

Following the conclusive formal adoption of these criteria, the supplementary decisions and interpretations below have been drafted in conjunction with the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals. These decisions/interpretations have not yet been formally adopted and, in the event of exceptional circumstances, are subject to change before being included in the established BLL criteria. In anticipation thereof, certification will be carried out on the basis of these supplementary decisions and interpretations.

Date	Norm no. or topic	Question	Supplementary decision or interpretation
20-01-23	H24 Dimensions of cubicles (BLL 2 and 3 stars)	Criterion H24 states that dairy cows must be able to assume different positions when lying. Minimum conditions apply for cubicles. Due to an internal error when establishing the BLL 2 and 3 star criteria for dairy cattle, the total minimum length was amended from 240 cm to 260 cm. It could be assumed that this amendment does not mean a tightening of the criterion. However, it does in relation to the previous version. Due to this change some farms can no longer comply with this criterion. Can the total minimum length be reversed to 240 cm?	The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has decided to amend the total minimum length to 240 cm. The length of 240 cm is an interim step towards increasing the length of cubicles in the future.
12-12-22	H29a Passageway cubicles (smaller breeds)	Various criteria for Dairy cattle 1, 2 and 3 stars state dimensions for smaller breeds, as modified dimensions permit animals with a smaller stature as defined in H20 to comply with BLL criteria. However, specifications of dimensions for smaller breeds were missing in criterion H29a. Can modified dimensions be drawn up for smaller breeds?	Based on amendments concerning the dimensions in other criteria, the modified dimensions relating to smaller breeds in H29a are as follows: 1 star <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Width of passageway between cubicles or between cubicles and the wall 2.1m • Width after new construction or renovation 2.5m • Width if there is an open space after every 20 cubicles 2m 2 stars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Width of passageway between cubicles or between cubicles and the wall 2.1m • Width after new construction or renovation 3m • Width if there is an open space after every 20 cubicles 2m 3 stars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Width of passageway between cubicles or between cubicles and the wall 2.1m • Width after new construction or renovation 3m • Width if there is an open space after every 20 cubicles 2m
16-03-23	H29a Passageway cubicles	Dairy cattle 1, 2 and 3 stars states requirements for the minimum width of the passageway between cubicles or between cubicles and the wall. The width is at least 2.5 m for lactating cows to allow the cows to pass each other easily without any conflict. If there is an open space of at least 2 m between every 20 cubicles, a passageway of 2.2 m wide is sufficient. Can this be deviated from if there is a passageway/open space that enables access to the milking robot or the pasture?	There is considered to be a passageway with a width of at least 2.5 m (or 2.2 m if there is an open space of at least 2 m between every 20 cubicles) if this passageway is between cubicles or between cubicles and the wall. If this passageway is used as a passageway/open space to access a specific destination such as for example the milking robot or the pasture (for grazing) where the cows can only move in one direction, this criterion does not apply.
16-03-23	HK04 Duration of stay dairy farm	Criterion HK04 states that for 1 star the calf remains on the farm of its birth for at least the first 28 days and for 2 and 3 stars that the calf must remain on the farm of its birth for at least the first three months, or is sent, after at least 28 days on the farm of its birth, to a rearing farm within a 50 km radius. The criterion came into effect on 01-01-2023. However, in practice, this criterion is not yet workable. Must this criterion be complied with at the moment?	The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has decided that criterion HK04 does not need to be complied with at the moment. This criterion will come into force after a transitional period that is still to be determined.

20-01-23	HK15 and HK15a Dimensions cubicles young stock (smaller breeds)	Various criteria for Dairy cattle 1, 2 and 3 stars state dimensions for smaller breeds, as modified dimensions permit animals with a smaller stature as defined in H20 to comply with BLL criteria. However, specifications of dimensions for smaller breeds were missing in criteria Hk15 and HK15a. Can modified dimensions be drawn up for smaller breeds?	Based on amendments concerning the dimensions in other criteria, the modified dimensions relating to smaller breeds in HK15 and HK15a for 1, 2 and 3 stars are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age of 4 to 12 months (HK15): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Width is at least 70 cm - Length is at least 155 cm - Height of the neck bar is at least 75 cm • Age of 12 to 18 months (HK15a): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Width is at least 75 cm - Length is at least 175 cm - Height of the neck bar is at least 85 cm
16-02-23	Gd01 Animal-related measurements Gd02 Incidence of animal diseases Gz11 Prevalence of mastitis Gz11a Mastitis treatments Gz19 Average age at culling Gz21 Mortality	The BLL criteria Dairy cattle include criteria that concern animal-related measurements (Gd01, Gd02, Gz11, Gz11a, Gz19 and Gz21). The criteria came into effect on 01-01-2023, but the 'Protocol for performing animal-related measurements among dairy cattle' has not yet been published. Must these criteria be complied with at the moment?	The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has decided that criteria Gd01, Gd02, Gz11, Gz11a, Gz19 and Gz21 do not need to be complied with at the moment. These criteria will come into force after a transitional period that is still to be determined, at the moment that the animal-related measurements have been developed/the protocol is available and has been established by means of a supplementary decision.
16-03-23	T02 Supply of cattle	Criterion T02 states that all cattle supplied to the dairy farm originate from farms that are certified as Better Life label Dairy cattle of at least 1 star. The criterion came into effect on 01-01-2023. However, in practice, this criterion is not yet workable. Must this criterion be complied with at the moment?	The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has decided that criterion T02 does not need to be complied with at the moment. This criterion will come into force after a transitional period that is still to be determined, at the moment that the criterion is achievable.