Jonathon Macmillan

Herd You Were Mooving

Challenge: Resources
Category: Senior
Region: Chignecto West
City: Brookfield, NS
School: South Colchester Academy

Abstract: Animal based measures are used on dairy farms to assess cow welfare. In my project, I used hock scores, lameness scores, and milk production data to evaluate cow welfare in cows moving from a old tie-stall barn to a new free-stall barn. By determining what factors affect common welfare indicators farmers can be given better guidance as how to improve animal welfare in their facilities

Biography

My name is Jonathon Macmillan and I attend school at South Colchester Academy in Brookfield Nova Scotia. I play lots of sports such as hockey, soccer and track and field. I also participate in 4-H, where I am taking dairy and woodworking for projects. Investigating the effect of different bedding types on hock scores would help farmers to chose the most appropriate bedding for their cows to improve animal welfare. Assessing standing and lying times of cows after moving barns could also help farmers make better facility and management choices. If you were thinking about doing a science fair project I would advise you to start early and pick a topic that you really enjoy.