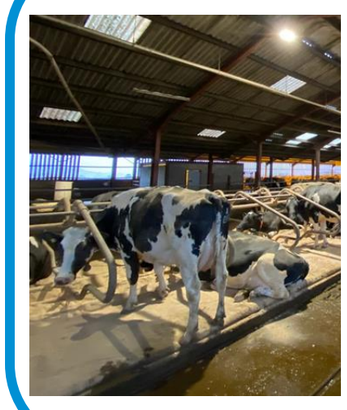
HFP Case Study

AHDB HEALTHY FEET PROGRAMME



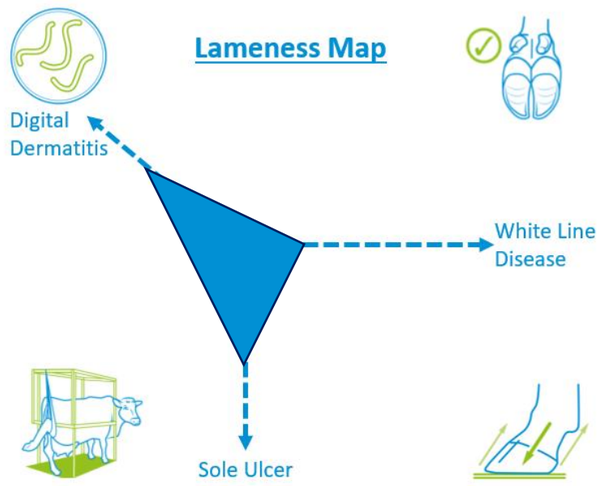
Farm Background:

- 180 cow herd, AYR calving
- Automatic milking system
- Housed all year round
- Rearing own replacements
- 11,000 litres/cow/year

STEP ONE: Mobility Score/Record Analysis

Main Lesions:

- Sole Ulcers
- Digital Dermatitis



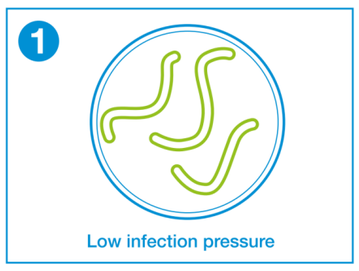
Mobility Score Results:

- 39% of the herd was lame
  - 34% Score 2 (Lame)
  - 5% Score 3 (Very Lame)

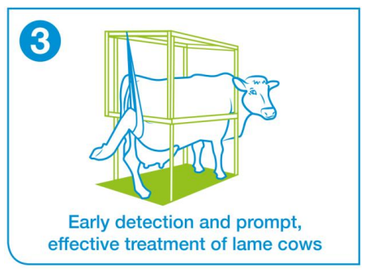
STEP TWO: Skills Review

- Earlier lameness detection needed
- Treatment protocols established to improve outcomes

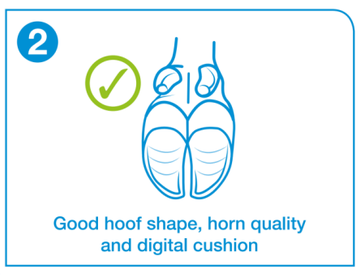
STEPS THREE & FOUR: Risk Assessment and Action Plan



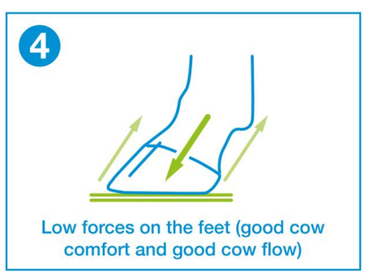
- ‘Blitz’ treat digital dermatitis
- Footbath milking cows daily
- Footbath dry cows 3 x week
- Scrape out dry cows daily



- RoMS train a member of the team
- Fortnightly mobility score
- Implement new treatment protocols (e.g. block and NSAID for new cases)



- Inspect heifers 8 weeks pre-calving
- Ensure all cows presented for foot inspection at dry off and 60-80 days in milk



- Replace cow mattresses
- Replace space boarding in cubicle shed to improve ventilation
- Install rubber matting around robots

