# SPACE REQUIREMENTS & BODY CONDITION SCORING FOR RAISING LIVESTOCK



## SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR CATTLE

| CALVES                      | FINISHERS & BRED HEIFERS    | MATURE COWS                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Shelter and Lot Space       | Shelter and Lot Space       | Shelter and Lot Space       |
| 15 to 20 square feet        | 20 to 25 square feet        | 20 to 25 square feet        |
| <b>Outdoor Space</b>        | Outdoor Space               | Outdoor Space               |
| 300 to 600 square feet      | 400 to 800 square feet      | 500 to 800 square feet      |
| <u>5 Calves</u>             | 5 Steers & 5 Bred Heifers   | <u> 5 Mature Cows</u>       |
| 100 sq. ft. Shelter Space   | 250 sq. ft. Shelter Space   | 125 sq. ft. Shelter Space   |
| 2,500 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 6,000 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 3,500 sq. ft. Outdoor Space |



## SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR POULTRY

| Broiler                   | Egg Layer                | Turkey                    | Ducks & Geese             |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shelter Space             | Shelter Space            | Shelter Space             | Shelter Space             |
| 1 to 2 square feet        | 1 ½ to 3 square feet     | 3 to 5 square feet        | 3 to 6 square feet        |
| <b>Outdoor Space</b>      | Outdoor Space            | Outdoor Space             | Outdoor Space             |
| 4 to 10 square feet       | 4 to 10 square feet      | 18 to 25 square feet      | 15 to 18 square feet      |
| <u>15 Broilers</u>        | <u>Layers</u>            | <u>10 Turkeys</u>         | <u>10 Ducks</u>           |
| 30 sq. ft. Shelter Space  | 30 sq. ft. Shelter Space | 40 sq. ft. Shelter Space  | 50 sq. ft. Shelter Space  |
| 120 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 80 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 200 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 170 sq. ft. Outdoor Space |



## **SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR SHEEP & GOATS**

| Adult                     | Female w/ Baby            | Feeder Lamb/Kid             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Shelter Space             | Shelter Space             | Shelter Space               |
| 15 to 20 square feet      | 15 to 20 square feet      | 8 to 10 square feet         |
| <b>Outdoor Space</b>      | Outdoor Space             | Outdoor Space               |
| 25 to 40 square feet      | 30 to 50 square feet      | 20 to 30 square feet        |
| <u>25 Adults</u>          | <u> 10 Pairs</u>          | <u>35 Lamb/Kid</u>          |
| 500 sq. ft. Shelter Space | 250 sq. ft. Shelter Space | 350 sq. ft. Shelter Space   |
| 875 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 500 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 1,050 sq. ft. Outdoor Space |



## SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR SWINE

| Adult                     | Nursery Piglet           | Feeder & Finisher        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Shelter Space             | Shelter Space            | Shelter Space            |
| 8 to 40 square feet       | 3 to 4 square feet       | 5 to 6 square feet       |
| <b>Outdoor Space</b>      | Outdoor Space            | Outdoor Space            |
| 14 to 40 square feet      | 6 to 8 square feet       | 12 to 15 square feet     |
| <u>3 Adults</u>           | <u>10 Piglets</u>        | 3 Feeders & 2 Finishers  |
| 90 sq. ft. Shelter Space  | 40 sq. ft. Shelter Space | 30 sq. ft. Shelter Space |
| 120 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 80 sq. ft. Outdoor Space | 75 sq. ft. Outdoor Space |

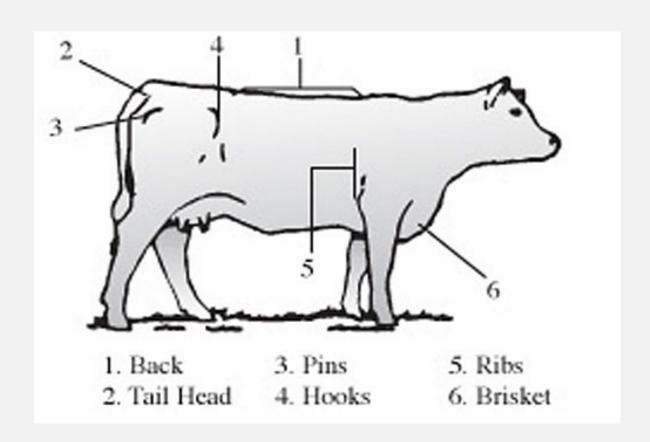


## SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR RABBITS

| Adult & Fryer                    | Doe with Kits                    |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Meat Breeds                      | Meat Breeds                      |
| 4 ft <sup>2</sup> by 14 in. high | 6 ft <sup>2</sup> by 14 in. high |
| <b>Giant Breeds</b>              | <b>Giant Breeds</b>              |
| 5 ft <sup>2</sup> by 14 in. high | 8 ft <sup>2</sup> by 14 in. high |
| <u>3 Adults</u>                  | 3 Does with Kits                 |
| 12 sq. ft. Meat Breeds           | 18 sq. ft. Meat Breeds           |
| 15 sq. ft. Meat Breeds           | 24 sq. ft. Meat Breeds           |



- Observe and evaluate
  - Management program
  - Herd and individual health
  - Nutritional program





