Veterinary Practice name and address goes here

Logo here

Date of Examination: . . . . . **Certificate No:** . . . . . .

Owner:	
Address:	
Herd No:	

Bull:	Tag Number:
	Name:
	Breed:
	Date of birth/age:
	Other:

REASON FOR EXAMINATION: **Pre-Sale Check [ ]** **Pre-Breeding Check [ ]** **Breeding Check [ ]**

Examination for Insurance Purposes [ ] **Other [ ]:** (Please Specify:

KEY: *** Place X in box to indicate findings** **NAD = No Abnormality Detected** **** Delete as Required**

SECTION 1. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Body Condition Score: (1 - 5)		
Weighed: Y: [ ] N: [ ]	Weight: kg.	
	*** NAD**	*** Abnormal**
Heart / Lungs:	**[ ]**	**[ ]**
Eyes:	**[ ]**	**[ ]**
Incisor / Dental Pad Alignment:	**[ ]**	**[ ]**
Musculoskeletal System:	**[ ]**	**[ ]**
External Genitalia:	**[ ]**	**[ ]**
Internal Accessory Glands:	**[ ]**	**[ ]**
Scrotal Circumference (SC):	**cm.**	

Overall Result:

Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory****

SECTION 2. SEMEN EXAMINATION

Collection Method:	EEJ [ ]	AV [ ]	MASSAGE [ ]
Appearance / Density:	Creamy [ ]	Milky [ ]	Watery [ ]
Gross Motility:	/ 5		
Progressive Motility:	%		
Morphologically Normal Sperm:	%		

Overall Result:

Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory****

SECTION 3. ASSESSMENT OF MATING ABILITY

This Bull has ** / has not ** been observed exhibiting normal service behaviour and mating ability.

SECTION 4. CLASSIFICATION

In my opinion, in terms of the standards detailed on the reverse of this Certificate, the examination findings would indicate that on this specific date the bull identified above is:

SUITABLE for BREEDING** (based on meeting the requirements of Sections 1 AND 2 ONLY) – mating ability has NOT been assessed

SUITABLE for BREEDING** (based on meeting the requirements of Sections 1, 2 AND 3)

NOT SUITABLE FOR BREEDING**

NB: This Certificate does not include any testing for infectious/contagious diseases, the results of which should be reported seperately.

COMMENTS:

Veterinary Practitioner:

Name: **Reg No:**

Signed:…… **Date:** **…….**

Practice Stamp/Address

VETERINARY BULL FERTILITY EXAMINATION GUIDELINES

The aim of this Certificate is not to guarantee bull fertility, but to reduce the risk of potentially unsuitable bulls being used for breeding. A bull meeting the requirements of Section 1 AND Section 2 should have no obvious physical abnormality that would render it unsuitable for natural service, and should have the potential to be fully fertile, based upon its semen quality.

NB: This Certificate does NOT include any assessment of health status. Any tests carried out for infectious diseases (e.g. BVDV) should be reported separately.

Certificate Number

Each Certificate shall have a unique number (e.g. vet-code, date, examination number on that date = *6100/20150216/03*).

Section 1: PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

To meet the requirements of this Section the bull will have to demonstrate freedom from significant physical defects that could affect its fertility, or its ability to mate, and freedom from heritable defects that could affect its progeny.

Body Condition / Clinical Examination

Body Condition Scoring of bulls should be recorded using the **Edmonson (1-5) scale**.

Weighed / Weight

Where the owner has scales available, and where the bull has been weighed, this should be noted and weight recorded in Kg.

Heart / Lungs

The bull should be examined for any signs of heart or lung defects, which may interfere with fertility or ability to stay with cows or achieve intromission.

Jaws / Eyes

The bull should be inspected for severe over/undershot jaw and **gross** ocular defects such as cataracts, carcinomas, etc., which may interfere with vision and the ability to seek out females.

