



Condition scoring of cattle

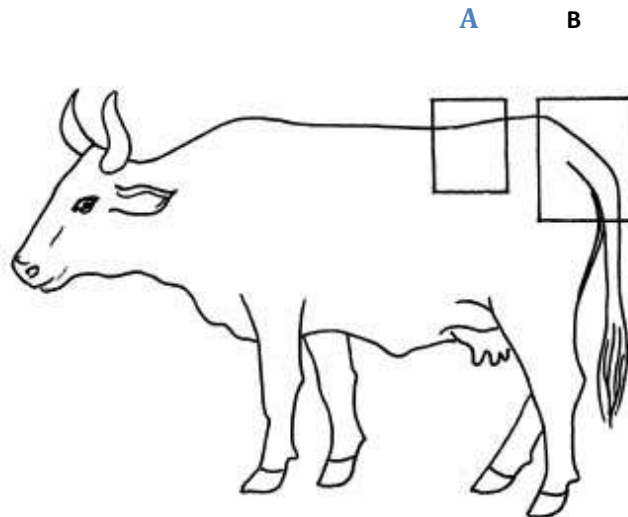
How to do it:

Feel the amount of fat under the skin in 2 areas:

- A. Loin area between hip bone and last rib
- B. Area around the tail head

Use condition scoring to determine if:

- Your cattle are in a satisfactory condition for breeding and production
- Your animals are sick and losing condition



Always **feel** the areas as well as looking at the condition

Condition is scored from 1 to 5

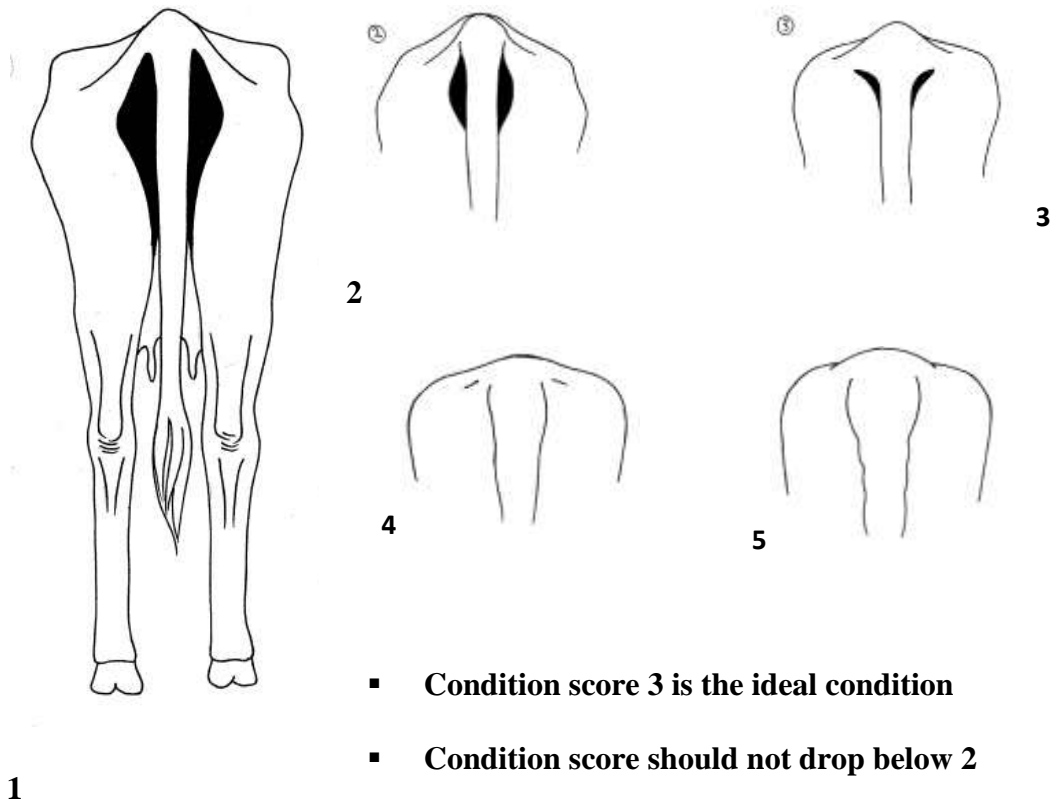
1 = too thin

4 = fat

5 = much too fat

2 = thin, but healthy

3 = ideal condition



- **Condition score 3 is the ideal condition**
- **Condition score should not drop below 2**
- **Animals that are too fat can have problems with breeding and calving**

For further information contact
Animal Health for Developing Farmers Programme
Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute
Private Bag X05
ONDERSTEPSOORT 0110

Tel. (012) 529 9158

Information by Jenny Turton



Compiled by Directorate Communication, National Department of Agriculture
in cooperation with

ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute

Printed and published by National Department of Agriculture
and obtainable from

Resource Centre, Directorate Communication, Private Bag X144, Pretoria 0001, South Africa
