking the herd, move around the pen to promote a small amount of movement in order to identify problems.
* Cattle that are lying down should be approached quietly to encourage them to stand and move away.
 |
| G10.4 Mixing of cattle should be minimised, and bullying behaviour should be managed by segregation. | Cattle that have been in different herds should not be grouped together unless necessary, and in this case, close monitoring should be carried out. Mixing unfamiliar cattle can promote bullying behaviour, aggression, dominance around feed and water, and injury to individuals. It is important to remove problem animals from the herd and identify animals that are being dominated by others. | * Monitor cattle closely when they first arrive in a feedlot and ensure there is adequate space for all animals at the bunk and water troughs.
* Monitor cattle closely, especially after mixing cattle from different herds or pens.
* Separate cattle if necessary.
* Take note of individual animals that are either the dominant ones or the submissive ones and segregate as required.
 |
| G10.6 New arrivals to a feedlot should be closely inspected for injury and illness. | It is essential that new arrivals to a feedlot situation are inspected for injury and illness to prevent the spread of infection and to insure that injured animals are not placed into an intensive situation where they could become badly injured. Animals that are sick or injured should be quarantined and treated immediately. | * Assess animals for injury upon arrival and do not introduce injured animals or animals showing symptoms of ill health, such as coughing, scouring, or discharges to other cattle
* Quarantine all animals for a period of time prior to introducing to the feedlot system to ensure there is no illness or injury present
* Quarantine sick animals until they have been treated and are completely recovered.
* Provide training to feedlot staff so that they are able to recognise the signs and symptoms of common diseases.
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| G10.11 Stale or spoiled feed should be removed daily. | Stale and spoiled feed can contain harmful bacteria which can make cattle sick if consumed. Stale and spoiled feed can be unpalatable, with a bad taste and smell. If fresh feed is added to stale and spoiled feed, cattle may not eat the mixed feed as they typically do not like the taste or smell. | * Remove any stale or spoiled feed every day to reduce the risk of contamination or cattle becoming infected with harmful bacteria.
* Clean feeders regularly and do not put new feed on top of old feed.
 |