



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
**EXTENSION**

## Veterinary Medicine Extension

### MORTALITY RECORDS

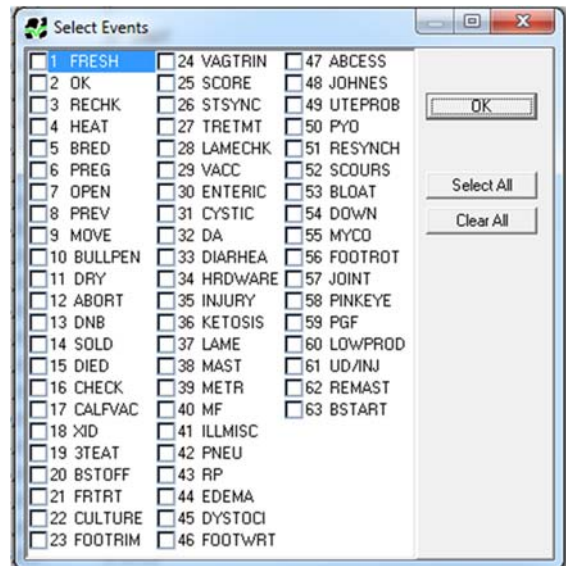
#### Mortality Alphanumeric Code: letters 1-8

- 1-2) Category related to target area for intervention
- 3) Euthanized versus Death by natural causes (E/D)
- 4) Death certificate (Y/N)
- 5-6) Immediate/proximate disease related to cause-of-death
- 7-8) Underlying or intermediate disease process or causative factor if known

#### Death Themes & Categories

- Specific disease process as a stand alone problem  
**DZ:** Specific disease such as HBS, metritis, etc.
- Traumatic injury  
**IC:** Injury related to calving trauma  
**IJ:** Injury such as spinal, stifle or hip damage  
**HE:** Trauma due to human error
- Multifactorial failures linked to transition period  
**TN:** Multifactorial transition/early lactation disease or negative energy balance issues
- Feed management  
**FD:** Feeding error
- Miscellaneous events not conducive to prevention  
**MS:** Miscellaneous
- Undetermined  
**UN:** Undetermined

Disease codes	Immediate/Intermediate/Underlying Disease or Causative Factors
AB	Abomasitis
BK	Back injury
BL	Bloat (53)
BO	Bleed out/hemorrhage
CA	Cancer
CH	Choke
CC	Concrete flooring
CE	Cancer eye
CL	Clostridial leg
CN	Congenital defect
CT	Cecal torsion
DA	Left displaced abomasum (32)
DI	Diarrhea/Infectious gastrointestinal disease (33)
DW	Down cow (54)
DY	Dystocia (45)
ED	Edema (44)
FL	Fatty liver
FR	Footrot (56)
FS	Freestall/facility issues
FW	Footwart (46)
HB	Hemorrhagic bowel syndrome
HP	Hip displacement
HW	Hardware disease (TRP) (34)
HT	Heart pathology
IC	Ice
IN	Indigestion (30)
JN	Johnes disease (48)
KE	Ketosis (36)
LG	Leg injury
LI	Listeria
LM	Generic lameness--needs attributed to specific causative factor (37)
LV	Liver abscesses
MA	Mastitis (38)
MC	Malignant catarrhal fever
ME	Metritis (39)
MF	Milk fever/Metabolic (40)
MV	Mesenteric root volvulus
PA	Parlor issues
PE	Peritonitis
PN	Pneumonia (42)
RD	Right displaced abomasum
RN	Renal disease/failure
RP	Retained placenta (43)
SA	Sole abscess (47)
SE	Septicemia
SH	Shoulder injury
SJ	Septic joint
ST	Stifle injury
UI	Udder injury (61)
UL	Perforated gastrointestinal ulcer
UT	Uterine tear (49)
VT	Vaginal trauma



**Example 1: Hemorrhagic bowel syndrome sudden death**

**DZDYHBxx**

- DZ = Specific disease to target for intervention
- D = Died of natural causes
- Y = Death certificate completed with necropsy findings
- HB = Hemorrhagic Bowel Syndrome as the immediate cause of death
- xx = No relevant underlying or intermediate disease processes

**Example 2: Failure to treat/heal lameness due to a chronic sole abscess**

**DZENLMSA**

- DZ = Lameness failure related to hoof care
- E = Euthanized
- N = No death certificate completed
- LM/37 = Generic lameness as the immediate cause of euthanasia
- SA/47 = Sole abscess as the disease process underlying the lameness

**Example 3: Severe calving trauma leading to euthanasia**

**ICEYTDY**

- IC = Injury related to calving trauma
- E = Euthanized
- Y = Death certificate completed with necropsy findings
- VT = Vaginal trauma as the immediate cause of death
- DY/45 = Dystocia as the underlying cause of death

**Example 4: Back injury leading to euthanasia**

**IJEYBKFS**

- IJ = Traumatic injury
- E = Euthanized
- Y = Death certificate completed detailing sequence of events underlying the injury
- BK = Back injury affecting the spinal cord
- FS = Injury related to freestall issues

**Example 5: Early postpartum death related to multiple diseases**

**TNDYSEDA**

- TN = Multifactorial transition cow/early lactation disease problems
- D = Died of natural causes
- Y = Death certificate completed with necropsy findings and history of disease
- SE = Septicemia as the immediate cause of death
- DA/32 = Displaced abomasum representing an intermediate disease process

**Example 6: Late lactation death due to choking on foreign material**

**MSDYCHxx**

- MS = Miscellaneous event
- D = Died of natural causes
- Y = Death certificate completed with necropsy findings
- CH = Choke
- xx = No relevant underlying or intermediate disease process

**CULLING RECORDS**

**Culling Alphanumeric Code: letters 1-8**

- 1-2) Category related to target area for intervention
- 3) Economic cull versus underlying Biologic reason for removal (E/B)
- 4) Destination code (sale barn, slaughter plant, etc.)
- 5-6) Immediate/proximate disease or reason related to cause-of-removal
- 7-8) Underlying or intermediate disease process or causative factor if known

**Culling Categories**

- AB:** Abortion
- AG:** Aggressiveness or belligerence (kickers)
- DZ:** Other specific diseases besides those listed
- IC:** Injury related to calving trauma
- IJ:** Injury such as spinal, stifle or hip damage
- JN:** Johne's Disease
- LM:** Lameness
- MA:** Mastitis problems
  
- PD:** Poor production not related to above problems
  
- RE:** Reproductive problems
- RT:** Sold as replacement animals to another dairy
- UD:** Udder conformation (excepting mastitis)