

Body condition scoring for **milk goats**

The body condition scoring (BCS) of your milk goat herd, will help you to determine possible illness or problems with feed quality. It will also indicate whether your milking herd is performing at their best. There are eight basic scores according to which you can determine the BCS of your goats.

BCS 1	BCS 2
The goat looks emaciated (thin).	Slightly better, but the goat still looks bony (slightly thin).
Weak with backbone highly visible, hollow flank and clearly visible ribs.	Backbone is visible with a continuous ridge and ribs can be seen and felt.
No fat cover and your fingers can penetrate spaces between ribs.	Only a small amount of fat cover.
Sternal fat easily grasped between thumb and fingers and moved from side to side.	Sternal fat wider and thicker than BCS 1, but can still be grasped and lifted.
BCS 3	BCS 4
Backbone is not prominent.	Side is sleek in appearance.
Even layer of fat covers ribs.	Backbone and ribs cannot be seen.
Thick tissue layer covers vertebrae.	Cannot grab hold of spinous processes.
Sternal fat is wide and thick. Can be grasped, but has little movement.	Sternal fat difficult to grip.
BCS 5	
Backbone is buried in fat.	
Ribs not visible and covered with excessive fat.	
Reference marks on spinous processes are lost.	
Sternal fat extends and covers sternum, and cannot be grasped.	

Important terms

Emaciated = very thin

Obese = excessively (too) fat

Sternal = on the breast bone

Spinous processes = the bones of the spine

Flank = side.

Milk goats: Body condition scoring

- Helps to determine if the goats are healthy and get enough food.
- Look at the general appearance of the goat. Rub over her back, side and breast bone to feel the fat cover.

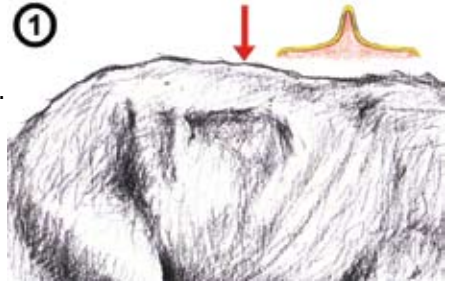
BCS 1: Very thin. No fat cover

BCS 2: Thin (bony).

BCS 3: Backbone is not prominent.

BCS 4: Backbone and ribs cannot be seen.

BCS 5: Excessive fat.



Melkbokke: Liggaamskondisietelling

- Help om vas te stel of die bokke gesond is en genoeg kos kry.
- Kyk na die bok se algemene voorkoms. Vryf oor haar rug, sy en borsbeen om die vetlaag te voel.

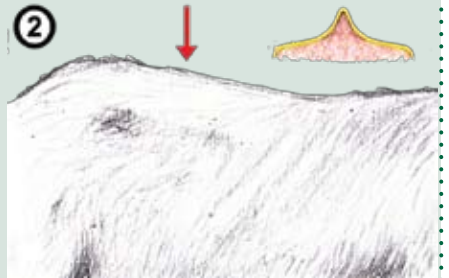
BCS 1: Baie maer. Geen vetlaag.

BCS 2: Maer (benerig).

BCS 3: Ruggraat is nie prominent nie.

BCS 4: Ruggraat en ribbes is nie sigbaar nie.

BCS 5: Te veel vet.



Ubisi lwezimbuzi: Ukufaka izibalo ngomumo womzimba

- Isiza ukuhlonza ukuthi izimbuzi ziphile kahle yini nokuthi zithola ukudla okwanele.
- Bheka indlela imbuzi ebukeya ngayo. Hlikihla umhlane wayo, uhlangothi kanye nethambo lesifuba ukuzwa ukuthi akhona yini amafutha embozile.

BCS 1: Izace kakhulu. Awekho amafutha embozile.

BCS 2: Izacile (ingamathambo).

BCS 3: Umgogodla awuzwakali kahle.

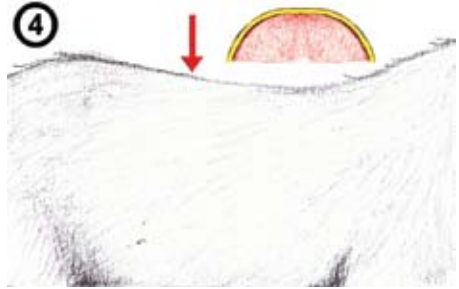
BCS 4: Umgogodla nezimbambo akubonakali.

BCS 5: Ikhuluphele ngokweqile.

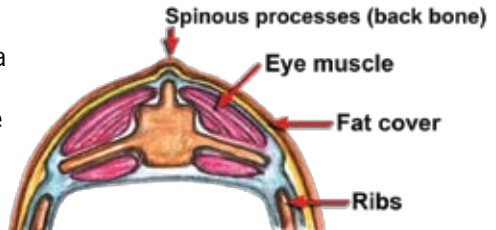


Ho hama dipodi: Dintlha tsa tekolo ya boemo ba mmele

- Ho thusa ho lemoha haeba dipodi di phetse hantle le ho fumana dijo tse lekaneng.
- Sheba ponahalo ya podi ka kakaretso. Pholla mokokotlo wa yona, mahlakore le lesapo la sefuba sa yona ho utlwa haeba ho na le mafura a kwahetseng dikarolo tsena.



- BCS 1:** E otile haholo. Ha ho na mafura a kwahetseng dikarolo tsena
- BCS 2:** E otile (e masapo).
- BCS 3:** Lesapo la mokokotlo ha le bonahale haholo.
- BCS 4:** Lesapo la mokokotlo le dikgopo ha di bonahale.
- BCS 5:** E nonne ka ho fetisisa.



Ubisi lweebhokhwe: Ukunika amanqaku ngokwemo yomzimba

- Kunceda ukumisela nokuba iibhokhwe zisempilweni yaye zifumana ukutya okwaneleyo.
- Jonga imbonakalo yebhokhwe jikelele. Hlikihla umqolo wayo, icala nethambo lesifuba ukuva ukugqunywa ngamafutha.

- BCS 1:** Inqine kakhulu. Awukho umaleko wamafutha.
- BCS 2:** Inqinile (amathambo avelile).
- BCS 3:** Umqolo awudandalazanga.
- BCS 4:** Umqolo neembambo azinakubonwa.
- BCS 5:** Ityebe ngokugqithisileyo. 