CattleCheck™ — Quick Field Checklist

Companion to the full CattleCheck. Tick each action and score each rule 1–5. **Score:** 1 = Very poorly · 3 = Okay · 5 = Very well

Before scoring: Start with system fit (only what the farmer can realistically do). Fix the basics first — reproduction, feed supply, reducing mortality. Tackle the biggest constraints first.

Farm/Owner: _____ Date: _____

---

1. Right Breed & Animal Selection — Score ___/5

- ☐ Breed suited to local conditions and production goals
- ☐ Healthy, productive animals (good mothers, fast growers, sound feet/teeth)
- ☐ Inbreeding avoided (no bull with his daughters or dam)
- ☐ Any "improved" breeds managed appropriately

2. Preventive Health — Score ___/5

- ☐ Animal health warning signs known; knows when to call vet/CAHW
- ☐ New animals quarantined (21–30 days)
- ☐ Animals vaccinated on local schedule
- ☐ Animals dewormed regularly
- ☐ Ticks / external parasites controlled
- ☐ Sick animals isolated

3. Good Feed & Nutrition — Score ___/5

- ☐ Fed by category (growing / breeding / lactating)
- ☐ Enough quality forage year-round
- ☐ Feed processed (chop/mix) to boost intake
- ☐ Minerals / salt provided
- ☐ Body condition used to guide feeding

4. Water — Score ___/5

- ☐ Clean water always available
- ☐ Easy to access
- ☐ Kept cool and uncontaminated

5. Shelter & Comfort — Score ___/5

- ☐ Shade provided
- ☐ Protected from rain and wind
- ☐ Not overcrowded (~6–6.5 m² covered / cow)
- ☐ (Dairy) adequate housing

6. Calf (Neonatal) Care — Score ___/5

- ☐ Colostrum within 2 hours
- ☐ Clean birth area; navel dipped (iodine)
- ☐ Warmth/shelter for newborns
- ☐ Calves monitored daily
- ☐ Weaned gradually; young stock fed + parasite-controlled

7. Reproduction Management — Score ___/5

- ☐ Heat detected and bred on time
- ☐ Cows well-fed before and after calving
- ☐ Bull / AI managed carefully
- ☐ Heifers bred at right age/size
- ☐ Persistently infertile females culled
- ☐ Pregnancy confirmed where practical *(Target: one calf per cow per year)*

8. Grazing & Feed Management — Score ___/5

- ☐ Grazing rotated / overgrazing avoided
- ☐ Feed stored for dry periods (where feasible)
- ☐ (Extensive) animal numbers matched to forage and water; births timed to green season
- ☐ Drought plan: protect core breeding females, sell culls/surplus males early on early-warning signals, link to insurance/savings/facilitated destocking

9. Cleanliness & Hygiene — Score ___/5

- ☐ Housing dry and clean
- ☐ Milking equipment clean
- ☐ Hands and udders washed before milking
- ☐ Mastitis prevented (good udder management)

10. Record Keeping & Planning — Score ___/5

- ☐ Milk, births, health, and costs recorded
- ☐ Animal performance tracked

- ☐ Sales and breeding planned

Total: ___ / 50

Next step: Pick the 1–2 lowest-scoring checks that are also the biggest constraints, and act on those first.

Disclaimer: General educational guidance only — not a substitute for professional veterinary or agricultural advice. Adapt to local conditions and consult qualified professionals where possible.