

# Winter Care Checklist for Highland Cattle

Cold ■ Weather Management for Healthy, Thriving Highlands

## Daily Winter Checks

- Ensure fresh, unfrozen water is available
- Observe cattle movement and alertness
- Check coat condition — snow resting on backs is normal
- Monitor pregnant cows closely
- Clear access to feed, water, and shelter

## Shelter & Wind Protection

- Provide natural or man ■ made windbreaks
- Allow access to protected loafing areas if available
- Keep bedding dry when shelter is used
- Avoid overcrowding — Highlands prefer space

## Winter Nutrition & Feeding

- Increase hay availability during extreme cold
- Offer free ■ choice hay when possible
- Monitor body condition regularly
- Provide winter ■ appropriate minerals
- Keep feeding areas accessible after snowfall

## Water Management in Freezing Temperatures

- Use heated waterers or break ice daily
- Place water sources out of heavy wind
- Check electrical safety on heated systems
- Never allow cattle to go without water

## Calving During Winter

- Monitor late ■ term cows multiple times daily
- Provide shelter only when weather becomes extreme
- Ensure calves are dry and protected from wind
- Confirm calves nurse promptly after birth

## Cold Weather Safety Tips

- Limit unnecessary handling during severe cold
- Plan chores ahead of storms
- Keep emergency feed and supplies accessible
- Trust the breed — Highlands are built for winter

Snow resting on a Highland cow's back is a sign of excellent insulation. Their thick double coat traps body heat, allowing them to thrive in cold, snowy conditions.

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