

Reindeer Health Check Reindeer Research Program

- ✓ Good appetite. Check for attendance and eating at food bunk, observe individual and whole herd grazing.
- ✓ Moves on continually when grazing, lead female in front.
- ✓ Good rumination, chews cud.
- ✓ No teeth grinding
- ✓ Feces normal consistency and frequency and contains no parasites or food remains.
- ✓ Drinks regularly and chooses clean water, eats snow during winter.
- ✓ Clean anus, no pasting.
- ✓ Good condition and color of hair coat, skin elastic, absence of lesions
- ✓ No hair loss from tail or body.
- ✓ Timely and good antler growth. Males in March, barren females in April, parturient females 3-4 weeks after calving.
- ✓ Show no discharge from eyes, nose, vulva or prepuce and no excessive salivation.
- ✓ Nose without discharge but moist and expired air cool
- ✓ Normal breathing and no coughing, exhaled air may be like smoke in early morning.
- ✓ Quiet at night, sleeps for only an hour at a time, gets up and stretches in early morning;
- ✓ Reacts to strangers.
- ✓ Rises quickly when disturbed.
- ✓ Looks alert with head held up and ears pricked and moves in response to sound.
- ✓ Stands straight and looks forward.
- ✓ Attempts to remain with herd when driven.
- ✓ When released after handling, shows active movements: moves around and may run off
- ✓ Comes into estrus at proper time (late August, early September) and breeds regularly.
- ✓ Produces good calves, no abortion
- ✓ Newly calved female allows calf to approach and suckle, protects calf; a healthy calf is evidence of a healthy mother.
- ✓ Female licks her calf.
- ✓ Female attentive to location of calf.
- ✓ Calf suckles well (gets satisfied) and is active and runs around.
- ✓ Normal lactation length, udder and teats all good.