UGANDA CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT (UCSATP)

SPECIFICATIONS FOR IN-CALF JERSEY HEIFER



1. General Identification

- **Breed:** Jersey of at least 75% genetic purity.
- **Age:** 18–24 months.
- **Identification:** RFID Ear-tagged, with traceable pedigree (sire, dam, AI details).
- **Hide Color:** Fawn, brown, light grey, dull black, or white patches often with a darker muzzle, hooves, and black tail switch.
- **Muzzle Color:** Black muzzle surrounded by a light-coloured ring.
- **Face Appearance:** Slightly dished (concave) face, with prominent eyes and medium-sized erect ears.

2. Physical and Conformation Attributes

- **Live Body Weight:** 270–350 kg.
- **Frame & Structure:**
  - Straight topline, well-balanced frame.
  - Body length: 145–155 cm (shoulder to hip).
  - Expanded barrel and sprung ribs typical of mid-pregnancy.
  - Level back, strong rump with adequate width.
  - Height at withers: 120–130 cm.
- **Legs & Feet/Hooves:**
  - Strong pasterns, sound hooves, free from lameness.
  - Medium leg length (50–60 cm hip to hoof).
  - Straight legs with moderate hock angle (150–155°).
  - Hoof size: 10–12 cm long × 8–10 cm wide.
- **Udder & Teats:**
  - Well-developed udder with four evenly spaced teats.
  - Strong suspensory ligament.
  - Cylindrical teats with slightly rounded tips, no deformities.

3. Reproductive / Physiological Specifications

- **Pregnancy Stage:** In-calf heifer; first-calving heifer. Minimum 2 months and not more than 6 months in-calf, preferably bred by AI, or a proven Jersey bull. Confirmed pregnant by qualified veterinarian/ultrasonography
- **Service Details:** Documented sire, service date, and expected calving date.

4. Pedigree and Performance Records

- **Pedigree:** Three-generation pedigree showing parentage.
- **Milk Production Background:**
    - Dam: Minimum 4,000 liters per lactation
    - Sire: Proven high genetic merit.

5. Health and Management Standards

- **Disease status:** Healthy and clinically normal. Certification that animals are free from FMD, Brucellosis, Lumpy skin disease, CBPP, and all reproductive diseases of cattle.
- **Parasite control:** Recent internal/external parasite control documented.
- **Vaccination:** Complete vaccination records

6. Inland Transport

- Animals shall be transported in approved livestock trucks to the quarantine station.
- Vehicles must be disinfected before and after loading, and provide:
    - Proper ventilation and weather protection.
    - Non-slip flooring and partitions to prevent overcrowding or injury.
- Maximum journey duration to quarantine: not more than 8 hours.

7. Quarantine Procedures

- All activities at the quarantine station shall be at the expense of the supplier.
- **Duration:** Minimum 21 days in an approved MAAIF quarantine station.
- **Purpose:** Disease surveillance, acclimatization, and re-vaccination as required.
- Activities during quarantine shall include:
    - Daily veterinary monitoring and record-keeping.
    - Deworming, ectoparasite control, and booster vaccinations.
    - Isolation of sick animals and immediate reporting of abnormalities.

8. Veterinary Certification Requirements

Each consignment must be accompanied by:

1. **Laboratory test results** confirming disease-free status.
2. **Vaccination record**, including vaccine type, batch number, and date.
3. **Pregnancy confirmation** (2–6 months in-calf).
4. **Parentage verification** and source farm documents.