Musculoskeletal Defects

The bull should be inspected for evidence of lameness whilst walking on a smooth, level surface. Lame bulls will fail Section 1, and will be classified as "**Unsatisfactory**". Bulls with severe conformational defects of the limbs, e.g. post-hock, sickle-hock, valgus deformity or serious foot defects such as corkscrew claw or inter-digital fibroma, should be classified as "**Unsatisfactory**" in Section 1.

External Genitalia

The scrotum and contents should be carefully palpated and scrotal circumference measured (see below). Bulls with gross physical abnormalities, such as epididymitis or orchitis should be classified as "**Unsatisfactory**". Slight variation in size and position of testicles is acceptable, though breed standards may vary, and bulls may be rejected at pre-sale society inspections, if any variation in size or shape is present.

The sheath / penis should be palpated for swellings, adhesions, discharges, papillomata, etc. The tip of the penis should be inspected for normality and if it has not been visualised during semen collection, this should be noted in the "**Comments**".

Scrotal Circumference (SC)

Breed Society standards, where published, should be used as minimum SC standards in order to meet the requirements of this part of the examination. SC standards given below (Society of Theriogenology) should be utilised when no alternative Breed Standards are available.

Age In Months	**12-15**	**>15 ≤18**	**>18 ≤21**	**>21 ≤24**	**>24**
Min. SC	**30cm**	**31cm**	**31cm**	**33cm**	**34cm**

Internal Accessory Sex Glands

Seminal vesicles, prostrate and ampulla should be palpated per rectum to check for any abnormalities.

Section 2: SEMEN EVALUATION

Semen samples must meet a minimum set of standards, as detailed below.

Gross Motility

Scored on a **1 to 5** scale. A good semen sample would normally score at least **3**. However, as gross motility is influenced by the concentration of the sample, the assessment of progressive motility is required for all bulls.

Scale	Description
1	No swirl; generalised oscillation of individual sperm only.
2	Very slow distinct swirl.
3	Slow distinct swirl.
4	Moderate fast distinct swirl; dark waves.

Individual Progressive Motility

The minimum requirement is a progressive motility of at least **60%**.

Bulls with gross motility scores of **3 to 5** would normally be judged "**Satisfactory**" for progressive motility if semen is handled well and examined on a heated stage. Bulls that score **<60%** for progressive motility should have a second ejaculate collected immediately to rule out sperm accumulation and senescence as a potential cause. Continued failure to achieve **≥60%** progressive motility will normally be caused by a high percentage of morphologically abnormal or dead sperm which will be confirmed at the next stage of examination.

Semen Morphology

100 sperm cells should be counted using X1000 oil immersion microscopy with nigrosine / eosin smears or wet preparation phase contrast. To meet the requirements of this section, **70%** or more of sperm should be morphologically normal, with no more than **20%** of sperm showing nuclear defects. In marginal cases (**65%-70%**) at least 2 counts of 100 sperm cells should be carried out.

Bulls with no apparent physical abnormality of genitalia, but with marginally poor morphology should be classed as "**Unsatisfactory**". However, a note can be added to the comments section suggesting re-examination after 60 days when recovery may be evident if temporary degeneration has been the cause. Young bulls aged 12-15 months may have a poor morphology count due to immaturity and can be reassessed after 2-3 months.

Section 3: ASSESSMENT OF MATING ABILITY

As libido is difficult to assess and define, this part of the examination simply confirms whether or not the Veterinary Practitioner has observed normal service behaviour and intromission when the bull was presented with a female in oestrus. At least one successful service within 10 minutes of being presented to an in-oestrus female should be expected. If this part of the examination is not carried out, then bulls can still be classified as "**SUITABLE FOR BREEDING**" based on meeting the requirements of Section 1 AND Section 2 only. The onus is on the owner / purchaser to observe the bull closely at the start of the breeding period to monitor libido and mating ability.

Section 4: CLASSIFICATION

Any bull classified as "SUITABLE FOR BREEDING" must meet the requirements of the physical examination and achieve minimum standards for Scrotal Circumference (SC), Progressive Motility (60%) and Sperm Morphology (70%).