

Eye Pigment

The birth notification form requests an eye pigment score, which ranges from 1-3. Where:

- 1 = Less than 50% of the eye is pigmented
- 2 = More than 50% of the eye is pigmented
- 3 = Specs

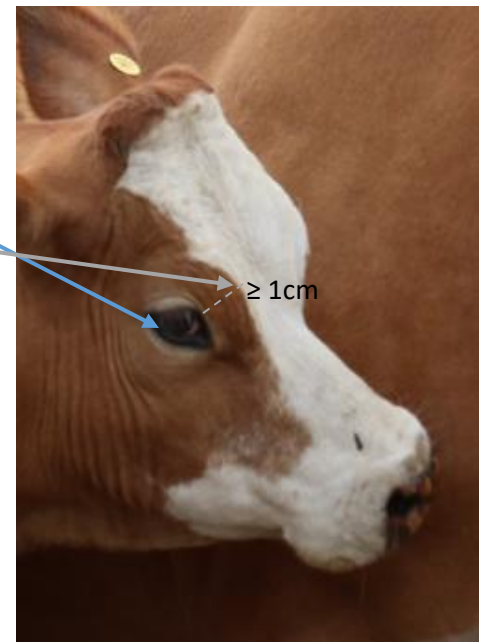
Left Eye Pigment	Right Eye Pigment
Comment	Comment

Pigmentation refers to the any colour that presents on the eye lid or nose of the animal (skin, not coat) that is a darker shade than pink.

The nose of the animal is a good indicator of pigmentation. A nose that is very light pink with no spots present would have no pigmentation and this is likely to correspond to the pigmentation of the eyes. A nose that appears light pink but has spots on it has some pigmentation. A nose with no spots but seems more nude than light pink, has pigmentation. Dark noses have full pigmentation. In the photo below one can see that the nose of the animal has dark pigmented areas, and the eyelid is almost black.

When looking at the eyes

- One looks at the pigment of the eyelid
- The amount of pigment that extends at least 1cm around the eye (hair)



Pigmentation is scored because less than 50% pigmentation is undesired. Eyelids and noses that have no pigmentation can be more prone to skin cancer.

A nice way to think about it is to ask yourself whether it looks like the animal is wearing any shade of *eyeliner*. A very pink eyelid, as can be seen in some photos below, would be considered *eyeliner-less*. However, a shade darker than the very pink, can be considered as *eyeliner*.

Below are some examples of what each of these scores would look like on an animal:

1.

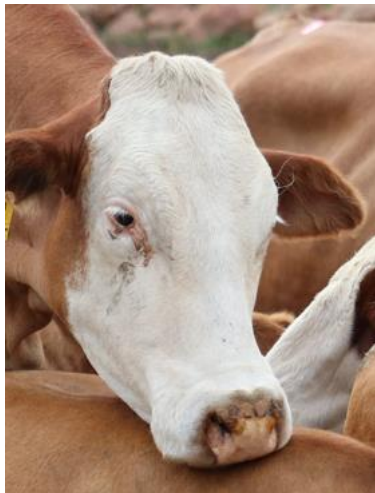


This animal would receive the following eye pigment scores; L = 3 and R = 3; Specs for both eyes.

Why? → One can see that there is visible dark pigment around both the Left and Right eyelids and the dark coat surrounds the eye completely with a width of at least 1cm.

R

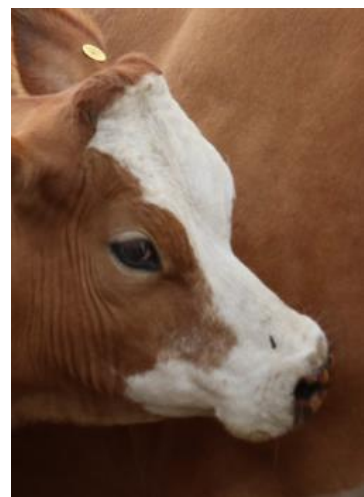
L



2. The left eye is not visible in this photo, however the right eye would receive a score of 1 as there is less than 50% pigmentation.

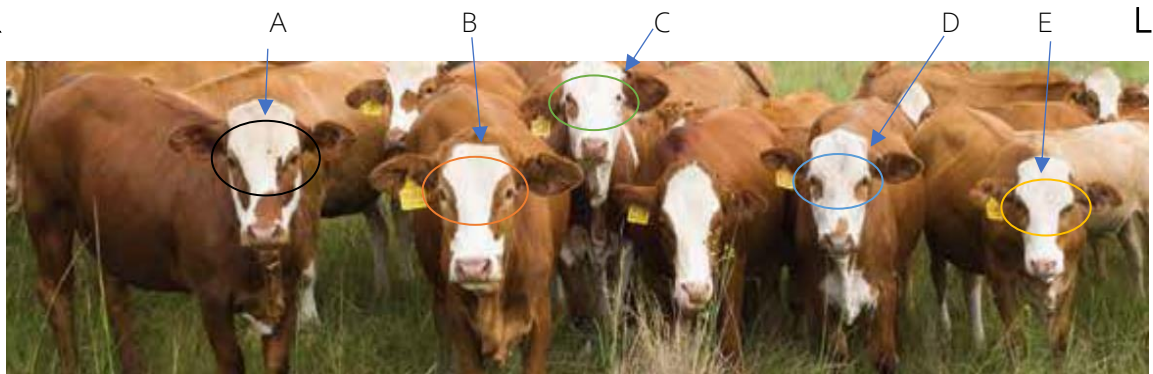
3.

The left eye is not visible in this photo; however, the right eye would receive a score of 3 as there is pigmentation in the eyelid and coat pigmentation that extends at least 1cm around the entire eye.



