

Body Condition Scoring Summarization Available

Summarization of your cattle's body condition scoring is now available through PaDHIA at no additional charge.

Simply give your DHIA technician a list of cows that have been scored and the resulting scores. The technician will enter these using his lap-top computer.

He will, however, not do the actual body condition scoring.

If you want to know more about body condition scoring talk to your veterinarian, feed salesperson, dairy consultant, or contact your county extension office and ask for extension circular 363 "Body-Condition Scoring as a Tool for Dairy Herd Management," or call Dixie Burris, membership development manager (1-800-DHI-TEST).

Body condition scores are to be reported in decimal form (1.0 through 5.9). If you are accus-

tomed to the '+' and '-' system of scoring, use the following conversion table to convert from the '+/-' form to the decimal form.

+/- Form	Decimal Form
1	1.0
1+	1.3
2-	1.7
2	2.0
2+	2.3
3-	2.7
3	3.0
3+	3.3
4-	3.7
4	4.0
4+	4.3
5-	4.7
5	5.0
5+	5.3

Body Condition Scoring is a method of evaluating fatness or thinness in cows according to a 5 point scale. Research has shown that body condition influences

productivity, reproduction, health, and longevity.

If done on a regular basis, body condition scoring can be used to troubleshoot problems and improve the health and productivity of your dairy herd.

When reviewing information concerning body condition scoring on the Herd Summary II report, be aware that *only cows with scores entered that month will be summarized.*

For that reason there is a column immediately preceding the Average Score column that shows the number of animals scored. You are encouraged to score all

cows every month; however, if you do not score all of your cows, this column will reflect it.

To make Herd Summary II's summary of body condition scores contained in the "Profile of Cows

by Group Number" more meaningful, you might want to consider grouping your cows by stage of lactation regardless of whether they are physically housed in separate groups.

Target body condition scores by stage of lactation:

(Adapted from extension circular 363 "Body-Condition Scoring as a Tool for Dairy Herd Management")

Stage of Lactation	Recommended Score		Red Flags
	+/- form	decimal form	
Cows at Calving	3+ to 4-	3.3 to 3.7	<p>Scores below 3+ (3.3) Indicate cows did not receive adequate energy during late lactation and/or dry period.</p> <p>Scores above 4- (3.7) Indicate cows received excessive amounts of energy during late lactation and/or dry period.</p>
Early Lactation	3- to 3	2.7 to 3.0	<p>Scores below 3- (2.7) High producing cows may drop to 2+ (2.3) and are not a problem. Lower producing thin cows are not receiving adequate energy.</p> <p>Scores in good condition (3 to 3+; 3.0 to 3.3), but not producing as expected may be receiving inadequate amounts of protein, minerals, or water.</p>
Mid Lactation	3	3.0	<p>Scores below 3 (3.0) Cows are not receiving adequate energy. Check early lactation ration, because problem may have started there.</p> <p>Scores above 3+ (3.3) Cows are receiving excessive amounts of energy, reduce energy intake to avoid overconditioning.</p>
Late Lactation	3	3.0	
At Dry Off Time	3+ to 4-	3.3 to 3.7	<p>Scores below 3+ (3.3) Cows are not receiving adequate energy. Check early and mid lactation rations to be sure cows are receiving adequate energy, because the problem may have started there.</p> <p>Scores above 4- (3.7) Cows are receiving excessive amounts of energy, reduce energy intake to avoid additional overconditioning.</p>
Dry	3+ to 4-	3.3 to 3.7	<p>Scores below 3+ (3.3) Cows are not receiving adequate energy. Increase energy content of the dry cow ration; however, the real problem may be a lack of energy in the ration of late lactation cows.</p> <p>Scores above 4- (3.7) Cows are receiving excessive amounts of energy, reduce energy intake to avoid additional overconditioning while maintaining adequate levels of protein, vitamins, and minerals. Reduce energy content of late lactation cows, because the problem may have started there.</p>

Average Farm Feed Costs For Handy Reference

To help farmers across the state to have handy reference of commodity input costs in their feeding operations for DHIA record sheets or to develop livestock feed cost data, here's this week's average costs of various ingredients as compiled from regional reports across the state of Pennsylvania. Remember these are averages so you will need to adjust your figures up or down according to your location and the quality of your crop.

- Corn, No. 2y - 2.94 bu. 5.26 cwt.
- Wheat, No. 2 - 3.45 bu. 5.75 cwt.
- Barley, No. 3 - 2.15 bu. 4.60 cwt.
- Oats, No. 2 - 1.61 bu. 5.02 cwt.
- Soybeans, No. 1 - 6.41 bu. 10.70 cwt.
- Ear Corn - old 75.04 ton 3.75 cwt.
- Ear Corn - new 60.50 ton 3.03 cwt.
- Alfalfa Hay - 108.75 ton 5.44 cwt.
- Mixed Hay - 105.75 ton 5.29 cwt.
- Timothy Hay - 112.50 ton 5.63 cwt.

SEASON'S TREATINGS

VERMONT CASTINGS All Models In Stock



- Wood, Coal & Gas Stoves
- Fireplace Accessories
- Ducane Gas Grills

SEE OUR LARGE DISPLAY OF FIREPLACE DOORS



906 E. Main St. (Rt. 322) Ephrata, PA
1 Block East of Rt. 222

(717) 733-4973 1-800-642-0310

Mon., Tues., Wed. 10 to 6; Thurs., Fri. 10 to 8; Sat. 10 to 4

HUBER'S INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE

4 DAYS ONLY

DECEMBER 27, 28, 29, 30 & 31

*HELP US REDUCE OUR INVENTORY WITH 5 to 10% OFF EVERYTHING IN STOCK
Cash & Carry Only



- Cattle Wormers
- Animal Clippers
- Cattle Dehorner
- Tingley Rain Suits
- Plastic Pail
- Hog Wormers
- Water Bowls
- Carolina Work Shoes
- Fiberglass Feed Carts
- Vests
- Gloves
- Udder Wash
- Flashlights
- Wheelbarrows
- Tingley Rubbers And Boots
- Aureomycin Crumbles
- Penicillin G
- Teat Dips
- Head Gate
- * 50 LB. FEED ADDITIVES NOT INCLUDED
- Brooms
- Tools
- Pipeline Soaps
- Black or Clear Plastic
- Forks
- Shovels
- Mouse & Rat Bait

HUBER'S ANIMAL HEALTH SUPPLIES

810 TULPEHOCKEN RD.,
1 1/2 MI. EAST OF MYERSTOWN AT MILLARDSVILLE
OFF RT. 422

PHONE: 717-866-2246

Mon., Thurs. & Fri. 7:30 AM to 6 PM; Tues. & Wed. 7:30 AM to 5 PM; Sat. 7:30 to Noon