

BODY CONDITION SCORE

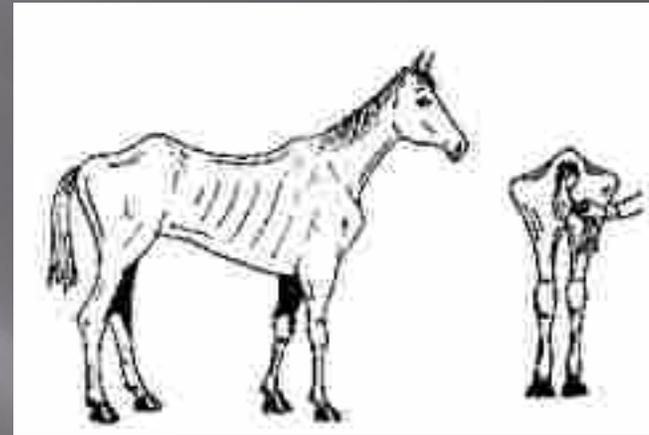
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HORSE

Score 1 – Poor

- ❑ Extreme emaciation
- ❑ No fatty tissue can be felt
- ❑ Ribs projecting prominently
- ❑ Bone structure easily noticeable



Score 1 - Poor



Score 2 – Very Thin

- ▣ Emaciated
- ▣ Ribs prominent
- ▣ Vertebrae prominent
- ▣ Faintly notice bone structure



Score 2 – Very Thin

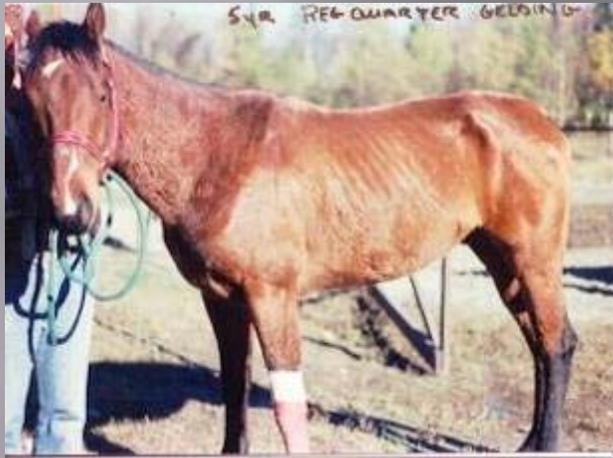


Score 3 - Thin

- ▣ Thin layer of fat over ribs
- ▣ Ribs still easily discernible
- ▣ Tailhead prominent



Score 3 - Thin



Score 4 – Moderately Thin

- ❑ Faint outline of ribs discernable
- ❑ Ridge along back (negative crease)
- ❑ Fat can be felt around tailhead
- ❑ Withers, shoulders, neck not obviously thin



Score 4 – Moderately Thin

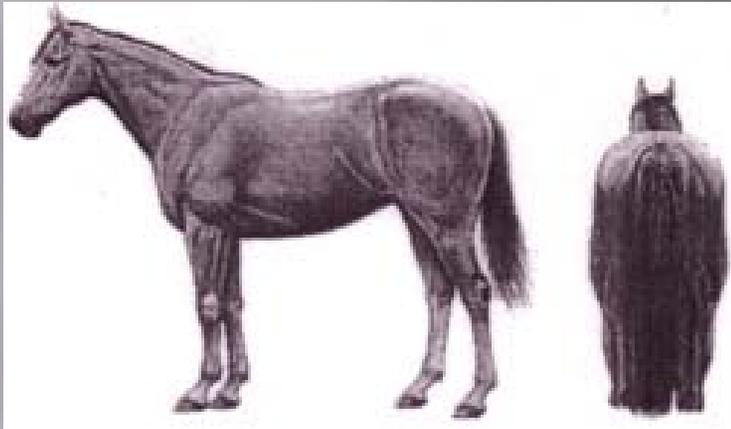


Score 5 - Moderate

- ❑ Back is level
- ❑ Ribs cannot be visually distinguished, but can be easily felt
- ❑ Fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy
- ❑ Withers appear rounded
- ❑ Shoulders & neck blend smoothly into body



Score 5 - Moderate



Score 6 – Moderate to Fleshy

- ❑ May have slight crease down back
- ❑ Fat over ribs feels soft and spongy
- ❑ Fat around tailhead feels soft
- ❑ Fat beginning to be deposited along sides of withers, behind shoulders & along sides of neck



