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| **Healthy Animals** | **Sick Animals** |
| They have close contact although scattered will run towards each other to form a group. | Usually isolated and not running with the flock/herd. |
| Definite physical activity. They are usually eating, walking, playing, grooming or cuddling. They will always stretch after rising. | Immobile and not interested. |
| Farm animals tend to be greedy if they are well and always want food. | Ill animals have no/little appetite. |
| The excretion pattern is the same and the dung consistency matches the feed type. There is never any blood and the urine is a light colour. | Diarrhoea or the absence of dung or urine is a sure sign that there is something wrong. |
| The bovine coat is usually shiny and has lick marks on it. The sheep’s fleece is tight and not matted and it should be springy. | A dull coat in a bovine is a bad sign. If sheep are ill, usually their wool breaks or falls out. |
| The eyes are clear, bright and alert. Eye sockets should be pinky. | Ill animals have sunken eyes and dull. Eyelids stop blinking. If eye sockets are pale/white, this usually means anaemia. |
| There are no abnormal discharges from the body. | Ill animals can have discharges from eyes, mouth, nose, navel, anus, vagina, teats, ears or penis. |
| Healthy animals walk well and in a straight line. | Ill animals can walk stiffly, wobble or go round in a circle. Creaking and swollen joints are signs of ill health. |
| The metabolic traits (pulse rate, breathing and heartbeat) are normal. | The metabolic traits are higher, lower than normal or are erratic. |

Signs of Ill health compared to health: Sheep and Cattle