Lameness is one of the most important welfare issues in modern milk production. A report from 2015 by The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration stated that there are a large number of lame cows in Danish dairy herds. Lameness is problematic in relation to animal welfare but also has a negative impact on health and production. However, not much is known about the dynamics of lameness in a herd; whether the high incidence of lameness is widely distributed across many cows being lame for short time periods or restricted to fewer cows being lame for long time periods. The ongoing pain associated with lameness of long duration, poses great welfare problems for the involved animals. This is further emphasized by the fact, that treating chronic pain conditions is often not successful. Chronic pain is a rather unexplored area for cattle but knowledge about the detrimental effects of prolonged pain in humans and other species indicate that this may have a great impact on animal welfare. On the other hand, a large number of cows being lame for short time periods also pose a welfare challenge. The pain associated with these shorter lasting painful events may however, be easier to treat – that is, if they are detected in time and treated accordingly. A study was commenced to evaluate lameness in four Danish dairy herds over a period of six months. The study was set up to evaluate all cows in each herd, every fourteen days, to give an indication of the lameness dynamics. The results will generate new knowledge on lameness in Danish dairy herds and this knowledge is useful in the process of developing strategies to reduce the occurrence of lameness, whether lameness is of short or long duration.