Score 6 – Moderate to Fleshy



Score 7 - Fleshy

- ▣ Crease down back
- ▣ Ribs can be felt with noticeable filling of fat between ribs
- ▣ Fat around tailhead is soft
- ▣ Fat deposited along withers, behind shoulders and along neck



Score 7 ~ Fleshy

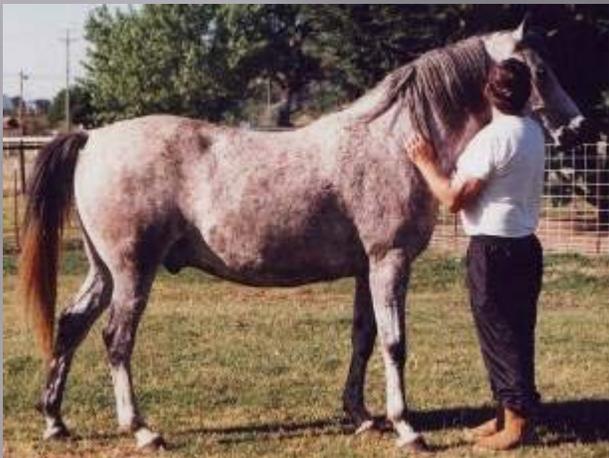


Score 8 - Fat

- ❑ Crease down back
- ❑ Difficult to feel ribs
- ❑ Fat around tailhead is soft
- ❑ Fat around withers and behind shoulder
- ❑ Noticeable thickening of neck
- ❑ Fat deposited along inner buttocks

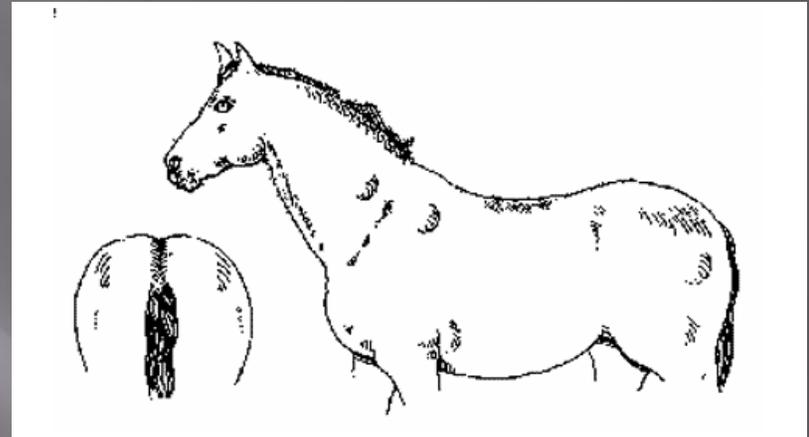


Score 8 - Fat



Score 9 – Extremely Fat

- ❑ Obvious crease down back
- ❑ Patchy fat appearing over ribs
- ❑ Bulging fat around tailhead, around withers, behind shoulders, and along neck
- ❑ Fat along inner buttocks
- ❑ Flank filled and flush



