



# **Livestock Farming**

## **Handout 5**

# **Estimating Cattle Weight Without a Scale**

## ESTIMATING CATTLE WEIGHT WITHOUT A SCALE

If it is not possible to scale weigh cattle, tape measuring is a handy alternative way to estimate weight. Remember that it only gives you an approximation of the animal's weight.

How to Measure Your Beef Cattle:

- ✓ Stand the animal with head in normal position and with the four legs set squarely under the body.
- ✓ Pass the tape tightly around the body just back of the shoulders at the smallest circumference it is recommended that the animal be kept off feed and water for 12 hours before measuring. An overnight shrink is enough.

**The Following Table Indicates Beef Cattle Weight**

(<http://www.piedmontese.org/GettingYourCattleWeightsWithoutaScale.htm> ):

Heart Girth cm	Weight In kg	Heart Girth cm	Weight In kg	Heart Girth cm	Weight In kg	Heart Girth cm	Weight In kg	Heart Girth cm	Weight In kg
76.2	41.314	106.68	107.144	137.16	219.736	167.64	378.636	198.12	584.752
77.47	43.13	107.95	110.776	138.43	225.184	168.91	385.9	199.39	594.74
78.74	44.946	109.22	114.862	139.7	231.086	170.18	394.526	200.66	604.728
80.01	46.762	110.49	118.948	140.97	236.988	171.45	402.244	201.93	614.262
81.28	49.032	111.76	123.034	142.24	242.89	172.72	409.962	203.2	623.796
82.55	51.302	113.03	126.666	143.51	248.792	173.99	418.134	204.47	633.784
83.82	53.572	114.3	130.752	144.78	255.148	175.26	426.306	205.74	643.772

## Learner Guide: Livestock Farming

85.09	55.842	115.57	134.838	146.05	261.05	176.53	434.478	207.01	653.76
86.36	58.112	116.84	139.378	147.32	267.406	177.8	442.65	208.28	664.202
90.17	60.382	118.11	143.918	148.59	273.762	179.07	450.822	209.55	674.19
88.9	63.106	119.38	148.458	149.86	280.572	177.8	458.994	210.82	684.632
90.17	65.83	120.65	152.998	151.13	286.928	181.61	467.62	212.09	695.074
91.44	68.554	121.92	157.538	152.4	293.738	182.88	476.246	213.36	705.97
92.71	71.278	123.19	162.532	153.67	300.094	184.15	484.872	214.63	716.412
93.98	74.002	124.46	167.526	154.94	306.904	185.42	493.498	215.9	726.854
95.25	76.726	125.73	172.066	156.21	313.714	186.69	502.578	217.17	737.296
96.52	79.904	127	177.06	157.48	320.978	187.96	511.658	218.44	748.192
97.79	83.082	128.27	182.054	158.75	327.788	189.23	520.738	219.71	759.088

## Learner Guide: Livestock Farming

99.06	86.26	129.54	187.048	160.02	334.598	190.5	529.818	220.98	770.438
100.33	89.438	130.81	192.496	161.29	341.862	191.77	538.444	222.25	781.334
101.6	93.07	132.08	197.944	162.56	349.58	193.04	547.07	223.52	792.23
102.87	96.248	133.35	203.392	163.83	356.844	194.31	556.604	224.79	803.58
104.14	99.88	134.62	208.84	165.1	364.108	195.58	566.138	226.06	815.384
105.41	103.512	135.89	214.288	166.37	371.372	196.85	575.218	227.33	826.734