STEP FIVE: Six month review

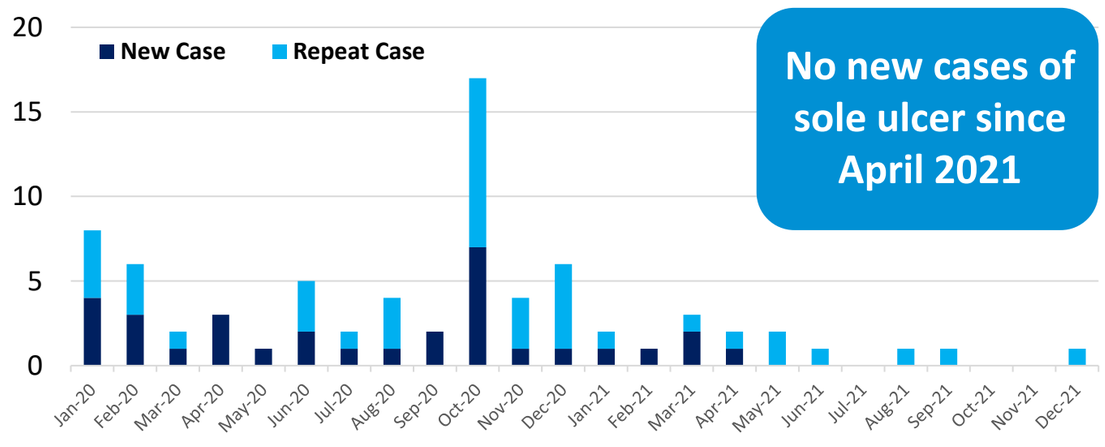
- Almost all actions completed
- **Lameness increased** during the summer due to a combination of:
  - Overtrimming leading to thin soles
  - Disturbances during mattress replacement
  - Heat stress
  - Poor outcomes following lame cow treatment

UPDATED ACTION PLAN

- Investigate heat mitigation options to reduce heat stress in summer
- Change foot trimmer
- Groove concrete in cow group (Accugroove pattern)
- Allow access to grazing in summer months

TWO YEARS ON….

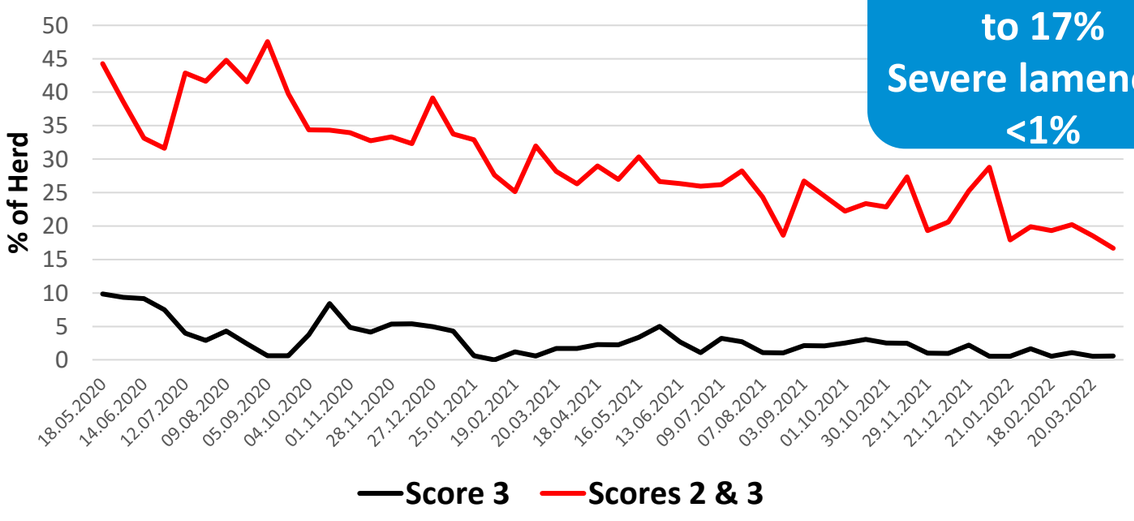
Number of Cows Diagnosed with a Sole Ulcer: 2020-2021



No new cases of sole ulcer since April 2021

Fortnightly Mobility Scores (on-farm scorer): May 2020 to March 2022

N.B. Sensitive scoring for early detection



Lameness reduced to 17% Severe lameness: <1%