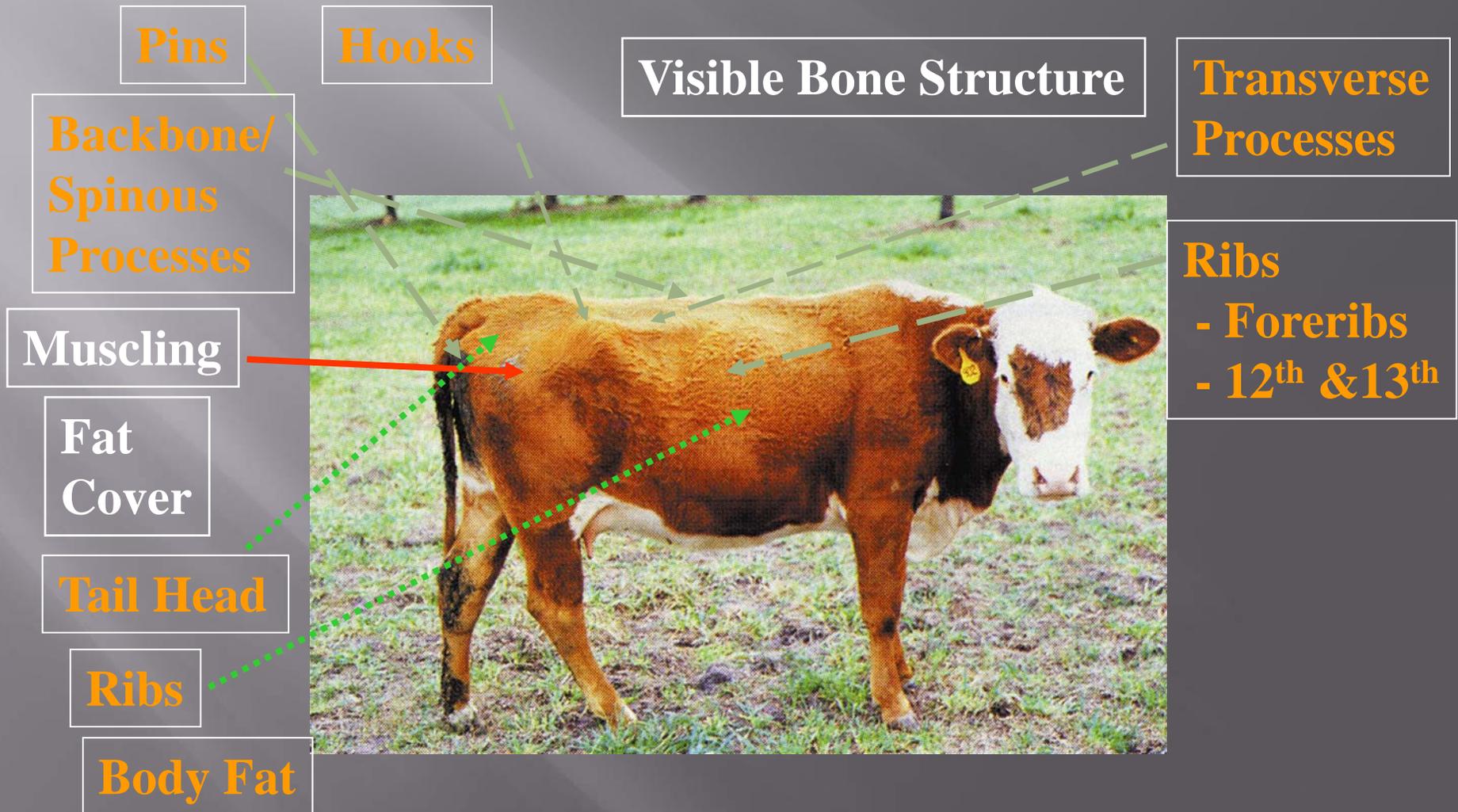
Score 9 – Extremely Fat



BEEF CATTLE

Body Condition Scoring

What do I look for? Where do I look?



Score 1 – Emaciated

- ▣ **Visible Bone Structure** - Shoulder, Ribs, Back, Hooks - Sharp to touch; Pins - Sharp to touch
- ▣ **Muscling** - Very little
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Very little



Score 2 – Very Thin

- ▣ **Visible Bone Structure** - Spinous process easily seen - Sharp to touch
- ▣ **Muscling** - Some in hindquarters
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Very little



Score 3 - Thin

- ▣ **Visible Bone structure** - Foreribs remain noticeable; Backbone visible; Spinous process - Palpate w/little pressure; Less pronounced intervening space
- ▣ **Muscling** - Muscling apparent
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Beginning cover Loin, back, foreribs



Score 4 – Borderline

- ▣ **Visible Bone structure** - Foreribs not noticeable; 12th and 13th ribs noticeable; Transverse process - Felt with slight pressure
- ▣ **Muscling** - Full but straight (not rounded)
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Ribs beginning to be well covered



Score 5 - Moderate

- ▣ **Visible Bone structure** - 12th and 13th rib not visible except shrunk cattle; Transverse processes felt w/ firm pressure
- ▣ **Muscling** - Full
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Area around tail head filled out but not mounded



Score 6 – Good

- ▣ **Visible Bone structure** - No distinct structure; Transverse processes felt w/ firm pressure
- ▣ **Muscling** - Hindquarters plump and full
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Sponginess over foreribs; Sponginess around tail head



Score 7 – Very Good

- ▣ **Visible Bone structure -** No distinct structure; Ends of spinous process felt w/very firm pressure
- ▣ **Muscling -** Hindquarters plump and full
- ▣ **Fat Deposits -** Abundant fat around tail head w/some patchiness



Score 8 - Fat

- ▣ **Visible Bone structure** - No distinct structure to none
- ▣ **Muscling** - Hindquarters plump and full
- ▣ **Fat Deposits** - Thick and spongy; Animal appears smooth and blocky



Score 9 – Extremely Fat

- ▣ Visible Bone structure-
None
- ▣ Muscling-
Hindquarters plump and full
- ▣ Fat Deposits-
Tail head buried in fat

