



COWS CREATE CAREERS PROJECT

WHAT'S NORMAL

Eyes	Bright, alert Not sunken
Breathing	50 breaths per minute for 14-day-old calves 37 breaths per minute for 35-day-old calves Calm, rhythmic breathing, not laboured No rattles, gurgles or raspy sounds
Ears	Perky Not droopy
Muzzle	Warm (not hot) and wet to touch
Coat	Clean and shiny Quickly returns to a flat position when you pinch a bit of skin near the ribs and twist it 90 degrees
Navel	Dry No signs of swelling
Behaviour	Running around the pen Bellowing, particularly close to feed times Strong suck, aggressive feeder Sucking items in its environment Resting in a curled position with feet tucked under and head back along the body, often about an hour after feed time Gets up immediately with prodding Calves that are ill will be slow to rise
Manure	Soft but formed Colour will vary with diet from milky to brown Free from blood Not watery or very loose Not hard No straining when manure is passed
Holstein growth rates	0.1–0.2kg/day at 1–2 weeks
Jersey growth rates	0.5–0.7kg/day at 3–5 weeks

