

Objectives: by the end of this unit, students will be able to...

- Summarize the role of physical exams in cattle health and how to perform them.
- State the order in which the steps of a physical exam should be performed.
- State the symptoms of the ears, eyes, nose, and mouth that would lead you to be concerned and what they mean.
- Explain what a cow chewing her cud or teeth grinding tells the person performing the exam.
- Summarize what the CRT test is, what it indicates, and what the different results mean.
- Summarize what the following symptoms indicate: swollen jaw; swollen lymph nodes; slow pinch test.
- State how you know if a cow is dehydrated.
- State the appropriate heart and respiratory rate of a cow.
- Define heart murmur and dyspnea.
- Explain what a displaced abomasum is and how to detect it.
- Summarize the importance of rumen contractions and how to measure them.
- Explain what a person should look for when checking the udder of a cow.
- Define ketones and explain their importance to the physical exam.
- Summarize the different symptoms that can be found in manure and explain what they mean.
- Explain what should be checked on the right side of the cow.
- Summarize the importance of the withers pinch and dorsiflex.
- Perform a physical exam on actual cattle and come to a determination of their health and well-being.