4.

R



A → L = 3, R = 3.

Why? → There is a shade of pigment around the eyelid for both left and right eyelids and the coat pigment extends around the eye at a width of at least 1cm for both eyes.

B → L = 3, R = 3.

Why? → Although the eyelids appear light pink for both eyes, they do have a hue of pigmentation that is darker than light pink and therefore pigmentation is present in the eyelids. The coat pigment extends around the eye at a width of at least 1cm for both eyes.

C → L = 1, R = 2.

Why? → From the nose it can be identified that the animal does have pigmentation, although the left eyelid of this animal has less than 50% pigmentation. The right eye, whilst not completely worthy of a Specs "3" score, is coat pigmented more than 50% for at least 1cm around the eye.

D → L = 2, R = 2.

Why? → From the nose, pigmentation is visible on this animal. The eyelids for both eyes appear to have darker pigmentation and whilst there is not coat pigmentation that extends for at least 1cm around the whole eye for a Specs "3" score to be valid, there is more than 50% pigmentation that extends at least 1cm around the eye.

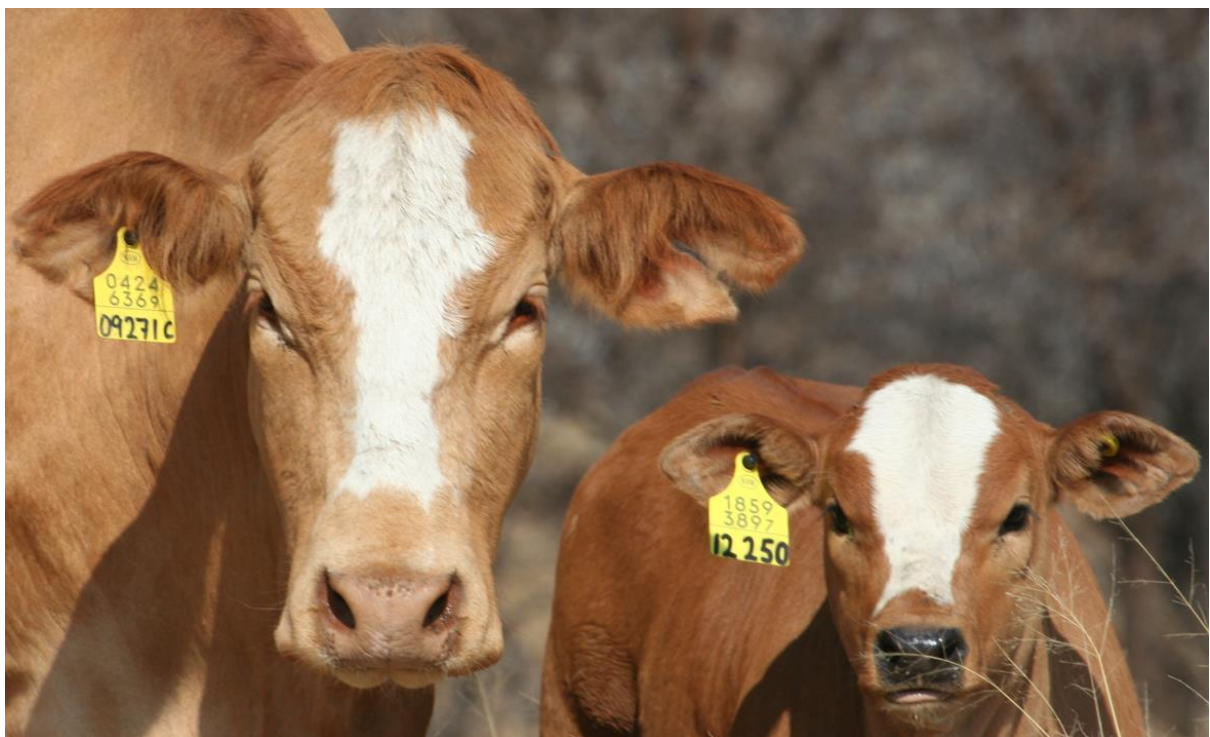
E → L = 2, R = 3.

Why? → Here it can be seen that the eyelids have a darker pigmentation for both eyes. The left eye does not appear to have coat pigmentation that extends around the whole eye with a width of at least 1cm but there is more than 50% pigmentation and thus a score of 2 qualifies. The picture is not clear, but it appears that there is at least 1cm of coat pigmentation that extends around the entire right eye and thus a score of 3 qualifies, however a score of 2 may also qualify if there is not at least 1cm of coat pigment that extends above the right eye.

5. All three of these animals would receive scores of 3 for both their left and right eyes as there is pigmentation in their eyelids and the coat pigmentation extends for at least a width of 1cm around their eyes.



6. Both the cow and her calf would receive scores of 3 for both their left and right eyes as they both have pigmented eyelids and pigmentation that extends for at least 1cm around the eye.





7. This animal's right eye would receive an eye pigment score of 1. There is a 50/50 split observed between no pigmentation and pigmentation. Thus, one could argue for a score of 2. However, the little bit of coat pigmentation that extends 1cm around the eye is less than 50%. Thus, the prominence of no pigmentation is likely to tip the scale to a score of 1.

8.

This calf would receive a right eye pigment score of 1 because the pigmentation does not exceed 50%, nor does the coat pigmentation extend at least 1cm around the eye.



9. This animal would receive a left eye pigment score of 3. Whilst it may appear that the light area around the eye is void of pigmentation, it is not as pink as the calf's eyelid in the photo above (8). There is pigmentation present around this animal's eyelid and the coat pigmentation extends at least 1cm around the eye.