# Beef Cattle Locomotion Scoring

**Clinical Description:**  
**Normal**  
**Description:**  
- Animal walks normally  
- Hind feet land in a similar location to front feet  
- No apparent lameness or change in gait  

**Clinical Description:**  
**Mild Lameness**  
**Description:**  
- Animal exhibits shortened stride, dropping the head slightly  
- Does not exhibit a limp when walking  

**Clinical Description:**  
**Moderate Lameness**  
**Description:**  
- Animal exhibits obvious limp, favoring affected limb or limbs  
- Limb(s) still bears weight  
- Slight head bob when walking  

**Clinical Description:**  
**Severe Lameness**  
**Description:**  
- Animal applies little or no weight to affected limb  
- Reluctant or unable to move  
- While walking, animal’s head will be dropped and back arched, with head bob and limp detected  

- Locomotion scoring is based on the observation of cattle walking (gait), with special emphasis on head bob and stride length.  
- Animal observations should be made on a flat surface that provides good footing.  
- Locomotion score 1 or higher should be examined to determine cause of lameness.  
- Appropriate treatment and management practices should be applied to minimize economic loss due to lameness and improve overall animal well-being.