#### RAISING LIVESTOCK

- Poultry
  - 1 through 5 scale
  - 3 is ideal

## BODY CONDITION SCORE CHART

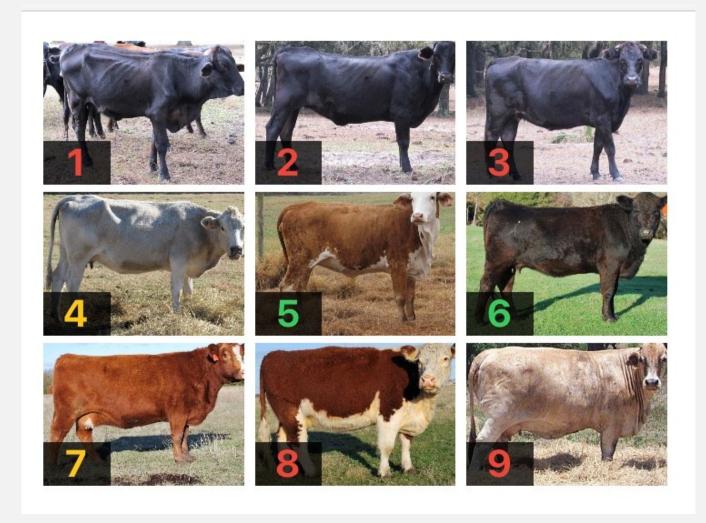




#### **EMACIATED** Keel: Prominent ridge Breast muscle: Limited; Concave UNDER-CONDITIONED Keel: Prominent Breast muscle: Not concave. Feels more or less flat. WELL-CONDITIONED Keel: Less prominent Breast muscle: Moderately developed; Convex 4 OVER-CONDITIONED Keel: Smooth Breast muscle: Well developed, relatively plump. 5 OBESE Keel: Muscle protrudes over. It's difficult to palpate. Breast muscle: Overly developed

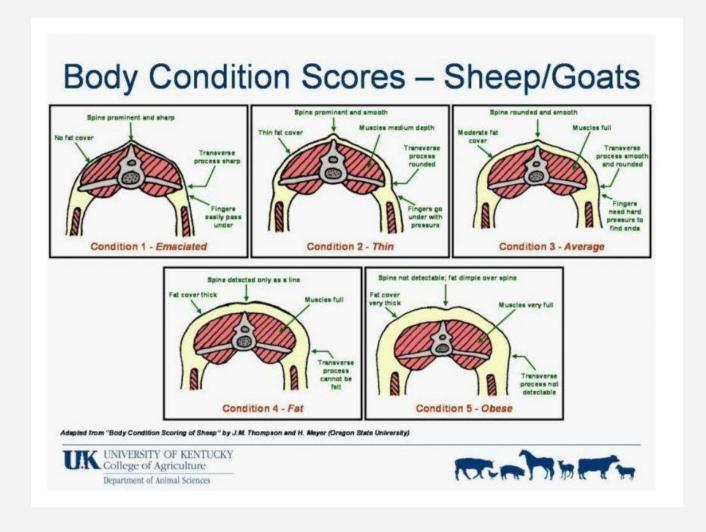


- Cattle
- 1 through 8 scale
- 5 & 6 are ideal



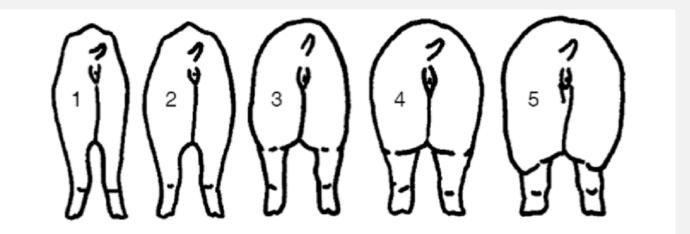


- Sheep and Goats
  - 1 through 5 scale
  - 2-4 are ideal





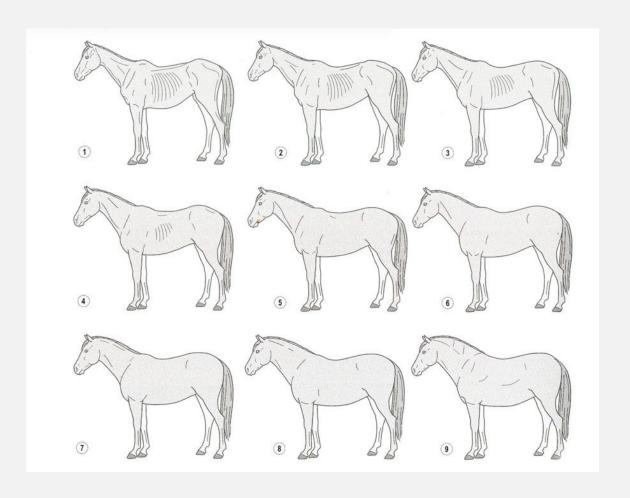
- Pigs
  - 1 through 5 scale
  - 3 is ideal



| Score | Condition  | Detection of ribs, backbone,<br>"H" bones, and "pin" bones |
|-------|------------|--|
| 1     | Emaciated  | Obvious  |
| 2     | Thin       | Easily detected with pressure                              |
| 3     | Ideal      | Barely felt with firm pressure                             |
| 4     | Fat        | None   |
| 5     | Overly fat | None   |



- Horses
  - 1 through 9 scale
  - 4-6 is ideal



Rebecca Mills Extension Educator, Gem & Boise Counties rmills@uidaho.edu