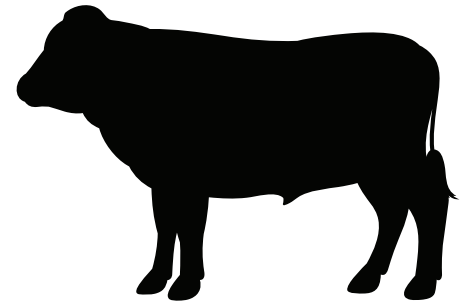


Docility EBVs calculate the temperament scores of an animal, recorded between 60 and 400 days of age. Due to an animal's temperament being influenced by previous handling experiences and frequency, it is preferable to record docility at weaning.

To score docility, either a yard or crush test can be used.

YARD TEST: Calves are individually put into a small square yard. A handler should attempt to hold the animal in one corner for approximately 30 seconds.

CRUSH TEST: Calves are individually put into a crush and held for approximately 30 seconds.



Scoring Docility

The behaviour of animals should be observed and scored using the following criteria:

SCORE	CODE	DESCRIPTION
1	DOCILE	Mild disposition, gentle and easily handled, stands and moves slowly during handling, undisturbed, settled, somewhat dull, exits crush calmly.
2	RESTLESS	Quieter than average but slightly restless, may be stubborn during handling, may try to back out of crush, some flicking of tail, exits crush promptly.
3	NERVOUS	Manageable but nervous and impatient, a moderate amount of struggling, movement, and tail flicking, exits crush briskly.
4	FLIGHTY	Jumpy and out of control, quivers and struggles violently, may bellow and froth at mouth, continuous tail flicking, defecates and urinates during handling, frantically runs the fence line and may jump when penned individually, exhibits long flight distance and exits crush wildly.
5	AGGRESSIVE	May be similar to score 4 but with added aggressive behaviour, fearful, extreme agitation, continuous movement which may include jumping and bellowing while in crush, exits crush frantically and may exhibit attack behaviour when handled alone.

Important Scoring Tips

- Scoring all animals the same value will not identify any genetic differences in docility, so there needs to be some variation for the trait to be recorded effectively.
- Half scores can be accepted if animals show behaviours intermediate to the above scores.
- If animals have had a different level of handling prior to scoring, such as being sick and needing treatment, then they need assigned a different management group to reflect this.
- Testing method needs to be recorded when submitting scoring - **Yard = TY** or **Crush = TC**
- To ensure a consistent scoring method, the same people need to handle and score all animals being assessed in the herd during testing.