

## Food Standards Agency: Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Date released: 13 October 2016

### Request

***How many cattle are being culled each year due to A) Mastitis and B) Lameness***

### Response

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is responsible for the delivery of official controls in approved meat establishments (slaughterhouses, cutting plants and game handling establishments) subject to veterinary control within England and Wales and previously Scotland until 31 March 2015.

The FSA system of Collection and Communication of Inspection Results (CCIR) provides valuable information to the farmer and the farmer's veterinarian, allowing actions to be taken on farm to improve animal health and welfare which will result in improvements in food safety. If ante and/or post-mortem inspections reveal problems which arose during primary production, for species other than pigs and poultry, the FSA must send a report back to the Food Business Operators (FBO) responsible for the holding of provenance (farmer or producer). If ante or post-mortem inspections reveal the presence of any disease or condition that might affect public or animal health or indicate compromised animal welfare, the Official Veterinarian should inform the slaughterhouse FBO.

Although the FSA does not hold information to indicate the reason why animals are presented for slaughter I have provided in the following tables information relating to either Lameness at ante mortem or Mastitis at both ante and post mortem being recorded by FSA staff.

**Table 1, Mastitis:**

	2013	2014	2015
<b>Ante-mortem Inspection</b>			
Number of Incidences recorded	3,542	3,890	3,663
Number of cattle Inspected per year (Throughput)	1,646,022	1,694,308	1,638,372
Percentage of Throughput	0.215%	0.23%	0.224%
<b>Post-mortem inspection - offal conditions and parts</b>			
Number of Incidences recorded	4,812	12,980	13,645
Number of cattle Inspected per year (Throughput)	1,646,022	1,694,308	1,638,372
Percentage of Throughput	0.292%	0.766%	0.833%

**Table 2, Lameness:**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Lameness - Foot lesion(s)</b>			
Number of Incidences recorded	7,889	9,608	8,161
Number of cattle Inspected per year (Throughput)	1,646,022	1,694,308	1,638,372
Percentage of Throughput	0.479%	0.567%	0.498%
<b>Lameness - Not defined</b>			
Number of Incidences recorded	7,330	7,301	7,634
Number of cattle Inspected per year (Throughput)	1,646,022	1,694,308	1,638,372
Percentage of Throughput	0.445%	0.431%	0.466%
<b>Lameness - Joint/leg lesion(s)</b>			
Number of Incidences recorded	3,939	3,794	4,329
Number of cattle Inspected per year (Throughput)	1,646,022	1,694,308	1,638,372
Percentage of Throughput	0.239%	0.224%	0.264%